



D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA - CANADA

Vol. 24 --- No. 6

Friday, February 10, 1956

\$2.00 a year

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

Manufacturing: Iron and steel production set all-time records last year and continued to rise in January. Pig iron output increased 45% last year over 1954, steel ingots 39%; in January, pig iron was up 43%, steel ingots 36%, over a year earlier ... Total production of motor vehicles in January was slightly above last year ... Year totals show 1955 increases in shipments of asphalt shingles, roll roofing, gypsum wallboard and other gypsum products. (Pages 2 & 3)

Prices: Canada's consumer price index declined slightly during December, with decreases in food and household operation narrowly outweighing increases in shelter, clothing, other commodities and services ... During January the wholesale price index rose 0.5%, and the index of farm product prices at terminal markets moved up 0.4% with field products up 2.7% but animal products down 1.2% ... Index of farm prices of agricultural products fell slightly in December from November. (Pages 4 to 6)

Labour: Average weekly wages paid hourly-rated wage-earners in manufacturing was at a new record figure of \$60.78 at the first of last December, up 15 cents over a month earlier. Both durable and non-durable branches shared in the increase, which was partly due to declines in seasonal help. (Page 6)

Mining: Asbestos shipments climbed 15% last year ... Coal production rose sharply in December but was lower for the whole year, while landed imports increased. (Page 7)

Transportation: Railway car loadings continued to rise in January; in first three weeks were 7% above the same period last year ... Downtrend in passengers carried by urban transit systems continued in November. (Page 8)

Banking: Dollar value of cheques cashed against individual accounts rose nearly 9% last year over 1954 to set a new record for a year. Payments were higher in all economic areas except the Atlantic Provinces: biggest gains were in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia. (Page 10)

Food: Landings of sea fish last year were 9% lower in volume and 10% lower in value than in 1954, with decreases in totals for both Atlantic and Pacific Coasts ... Total stocks of canned fruits at the end of 1955 were about one-fourth larger than a year earlier and total stocks of canned vegetables about 18% larger. (Page 12)

Production Of Pig Iron And Steel
Ingots Reached All-Time Highs in 1955

Canadian production of pig iron and steel ingots reached all-time high record levels in 1955. The year's output of pig iron rose 45% to 3,214,764 tons from 2,213,433 in 1954, steel ingots advanced 39% to 4,411,743 tons from 3,113,822 and the output of steel castings rose to 87,658 tons from 80,300.

In December the output of pig iron rose to 281,935 tons from 185,634 a year earlier, steel ingots to 414,704 tons from 269,329, and steel castings to 8,423 tons from 5,743. Stocks of pig iron on hand at the end of the year amounted to 125,218 tons, slightly below the preceding year's 127,681. (1)

January Iron and Steel
Output Continued 1955 Rise

Canadian production of pig iron and steel ingots continued to climb in January. The month's output of pig iron jumped 43% to 285,500 tons from 199,500 a year earlier and was close to the high levels of recent months. At the same time the output of steel ingots rose about 36% to a new monthly record tonnage of 422,900 versus 310,900 tons a year earlier. (2)

Small Increase in Output Of
Motor Vehicles In January

Production of motor vehicles in January totalled 29,600 units, slightly above last year's corresponding output of 28,900 but well below 1954's January total of 40,200, units according to a preliminary DBS report. The month's output of passenger cars showed a small decline to 25,000 units from 25,500 but production of commercial vehicles rose to 4,600 units from 3,400. (3)

Production Of Refined Petroleum
Products Increased 24% in August

Production of refined petroleum products rose nearly 24% in August as compared with the corresponding month of 1954. Refineries used 17% more crude petroleum in the month than a year earlier and receipts moved up 14%.

The month's output of refined petroleum products amounted to 18,057,900 barrels (14,598,400 a year earlier), consumption of crude petroleum totalled 17,810,600 barrels (15,264,300), and receipts of crude petroleum amounted to 17,043,100 barrels (14,906,200). The month's receipts comprised 7,589,600 barrels of imported oil (6,612,100) and 9,453,400 barrels of Canadian oil (8,294,100).

Net sales of some of the main refined petroleum products in August were as follows: naphtha specialties, 165,100 barrels (98,400 in July); aviation gasoline 380,400 (398,900); motor gasoline, 8,367,500 (7,450,100); aviation turbo fuel, 225,100 (204,000); kerosene stove oil, 354,300 (202,300); diesel fuel, 1,634,500 (1,378,000); furnace oil, 1,603,100 (1,041,000); and heavy fuel oil, 3,519,600 barrels (3,475,100). (4)

Shipments Of Asphalt Shingles
Increased 11% In Year 1955

Shipments of asphalt shingles increased 11% to 2,971,000 squares in 1955 from the preceding year's 2,685,700 squares. Shipments of smooth-surfaced roll roofing rose to 1,044,600 squares from 1,001,600 but mineral-surfaced roll roofing fell to 796,500 squares from 819,300. Shipments of roll-type sidings declined to 238,000 squares from 265,000, but tar and asphalt felts increased to 56,900 tons from 49,200 and asphalt sheathings to 18,900 tons from 15,900. (5)

Larger Quantities Of Gypsum
Products Made, Shipped In 1955

Larger quantities of gypsum wallboard, lath, sheathing and block and tile were produced and shipped in 1955 than in the preceding year. The year's production aggregated 728,061,000 square feet versus 597,798,000 and the shipments totalled 717,147,000 square feet versus 591,634,000. Year-end stocks were also larger at 27,875,000 square feet versus 16,961,000.

Production of gypsum plasters in 1955 moved up to 295,100 tons from 261,600 and the shipments to 294,400 tons from 261,300. Year-end stocks were also larger at 2,200 tons versus 1,400. (6)

Crude Petroleum Industry Topped
All Previous Records In 1954

Gross value of production in Canada's crude petroleum industry topped all previous records in 1954, rising to a new peak total of \$247,854,000. This was more than one-fifth larger than the 1953 value of \$204,481,000, and four times as large as 1949's \$61,091,000.

The number of operating wells also reached a new high total of 8,562 rising from 7,506 in 1953 and 3,166 in 1949. These wells produced 96,080,345 barrels of crude petroleum versus 80,898,897 in 1953 and 21,305,348 in 1949.

The industry's employees numbered 3,870, down from 4,150, and their salaries and wages dropped to \$15,756,455 from \$16,430,201. Cost of process supplies jumped to \$4,095,789 from \$3,020,756, and fuel and electricity costs mounted to \$2,848,332 from \$2,447,143.

In 1954 Alberta had 5,541 active wells and gross value of production of \$232,325,165 versus 5,020 wells and a production value of \$197,686,004 in 1953. Number of wells in Saskatchewan was 1,252 (895 in 1953); Ontario, 1,392 (1,423); Manitoba, 325 (114); and the Northwest Territories, 26 (28). (7)

Output Of Textile Products
Lower In Value In 1953

Factories of the textiles group (except clothing) shipped \$700,690,000 worth of goods in 1953, according to the Bureau's general review of the group. Inventories held in plant and plant warehouses were valued at \$71,858,000 at the end of 1953 versus \$58,484,000 a year earlier.

After allowance for the change in inventories, the estimated gross value of production stood at \$714,064,000, 4% below the preceding year's \$744,142,000. Despite the decline in gross value the physical volume of production rose about 2% as compared with 1952. Thus, a generally lower price structure for fibres, textiles and textile products accounted for the decline in the overall value of production.

Employment in the group was up slightly from 1952, the monthly payrolls listing an average of 73,190 persons as compared with 72,739. Total salary and wage payments amounted to \$184,605,000 compared with \$178,689,000. The decline in gross value of production was accompanied by a 7% decrease in the cost of materials used to \$388,325,000 from \$418,523,000. (8)

Miscellaneous Leather Products Industry In 1954 Gross factory value of shipments of 231 establishments comprising the miscellaneous leather products industry in 1954 (226 in 1953) was \$26,219,000, little changed from the preceding year's \$26,258,000. The number of employees fell to 4,474 from 4,674 and the salary and wage payments to \$9,509,000 from \$9,594,000.

The industry is centred in Quebec and Ontario. Of the total value of shipments, 47.6% originated in Quebec and 44.6% in Ontario. Among the principal products of the industry were; hand luggage, hand bags, brief cases, billfolds and wallets, school bags, body belts, leather washers and gaskets, and chamois lining. (9)

PRICES

Consumer Price Index Practically Unchanged for 5th Successive Month Canada's consumer price index remained practically unchanged between December 1 and January 3, declining slightly from 116.9 to 116.8. This was the fifth successive month in which the total index has shown almost no movement. On January 3, 1955, the index stood at 116.4. Current decreases in the food and household operation indexes were sufficient to more than offset upward movements in the shelter, clothing and "other" commodities and services indexes.

The food index declined 0.8% to 111.5 from 112.4 a month earlier as lower prices were reported for eggs, fresh and cured pork, and chocolate bars. Prices of other food items showed little change. The shelter component advanced to 131.3 from 131.0 due to a small increase in rents and a slightly greater increase in the home-ownership component.

The clothing index moved up to 108.6 from 108.5 largely as a result of higher prices for men's hats, and fractional increases in men's sweaters and shoes. A small drop in the household operation index to 116.5 from 116.6 resulted from lower prices for electrical appliances, domestic gas and electricity, which more than counter-balanced small increases in furniture, coal and cleaning supplies. The price of household help was up in some cities.

The "other" commodities and services index moved up to 119.0 from 118.3 as increased prices for local transportation, prescriptions and toilet soap outweighed scattered minor decreases. (10)

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities & Services
January 3, 1956	116.8	111.5	131.3	108.6	116.5	119.0
December 1, 1955	116.9	112.4	131.0	108.5	116.6	118.3
January 3, 1955	116.4	112.1	128.4	108.1	117.1	118.2

Security Price Indexes

<u>Investors' Price Index</u>	<u>February 2</u>	<u>January 26</u> (1935-39 = 100)	<u>January 5</u>
Total Common Stocks	248.7	245.6	251.8
Industrials	257.5	253.6	261.6
Utilities	204.8	204.2	207.8
Banks	261.4	261.1	255.5

Mining Stock Price Index

Total Mining Stocks	124.4	123.9	126.9
Golds	76.4	75.8	75.7
Base Metals	234.3	234.1	244.0

Small Decline In Security
Price Index In January

The composite investors' weekly index of 96 common stocks stood at 245.6 on January 26, 1.3% below the December 29 index of 248.8. Strength in the week-to-week movements apparent in the first half of the month was more than cancelled by a third-week drop.

Among the major groups a similar pattern appeared for 76 industrials, which closed the month at 253.6, down 1.7% from the December 29 index of 258.1. Thirteen utilities were 0.8% lower at 204.2 compared with 205.9, while 7 bank issues were stronger, rising to 261.1 from 253.9. Only textiles and clothing showed a fractional net gain among sub-groups, while declines were led by milling, machinery and equipment, and transportation.

The composite index for 27 mining issues declined 0.9% between December 29 and January 26 to stand at 123.9 compared with 125.0. A drop of 2.3% in base metals to 234.1 from 239.6 was only partly offset by a rise of 1.2% in 22 gold issues to 75.8 from 74.9. (10)

Wholesale Price Index
Up Slightly In January

Canada's weekly composite index for 30 industrial materials at wholesale advanced 0.5% during the first month of 1956 to 246.0 from 244.8 a month earlier.

Commodity price changes were led by steel scrap, iron ore, sisal and fir timber, followed by lesser increases for cottonseed oil, zinc, linseed oil, white lead, raw cotton, raw sugar, oats, hogs, steel sheets and wheat. Raw rubber, beef hides, tin, rosin and steers were lower.

Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets rose 0.4% to 197.2 from 196.5. Field products, notably potatoes, were firmer as the index advanced 2.7% to 160.0 from 155.8. Higher prices in this group were also reported for western flax and rye and eastern wheat, hay and corn, while the price for eastern barley was slightly lower.

Animal products fell 1.2% to 234.4 from 237.2 due to considerably lower prices for eggs and lesser decreases for steers and eastern calves. On the other hand, increases were registered for lambs, raw wool, and eastern hogs and cheese-milk. (10)

Index Of Farm Prices Of Agricultural Products Slightly Lower In December

the revised November figure of 220.1. Lower prices for live stock and poultry and eggs more than offset higher prices for dairy products, potatoes and some of the grains.

Canada's index number of farm prices of agricultural products, on the 1935-39 base, stood at 219.5 in December, slightly below the revised November figure of 220.1. Lower prices for live stock and poultry and eggs more than offset higher prices for dairy products, potatoes and some of the grains.

Provincial indexes for December (with November figures in brackets) were as follows: Prince Edward Island, 161.1 (157.0); Nova Scotia, 202.0 (201.2); New Brunswick, 184.2 (186.5); Quebec, 254.4 (251.1); Ontario, 241.3 (243.7); Manitoba, 209.9 (209.4); Saskatchewan, 190.8 (190.9); Alberta, 200.7 (202.1); and British Columbia, 254.3 (256.0). (11)

L A B O U R

Weekly Wages Paid To Hourly-Rated Wage-Earners In Manufacturing Reached New Peak At December 1

high figure of \$60.78 at the beginning of December, an increase of 15¢ over a month earlier, according to advance figures released by the DBS. Average hourly earnings rose 0.7¢ to 146.1¢ but the average work-week was slightly shorter at 41.6 hours versus 41.7.

Average weekly wages paid to hourly-rated wage earners in manufacturing rose to an all-time

Both durable and non-durable goods shared in the upward trend in weekly wages and hourly earnings. Higher averages in heavy manufactured goods were partly due to a decline in seasonally-employed help in sawmills, partly to strike settlements in aircraft factories and partly to increased activity in automotive plants. Average earnings in the non-durable component were affected by changes in the levels of employment in industries influenced by seasonal factors: fruit and vegetable canneries and sugar refineries reported sharp reductions in staff, while Ontario tobacco factories reported heightened activity.

Average hourly earnings were higher in all main branches of the mining and construction industries. The increase in the latter arose largely from the curtailment of outside operations due to weather conditions, as usual at the time of year.

Average Hours and Earnings of Hourly-Rated Wage-Earners Reported in Specified Industries in the Weeks Ending Nov. 1 and Dec. 1, 1955 and Dec. 1, 1954

Industry	Average Hours			Average Hourly Earnings			Average Weekly Wages		
	Dec. 1	Nov. 1	Dec. 1	Dec. 1	Nov. 1	Dec. 1	Dec. 1	Nov. 1	Dec. 1
	1954	1955	1955	1954	1955	1955	1954	1955	1955
	no.	no.	no.	¢	¢	¢	\$	\$	\$
Manufacturing	41.2	41.7	41.6	141.2	145.4	146.1	58.17	60.63	60.78
Durable Goods ...	41.5	41.8	41.8	152.5	157.0	157.4	63.29	63.63	65.79
Non-durable Goods	41.0	41.5	41.4	130.0	133.5	134.1	53.30	55.40	55.52
Mining	43.8	44.5	44.3	158.6	163.4	164.6	69.47	72.71	72.92
Electric and Motor									
Transportation ..	44.8	44.7	44.7	141.1	145.9	147.0	63.21	65.22	65.71
Construction	40.6	41.4	40.1	147.5	152.2	154.7	59.89	63.01	62.03
Service	41.0	40.4	40.7	84.8	87.3	87.4	34.77	35.27	35.57

Federal Government Employment Classified civil servants on the payroll of the Federal Government in October numbered 141,589, down from 141,868 in the preceding month but up from 140,110 a year earlier. Their earnings rose to \$36,949,261 from \$36,828,115 in September and \$36,084,397 in October, 1954.

Prevailing rate employees numbered 24,724, down from 25,431 in September but up from 24,714 in October 1954 and their earnings were \$4,987,861, down from \$5,403,156 in the preceding month but up from \$4,947,181 a year earlier. Ships' crews rose to 2,359 from 2,275 in September and 2,196 in October 1954 and their earnings advanced to \$561,488 from \$549,565 in September and \$523,793 in the corresponding month of 1954.

Casual and other employees dropped to 15,214 from 15,872 in September but rose from 14,678 in October 1954 and their earnings declined to \$2,811,363 from \$3,000,623 in September but rose from \$2,548,237 in October, 1954. (12)

M I N I N G

Asbestos Shipments Up 15% in 1955 Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines were 15% heavier in the full year 1955, totalling 1,062,000 tons versus 923,600 in 1954. December shipments were up to 81,828 tons from 70,921. Exports rose to 894,932 tons in the year from 797,936 and to 90,921 tons in the month of December from 76,250. (13)

Coal Production Lower In 1955 But Landed Imports Up Production of coal in Canada in the year 1955 declined to 14,719,232 tons from 14,913,579 in the preceding year but landed imports rose to 19,490,559 tons from 18,551,002. December production advanced to 1,700,000 tons from 1,548,416 and landed imports rose to 1,171,142 tons from 834,821.

The year's output in Nova Scotia declined to 5,726,273 tons from 5,842,896 and in Alberta to 4,454,814 tons from 4,859,049. In Saskatchewan the output rose to 2,290,763 tons from 2,116,740, British Columbia and Yukon to 1,409,165 tons from 1,313,623, and New Brunswick to 838,217 tons from 781,271.

Landed imports entering Ontario in 1955 aggregated ~~16,245,525 tons~~ (15,235,404 in 1954). Total for Quebec was 3,034,130 tons (3,100,706). (14)

Miscellaneous Metal Mining Industry The Dominion Bureau of Statistics released today its annual report for 1954 on the Miscellaneous Metal Mining Industry. This report presents statistics on Canadian production and consumption and other data on some 25 metals and metal-bearing ores. These include aluminum, antimony, barium, beryllium, bismuth, cadmium, calcium, chromium, iron, indium, magnesium, manganese, mercury, molybdenum, pitchblende, selenium, tantalum-Columbium, tellurium, thallium, tin, titanium, tungsten, vanadium, and zirconium. (5)

Production Of Crude Petroleum Reached Monthly High In October

Canadian production of crude petroleum reached an all-time monthly peak total of 12,572,700 barrels in October, sharply above the preceding year's 8,720,100 barrels. This gain brought the January-October output to 104,577,900 barrels from 78,143,700 a year earlier. Estimated output for the full year 1955 stands at 128,811,000 barrels versus 96,080,300 in 1954.

Production of natural gas increased to 12,847,571,000 cubic feet in October from 10,195,984,000 in the same month of 1954, bringing the January-October total to 114,524,120,000 cubic feet versus 95,729,844,000. The full year total for 1955 amounted to an estimated 143,699,000,000 cubic feet versus 120,735,214,000.

Manufactured gas sales fell to 1,534,156,000 cubic feet in October from 2,097,315,000 and to 15,454,492,000 cubic feet in the January-October period from 21,715,753,000. Natural gas sales rose to 9,066,262,000 cubic feet in October from 6,450,407,000 and to 88,908,257,000 cubic feet in the ten months from 70,406,312,000. (16)

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

Railway Car Loadings Up 9.5% In Third Week Of January

Railway car loadings in the third week of January increased 9.5% to 75,711 cars from last year's corresponding total of 69,117 cars. At the same time receipts from connections rose 7.5% to 34,154 cars from 31,784. During the first three weeks of this year 211,839 cars were loaded, 7% above the preceding year's 197,908, while receipts from connections rose 10.3% to 95,918 cars from 86,948.

Commodities carried in larger volume in the third week of January included: coal, 6,309 cars (5,203 in 1955); iron ore, 565 (56); non-ferrous ores and concentrates, 2,991 (2,465); iron and steel products, 1,541 (1,007); and miscellaneous carload commodities, 5,001 cars (4,118). (17)

Fewer Passengers Carried On Urban Transit Systems

Fewer passengers were carried by urban transit systems in November and the first 11 months of 1955, DBS reports. In November the number carried was 104,262,614 versus 106,229,181 a year earlier, bringing the January-November total to 1,105,121,306 versus 1,154,574,234. Motor bus and chartered services gained in passenger volume but there were decreases for electric cars and trolley buses. (18)

Fewer Passengers Transported By Intercity And Rural Carriers

Fewer passengers were carried by intercity and rural motor carriers in July and the first seven months of 1955. The month's total fell to 5,441,991 from 5,852,647 a year earlier and the January-July total to 37,654,425 from 39,691,552. Revenues eased to \$4,488,420 in July from \$4,597,849 and to \$22,387,803 in the seven months from \$22,820,884. (19)

Freight Traffic On
Canals Up 6% In October

Freight traffic cleared through Canadian canals was almost 6% heavier in October than in the corresponding month of 1954. DBS reports the month's total at 4,384,800 tons versus 4,145,287. Increased traffic was reported by the St. Lawrence, the Welland Ship and four of the smaller canals, while decreases were recorded at the Canadian lock at Sault Ste. Marie, the Rideau, the Richelieu and the St. Peter's canals.

On the St. Lawrence system the month's freight traffic increased to 1,526,240 tons from 1,305,774 a year earlier. Flaxseed, bituminous coal, and iron ore were moved in larger volume but there were smaller shipments of wheat, barley and fuel oil.

Volume of freight carried through the Welland Ship canal in October amounted to 2,529,568 tons, an increase of 1.8% over the preceding year's 2,485,160. Iron ore accounted for a large part of the overall increase. Although the volume of freight through the Canadian lock of the Sault Ste. Marie canal declined to 288,037 tons from 326,317, the total shipped through the combined system rose to 15,175,994 tons from 10,425,065. Iron ore moved up sharply but there were declines in wheat and barley. (20)

Operating Revenues Of Motor Carriers
11.7% Higher In 1953; Expenses Up 12.6%

Operating revenues of Canada's freight and passenger motor carriers totalled \$261,422,000 in 1953, up 11.7% from \$233,973,000 in the preceding year, according to the Bureau's annual report. Operating expenses rose 12.6% to \$242,240,000 from \$215,112,000, and net operating revenues increased to \$19,183,000 from \$18,861,000.

A total of 3,483 "for hire" operators submitted reports in 1953. These operators had an investment of more than \$202,000,000 compared with \$177,000,000 reported by 4,040 operators in 1952. The average investment for 1953 was thus \$58,100 against \$43,849 per firm a year earlier.

Carriers with Ontario head offices earned 42.3% of the total operating revenues during the year (43% in 1952). Quebec operators had 23.2% (23.4%), the Prairies 17.2% (14.1%), British Columbia 14.4% (16.3%), and the Atlantic Provinces 2.9% (3.2%).

At the end of 1953 reporting firms had an average of 7.3 vehicles in comparison with 6.2 at the end of the preceding year. There were 10,876 trucks, 6,108 tractor semi-trailer units, 3,718 trailers and 4,725 buses in operation at the end of the year. Of these, 150 trucks, 364 tractors and 607 buses were equipped with diesel engines. (21)

MERCHANDISING

Department Store Sales
Increased 8.2% In Week

Department store sales increased 8.2% in the week ending January 28 as compared with the corresponding week last year. There were increases in all provinces except Manitoba, where the decrease was 5.6%. Gains in the other provinces were: Atlantic Provinces, 5.1%; Quebec, 7.4%; Ontario, 12.3%; Saskatchewan, 7.8%; Alberta, 10.9%; and British Columbia, 8.4%.

Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents In September

There were 12,488 motor vehicle accidents reported in Canada, excluding Quebec, in September, 1955, according to advance figures released by DES. The record showed that 255 persons were killed and 5,336 injured, while \$4,990,687 worth of property damage was caused. There were 208 fatal accidents, 3,571 non-fatal injury accidents and 8,669 involving property damage only. The minimum property damage, excluding Quebec and Manitoba, reportable to the police varies from \$50 to \$100 in different parts of the country.

Province	Number		Of		Persons Killed	Persons Injured	Property Damage
	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage Only	Total			
Nfld.....	4	35	131	170	5	41	\$ 65,156
P.E.I.....	-	15	55	70	-	19	30,923
N.S.....	5	222	759	986	5	236	258,578
N.B.....	7	132	316	455	7	184	183,097
Que.....
Ont.....	104	1,850	3,690	5,644	131	2,769	2,682,119
Man.....	16	239	779	1,034	20	369	..
Sask.....	16	251	601	868	18	375	373,762
Alta.....	26	319	1,171	1,516	33	530	599,667
B.C.....	28	499	1,138	1,665	33	737	747,626
Yukon & N.W.T.....	2	9	29	40	3	26	49,759
Total.....	208	3,571	8,669	12,488	255	5,336	4,990,687

.. Not Available - Nil

B U S I N E S S

Cheques Cashed In Clearing Centres Reached All-Time High In Year 1955

Cheques cashed against individual accounts reached a new high record total of \$166,-541,032,000 in 1955, nearly 9% larger than the preceding year's \$153,192,527,000. December debits rose 10% to \$15,628,-020,000 from \$14,242,143,000.

Payments were larger last year than in 1954 in all economic areas except the Atlantic Provinces, where the decrease was 1.5%. The rise in Quebec was 12%, Ontario 10%, British Columbia 7%, and the Prairie Provinces 3.5%.

The year's totals by areas were as follows, in thousands: Atlantic Provinces, \$4,520,961 (\$4,591,668 in 1954); Quebec, \$49,377,931 (\$44,193,052); Ontario, \$74,820,362 (\$68,296,156); Prairie Provinces, \$25,008,924 (\$24,155,325); and British Columbia, \$12,812,854 (\$11,956,325).

December totals were as follows, in thousands: Atlantic Provinces, \$422,-009 (\$374,980 a year earlier); Quebec, \$4,935,600 (\$4,200,334); Ontario, \$6,-899,593 (\$6,293,843); Prairie Provinces, \$2,188,161 (\$2,272,345); and British Columbia, \$1,182,657 (\$1,100,640). (22)

Creamery Butter Stocks Larger Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of
But Holdings Of Cheese Smaller Canada were larger on February 1 than at the
 same time last year but the holdings of cheddar
 cheese were smaller. Creamery butter stocks amounted to 59,421,000 pounds ver-
 sus 51,517,000 and cheddar cheese totalled 19,164,000 pounds versus 21,492,000.

Creamery butter stocks were as follows by cities, in thousands: Quebec, 4,745 pounds (2,511 a year earlier); Montreal, 28,747 (25,209); Toronto, 6,652 (8,946); Winnipeg, 15,573 (10,805); Regina, 887 (921); Saskatoon, 590 (278); Edmonton, 1,074 (1,065); Calgary, 317 (257); and Vancouver, 836 (1,525). (23)

Visible Supplies Of Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on January 25 total-
Wheat Little Changed led 359,778,000 bushels, virtually unchanged from last
 year's 357,151,000 bushels, DBS reports. Marketings of
 wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending January 25
 rose to 4,478,000 bushels from 4,252,000 and the overseas export clearances
 moved up to 4,596,000 bushels from 3,590,000. (24)

Catch Of Sea-Fish Down % In Canadian sea-fishermen landed % less fish
Volume And 10% In Value In 1955 in 1955 than in the preceding year and the
 value of the catch fell about 10%. The
 year's landings weighed 1,747,379,000 pounds and were valued at \$77,599,000
 versus 1,923,358,000 pounds valued at \$85,949,000 in 1954. December landings
 rose to 154,194,000 pounds from 119,098,000 and the value to \$5,184,000 from
 \$4,364,000.

West-coast landings in 1955 dropped to 492,727,000 pounds from 599,079,000 and the value to \$28,200,000 from \$35,264,000. The values of all three major Pacific fisheries declined appreciably from their 1954 levels: salmon by 22% to \$18,342,000 from \$23,579,000; halibut by 38% to \$2,469,000 from \$3,984,000; and herring by 9% to \$4,170,000 from \$4,565,000. Landings were: salmon, 129,495,000 pounds (178,481,000 in 1954); halibut, 18,960,000 pounds (25,199,000); and herring, 305,277,000 pounds (360,963,000).

Atlantic coast landings in 1955 fell to 1,254,652,000 pounds from 1,324,279,000 and the value was slightly lower at \$49,399,000 versus \$50,685,000. The value of the lobster catch rose to \$16,513,000 from \$15,553,000 and haddock to \$4,245,000 from \$4,162,000, but the value of cod landings fell to \$13,809,000 from \$16,263,000. Landings of lobsters weighed 48,673,000 pounds (46,422,000 in 1954); cod, 555,414,000 pounds (651,971,000); and haddock, 133,514,000 pounds (117,555,000).

Catch of fish in Newfoundland in 1955 fell to 535,210,000 pounds from 626,358,000 and the value to \$13,527,000 from \$15,674,000. In Nova Scotia the year's catch of all kinds rose to 414,943,000 pounds valued at \$23,389,000 from 383,619,000 pounds worth \$22,680,000 in 1954. The New Brunswick catch declined to 152,514,000 pounds valued at \$6,431,000 from 202,058,000 pounds valued at \$6,940,000. Prince Edward Island's catch rose to 35,699,000 pounds valued at \$3,332,000 from 32,833,000 pounds worth \$2,928,000 in 1954. Landings of seafish in Quebec also increased to 116,286,000 pounds from 79,411,000 and the value to \$2,720,000 from \$2,463,000. (25)

Skim-Milk Powder Packed
For Retail Sale In Canada

Quantity of skim-milk powder packed in consumer-size containers for retail sale in Canada amounted to 10,209,000 pounds in 1955, according to a special year-end survey by the Bureau. This total continues previous annual increases in output of this product, comparing with 8,125,000 pounds packaged in 1954, 5,936,000 pounds in 1953, 4,841,000 in 1952, and 2,656,000 pounds in 1951.

Holdings Of Canned Fruits
And Vegetables Up Sharply

Stocks of canned fruits held by commercial packers, wholesalers and chain store warehouses at the end of 1955 were about one-quarter larger than a year earlier and the stocks of canned vegetables almost 18% larger, advance figures released by the Bureau show. Canned fruit stocks amounted to 10,621,898 dozen containers versus 8,491,626 and the holdings of canned vegetables totalled 23,379,179 dozen versus 19,885,286.

There were increased stocks of most canned fruits, exceptions being apples, pineapple and raspberries. Larger increases included cherries, fruit cocktail for salad, peaches, pears and strawberries. Main increases in the holdings of canned vegetables were in beets, corn, peas, carrots and peas combined, and tomatoes. Stocks of green or wax beans, pumpkin and squash, and sauerkraut, were smaller.

End-of-December stocks of individual items in dozen cans, with 1954 figures in brackets, are detailed below:

Canned fruits: apples, solid pack, 202,696 (218,906); crabapples, 13,665 (12,137); applesauce, 727,216 (715,076); apricots, 559,747 (405,537); blueberries, 109,700 (106,953); cherries, 596,825 (409,890); fruit cocktail for salad, 909,513 (785,907); grapefruit, 24,375 (18,086); loganberries, 23,132 (16,453); peaches, 3,362,052 (2,445,056); Bartlett pears, 1,149,726 (818,693); Keiffer pears, 901,163 (827,073); apple pie-filling, 87,778 (70,240); other pie-filling, 165,201 (67,397); pineapple, 443,609 (596,927); plums, gages, etc., 786,354 (410,301); raspberries, 222,529 (260,557); rhubarb, 2,977 (3,171); strawberries, 269,462 (224,024); and all other fruits, 64,178 (79,242).

Canned vegetables: asparagus, 283,978 (219,164); green or wax beans, 2,098,491 (2,803,147); baked beans, 1,828,891 (1,856,880); beets, 882,337 (637,038); carrots, 390,743 (359,019); carrots and peas combined, 422,461 (365,755); corn, 5,903,385 (4,868,985); mixed vegetables, 604,811 (561,510); peas, 7,756,649 (5,351,760); pumpkin and squash, 391,970 (453,938); sauerkraut, 196,468 (220,014); spinach, 146,222 (130,118); tomatoes, 2,261,048 (1,830,499); and all other vegetables, 211,725 (227,459).

Other canned foods: apple juice, 2,017,932 (2,070,516); other fruit juice, 610,421 (738,925); apple juice concentrate, 7,626 (3,955); infant and junior foods: fruits, 3,150,228 (3,319,257); soups, 587,613 (517,636); vegetables, 1,725,951 (1,649,025); other infant and junior foods, 2,948,568 (2,234,392); jams, 480,917 (454,225); jellies, 89,301 (79,360); marmalades, 165,030 (155,078); mayonaise and salad dressing, 87,967 (54,279); peanut butter, 106,438 (111,155); pickles, 547,194 (505,285); prepared mustard, 150,749 (143,998); relishes, 83,920 (90,052); ready dinners, 805,168 (470,016); sandwich spread, 42,630 (39,735); Chili sauce, 240,025 (242,398); meat sauce, 49,201 (74,213); other sauces, 166,506 (141,699); soups, 9,514,334 (9,209,903); spaghetti, 456,087 (527,001); tomato juice, 4,417,358 (3,564,340); tomato ketchup, 2,311,534 (2,447,830); tomato pulp, paste and puree, 256,597 (223,434); vinegar, 105,484 (149,411); and honey, 125,374 (88,516).

Graphic Presentation Of Agriculture

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released a reference paper entitled "A Graphic Presentation of Agriculture, 1951 Census." It was prepared jointly by the Economics Division of the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau and contains maps and charts portraying graphically the following: distribution of population; generalized types of farming; farm population; average value of products sold per farm; average capital investment per farm; average size of farm; farms reporting tractors, electricity; utilization and tenure of farm land; and distribution of crop acreages and live stock numbers. (26)

S E R V I C E S

Warehousing In 1954

Operating revenues of 185 warehousing establishments in 1954 aggregated \$35,265,000, nearly 15% above the preceding year's \$30,737,000 reported by 173 firms, the Bureau's annual industry report shows. Operating expenses grossed \$31,320,000 versus \$26,270,000. Revenues from storage fell to \$12,988,000 from \$13,491,000, but revenues from cartage rose to \$13,507,000 from \$9,354,000.

These establishments had 18,766,000 cubic feet of occupiable space for household goods at the end of 1954 (16,602,000 in 1953); 39,329,000 cubic feet for merchandise (40,371,000); and 20,865,000 cubic feet of cold storage space (21,384,000). Storage space occupied by household goods ranged from 76% to nearly 82% of capacity during the year, merchandise from 79% to almost 85%, and cold storage from 61% to 77%.

Motor vehicle equipment of warehousing establishments in 1954 comprised 1,525 trucks (965 a year earlier); 477 tractors and semi-trailer units (402); and 94 trailers (63). (27)

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

- 1-M: Production of Pig Iron and Steel, December, 10¢
 - 2-Steel Ingots & Pig Iron, January, 10¢
 - 3-Preliminary Report on the Production of Motor Vehicles, January, 10¢
 - 4-Refined Petroleum Products, August, 25¢
 - 5-M: Asphalt Roofing, December, 10¢
 - 6-M: Gypsum Products, December, 10¢
 - 7-Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry, 1954, 25¢
 - 8-General Review of Textiles, Except Clothing, 1953, 25¢
 - 9-Miscellaneous Leather Products and Leather Belting Industries, 1954, 25¢
 - 10-Price Movements, January, 10¢
 - 11-M: Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, December, 10¢
 - 12-M: Federal Government Employment, October, 10¢
 - 13-M: Asbestos, December, 10¢
 - 14-M: Preliminary Report on Coal Production, December, 10¢
 - 15-Miscellaneous Metal Mining Industry, 1954, 25¢
 - 16-M: Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas & Manufactured Gas, October, 15¢
 - 17-M: Car Loadings on Canadian Railways, January 21, 10¢
 - 18-M: Urban Transit Statistics, November, 10¢
 - 19-M: Motor Carrier -- Passenger -- Intercity & Rural, July, 10¢
 - 20-M: Summary of Canal Statistics, October, 10¢
 - 21-Motor Carrier, Freight-Passenger, 1953, 25¢
 - 22-Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, December, 10¢
 - 23-M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry in 9 Cities, Advance Statement, February 1, 10¢
 - 24-M: Grain Statistics Weekly, January 25, 10¢
 - 25-Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, December, 25¢
 - 26-R: A Graphic Presentation of Agriculture, 1951 Census, Reference Paper No. 63, 25¢
 - 27-Warehousing, 1954, 25¢
 - Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, November, 25¢ --
Summarized in Weekly Bulletin of January 27.
 - Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, October, 10¢
 - Trade of Canada: Imports, October & 10 Months Ended October (detailed), 50¢
 - Canadian Statistical Review, January, 35¢
- M: Memorandum -- R: Reference Paper

Prepared in Press and Publicity Section, Information Services Division

Edmond Cloutier, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.,
Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery,
Ottawa, 1956

4502-503-26

NEWS NOTES

More Balloons 122,131 gross of balloons were shipped from Canadian factories in 1954 as against 111,484 gross the previous year. Factory selling value rose to \$346,281 from \$334,011.

Gas Wells Out of a total of 3,541 productive gas wells at the end of 1954 in Canada, 3,211 were in Ontario, 280 in Alberta, 39 in New Brunswick and 12 in Saskatchewan.

Iron Ore Net value of production of iron ore in Canada was \$35,052,000 in 1954, up from \$30,067,000 the previous year, nearly double the 1950 value of \$15,083,000 and 10 times the 1944 value of \$3,467,000.

Crude Petroleum Supply Apparent Canadian supply of crude petroleum in 1954 reached 172,620,000 barrels (of 35 Imperial gallons), making the ninth successive yearly increase from 65,289,000 barrels in 1945.

More Golf Clubs Canadian production of complete golf clubs increased in 1954 to 206,827 from 194,301 in 1953 and factory selling value rose to \$1,351,857 from \$1,232,496. Imports of golf clubs and finished parts amounted in value to \$182,356 versus \$155,545.

Aluminum Canada ranks second in the world in aluminum production, being exceeded by the United States and followed by Russia. Canadian output in 1954 is placed at 560,880 tons against 1,460,565 tons for the United States and 305,000 for Russia.

Natural Gas Total production of natural gas in Canada has risen each year since 1946, climbing from 47,900,500,000 cubic feet to 120,735,000,000 in 1954 and an estimated 143,699,000,000 in 1955. Most of the gain has been in Alberta, followed by Saskatchewan, but output has risen also in Ontario. In New Brunswick it has declined almost steadily.

Perennial Plants Reports from 165 Canadian nurseries on their shipments during the year ended June 30, 1953, showed phlox paniculata first among perennials in number shipped. Next in order of the leading ten were iris, delphinium, chrysanthemum indicum, lythrum, phlox subulata, viola, dicentra (bleeding heart), primula and Michaelmas daisy.

More Railway Passenger Cars Canada's railways had 6,648 cars in passenger service at the end of 1954, up from 6,458 a year earlier and 6,366 three years earlier. Coaches in 1954 were up to 2,133 from 2,064 in 1953, sleeping cars to 956 from 801, dining cars to 196 from 180, and parlour cars to 174 from 161. Biggest increase from 1951 was in baggage, postal and express cars, up to 2,418 from 2,201.

More Inks Production of printing inks in Canada during 1954 amounted to 26,854,350 pounds with a factory value of \$11,648,790, up from 25,735,017 pounds valued at \$11,125,566 in 1953 and more than double the quantity and nearly triple the value of the 1945 output of 12,502,374 pounds worth \$3,998,471. Writing ink production in 1954 was valued at \$516,418 compared to \$492,930 in 1953 and \$416,924 in 1945.

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010729294