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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

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Foreign Trade: Commodity imports in the twelve months of 1955 rose 15% over 1954 to reach a new record value for a year. Exports were up 10% over 1954 but were still slightly below the 1952 peak value. The result of these increases was an overall import surplus of \$360,200,000, the largest on record. (Page 2)

...

Merchandising: Retail sales last year amounted to an estimated \$12,875,000,000, nearly 7% above the estimated total value for 1954 and the highest value ever recorded. Both independent and chain stores shared in the sales gain, and dollar value of sales was higher than the previous year in all provinces except Saskatchewan ... Department store sales rose over 7% in January over a year earlier and in the week ending February 11 were nearly 7% higher ... Estimated sales of wholesalers to the end of November last year showed over 12% rise over 1954. (Pages 4 & 5)

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Industrial Production: Measured by the Bureau's composite index, industrial production in Canada last year was 8.7% larger than in 1954. Manufacturing averaged 7.4% higher, mining 15.6%, electricity and gas output 8.3% higher. (Page 6)

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Electric Power: Output of electric energy by central electric stations rose 10% in 1955 with gains in every province except New Brunswick. Biggest increase was in Ontario, but Quebec was still the largest producer by a substantial margin. (Page 6)

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Family Growth: Average size of families in Canada at June 1 last year is estimated at 3.8 persons, up from 3.7 a year earlier. The number of families increased 2.5% in the year to an estimated 3,685,000. (Page 7)

...

Labour: Total employment showed the usual seasonal decline in the six weeks from December 10 to January 21, but the drop was smaller than at the same time last year. The number of persons with jobs fell an estimated 157,000 but was 228,000 larger than a year earlier; while the number without jobs and seeking work increased an estimated 86,000 but was 77,000 less than last year. (Page 8)

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Food: Increases over a year earlier were reported for February 1 stocks of creamery butter, meat, and principal stored vegetables; decreases for cheese, eggs, frozen fish ... Production of creamery butter, cheddar cheese, and concentrated milk products was larger this January. (Pages 13 to 15)

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Exports Reached Near-Record High Value In 1955; Imports At New Peak

Canada's commodity exports in 1955 climbed 10% in value over the preceding year and were only slightly below the 1952 all-time peak value, while commodity imports rose 15% to reach a new record value, according to preliminary summary figures for 1955 released by the Bureau. The greater rise in imports than in exports produced an enlarged import surplus -- the fifth in the post-war period.

Total exports in 1955 were valued at \$4,351,300,000 versus \$3,946,900,000 in the preceding year and only slightly under 1952's record \$4,356,000,000. Commodity imports were worth an estimated \$4,711,500,000 versus \$4,093,200,000 in 1954. Total trade for the year -- the sum of total exports and imports -- climbed to the highest ever at \$9,062,800,000 from \$8,040,100,000 in 1954 and the next best totals of \$8,555,400,000 in 1953 and \$8,386,400,000 in 1952.

The overall import surplus in trade with all countries in 1955 was \$360,200,000 versus \$146,200,000 in the preceding year and \$210,200,000, previous largest, in 1953. There was an export surplus of \$325,500,000 in 1952, and import surpluses of \$121,500,000 in 1951 and \$17,200,000 in 1950. In the four years 1946 to 1949 there were export surpluses ranging from \$237,800,000 to \$473,100,000.

Purchases from and sales to the United States were both at all-time peaks in 1955, but the rise in imports exceeded that of exports. Imports rose to an estimated \$3,452,300,000 from \$2,961,400,000 in 1954, and total exports to \$2,612,200,000 from \$2,367,500,000. The estimated import surplus for 1955 thus rose to \$840,100,000 from \$593,900,000 in 1954. These import surpluses compare with \$758,200,000 in 1953, \$627,900,000 in 1952, \$479,000,000 in 1951, the low of \$80,000,000 in 1950 and the post-war peak of \$918,100,000 in 1947.

Total commodity exports to the United Kingdom reached a post-war high total of \$774,000,000 in 1955, nearly 18% above the preceding year's \$658,300,000. At the same time commodity imports were narrowly higher at \$400,800,000 versus \$392,500,000. The resulting export surplus was larger at \$373,200,000 versus \$265,800,000 in 1954, and compares with \$215,500,000 in 1953 and \$391,300,000 in 1952. Largest export surplus of the post-war years was \$564,300,000 in 1947.

Total exports to all other Commonwealth countries rose to \$238,600,000 in 1955 from \$196,600,000 in the preceding year, while imports increased to \$208,600,000 from \$181,700,000. Commodity exports to all foreign countries other than the United States were slightly higher at \$726,500,000 versus \$724,500,000, while imports from these countries were substantially larger at \$649,500,000 versus \$557,600,000.

For the month of December, total exports eased to \$380,900,000 from \$391,300,000 the previous year, but estimated value of imports rose to \$385,600,000 from \$336,700,000. Exports to the United States rose to \$230,100,000 from \$219,500,000 but sales to the United Kingdom fell to \$62,300,000 from \$77,500,000. Exports to the rest of the Commonwealth increased to \$18,200,000 from \$16,500,000 but to all other countries declined to \$70,300,000 from \$77,800,000.

MORE



December imports from the United States were up to \$290,000,000 from \$243,-100,000 but purchases from the United Kingdom fell to \$28,300,000 from \$33,800,-000. Imports from the rest of the Commonwealth rose to \$10,900,000 from \$9,-000,000 and from all other countries to \$56,400,000 from \$50,800,000.

The preliminary figures for December and the January-December period are summarized in the table following. The import figures are estimates and subject to revision; final and detailed import figures will not be available for several weeks. Those for exports are based on final figures which will be issued in detail shortly.

	December		January-December	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
	Millions of Dollars			
<u>Exports: (domestic &amp; foreign)</u>				
United Kingdom .....	77.5	62.3	658.3	774.0
Other Commonwealth countries..	16.5	18.2	196.6	238.6
United States .....	219.5	230.1	2,367.5	2,612.2
Other Foreign countries.....	<u>77.8</u>	<u>70.3</u>	<u>724.5</u>	<u>726.5</u>
Totals.	391.3	380.9	3,946.9	4,351.3
<u>Imports:</u>				
United Kingdom .....	33.8	28.3	392.5	400.8
Other Commonwealth countries..	9.0	10.9	181.7	208.9
United States .....	243.1	290.0	2,961.4	3,452.3
Other Foreign countries.....	<u>50.8</u>	<u>56.4</u>	<u>557.6</u>	<u>649.5</u>
Totals.	336.7	385.6	4,093.2	4,711.5

## TOBACCO

Tax-Paid Withdrawals Of Cigarettes Reached Record Levels In Year 1955

Tax-paid withdrawals of cigarettes for consumption in Canada, as indicated by the sale of excise revenue stamps, reached an all-time high of 24,576,087,000 in 1955, an increase of 11% over the preceding year's 22,113,102,000, and more than double 1944's 11,666,421,000. At the same time tax paid withdrawals of cigars rose to 252,633,000 from 244,248,000 the year before and 197,779,000 in 1944.

Withdrawals of cut tobacco declined in 1955 to 23,640,000 pounds from 24,-459,000 in 1954, plug tobacco to 1,539,000 pounds from 1,541,000, raw leaf tobacco to 1,114,000 pounds from 1,141,000, and snuff to 821,000 pounds from 846,000.

Stocks of unmanufactured tobacco held at the end of 1955 rose to 175,982,-730 pounds from 171,125,693 at the same date in 1954. Flue-cured stocks were 156,275,852 pounds (149,080,733 a year earlier); burley, 5,413,290 (7,714,752); dark, 1,772,791 (1,757,555); cigar, 9,969,169 (9,898,969); pipe 1,686,760 (1,751,619); and other types, 864,868 (922,065). (1)

Retail Sales Topped All Previous  
Record Values In The Year 1955

Sales of Canadian retailers reached an all-time high value in 1955. Estimated at \$12,-874,099,000, the year's total topped 1954's value of \$12,065,758,000 by 6.7%. Sales gains over 1954 were recorded in all months except February and March and the year ended with December sales rising to a new high monthly total of \$1,339,052,000, up 7.2% from 1954's \$1,248,-920,000.

Both independent stores and chain stores shared in the record sales in 1955. Independent retailer sales rose to \$10,581,568,000 from \$9,919,123,000 in the preceding year, while chain sales jumped to \$2,292,530,000 from \$2,-146,635,000.

All provinces except Saskatchewan and all but one trade (restaurants) for which figures are available had increased sales both in the year 1955 and the month of December.

In the full year British Columbia had the largest proportionate increase in sales of 10.3%, followed by Ontario with 7.9%, the Atlantic Provinces a close third at 7.7%, Quebec 6.0%, Alberta, 5.8%, and Manitoba 4.6%. The decline in Saskatchewan was 2.5%.

Among the trades, motor vehicle dealers led in size of sales gain with a rise of 15.5%. Next were lumber and building material dealers with 8.6%, department stores 8.4%, furniture, appliance and radio 7.1%, variety stores 6.7%, grocery and combination stores 6.1%, and fuel dealers 5.8%. Sales increases for other trades ranged downward from 3.7% for family clothing stores to 0.8% for "other" food and beverage stores. The decline for restaurants was small at 0.3%.

British Columbia had the largest regional sales increase in December of 9.8%, followed closely by Quebec with 9.5% and Ontario with 8.7%. Manitoba was next with a rise of 6.9%, the Atlantic Provinces 6.6%, and Alberta 1.5%. The decline in Saskatchewan was 9.2%. Fuel dealers topped all other trades in size of sales gain with a rise of 26.4%, motor vehicle dealers next with 13.7%, and furniture, appliance and radio stores with 13.5%.

The year's estimated sales totals for the provinces were as follows, ranked in order of size (in thousands): Ontario, \$5,000,846 (\$4,634,450 in 1954); Quebec, \$2,964,907 (\$2,797,617); British Columbia, \$1,378,681 (\$1,-249,499); Atlantic Provinces, \$1,104,217 (\$1,025,222); Alberta, \$1,019,132 (\$963,630); Saskatchewan, \$739,685 (\$758,295); and Manitoba, \$666,634 (\$637,044).

Estimated sales for the 12 leaders for the year were (in thousands); grocery and combination stores, \$2,417,363 (\$2,279,402 in 1954); motor vehicle dealers, \$2,344,124 (\$2,028,751); department stores, \$1,150,917 (\$1,061,676); garages and filling stations, \$655,154 (\$632,252); general stores, \$528,170 (\$514,959); furniture, appliance and radio, \$520,147 (\$485,790); restaurants, \$451,033 (\$452,554); lumber and building material dealers, \$441,098 (\$406,174); drug stores, \$286,827 (\$281,810); fuel dealers, \$264,239 (\$249,846); hardware, \$253,637 (\$246,503); and variety stores, \$249,220 (\$233,593). (2)



Department Store Sales Increased Department stores sales increased 7.3% in January as compared with a year earlier, according to preliminary estimates by the Bureau. There were sales gains of 9.8% in both Quebec and Ontario, 8.1% in British Columbia, 7.9% in Alberta and 7.6% in the Atlantic Provinces. Sales in Manitoba fell 2.2% but there was no change in Saskatchewan.

During the week ending February 11 all-Canada sales averaged 6.9% higher than a year earlier. Saskatchewan led with an increase of 19.8%, followed by Alberta with a rise of 14.7%, British Columbia 10.6%, Ontario 7.3%, the Atlantic Provinces 2.4% and Quebec 2.1%. The decline in Manitoba was 2.9%.

Chain Store Sales Exceeded All Previous Years In 1955 With increases over the preceding year in all months of the year and a final surge to an all-time high record in December, retail chain store sales rose nearly 7% in 1955 to a new peak value for a year of \$2,292,530,000 as compared with \$2,146,635,000 in 1954. December sales were valued at \$289,966,000 versus \$270,369,000. All trades shared in the rise in sales in the year.

Grocery and combination stores -- largest of the chain group -- had sales in the year 1955 valued at \$955,219,000, topping 1954's total of \$863,423,000 by a wide margin. Variety stores, second in sales size, had sales totalling \$207,190,000 versus \$194,249,000.

The furniture, appliance and radio group was next in order with sales valued at \$102,901,000 (\$97,129,000 in 1954); lumber and building material dealers, \$85,407,000 (\$84,267,000); women's clothing, \$58,496,000 (\$54,844,000); shoe stores, \$46,821,000 (\$45,386,000); jewellery stores, \$40,955,000 (\$38,955,000); drug stores, \$36,211,000 (\$35,909,000); family clothing stores, \$32,615,000 (\$32,069,000); men's clothing, \$25,729,000 (\$25,351,000); and hardware stores, \$19,226,000 (\$17,645,000). (3)

Wholesalers' Sales Up 6.7% In Value In November & 12.4% In Eleven Months Sales of Canadian wholesalers in November were estimated at \$598,159,000, 6.7% above the preceding year's corresponding total of \$560,752,000, DBS reports in the second issue of its new monthly series on wholesale trade. Total sales for the January-November period were valued at an estimated \$6,199,606,000 up 12.4% from \$5,516,926,000 a year earlier.

All but two of the trades for which value totals are available had increased sales in the January-November period. Largest proportionate increases were recorded for automotive parts and accessories (34.2%), industrial and transportation equipment and supplies (23.4%), and construction materials and supplies, including lumber (21.7%). Gains for the other trades ranged downward from 13% for farm machinery to 2.7% for fresh fruits and vegetables and 2.3% for tobacco, confectionery and soft drinks. Sales for the meat and dairy products group were down 4.6%, and for coal and coke, 1.6%.

January-November sales totals for the larger trades were as follows, in thousands: groceries and food specialties, \$1,041,244 (\$946,974 a year earlier); construction materials and supplies, including lumber, \$608,770 (\$500,050); industrial and transportation equipment and supplies, \$522,189 (\$423,260); tobacco, confectionery and soft drinks, \$458,945 (\$448,459); automotive parts and accessories, \$322,288 (\$240,134); hardware, \$260,431 (\$240,618); and newsprint, paper and paper products, \$242,023 (\$227,480). (4)

Industrial Production Index Up  
8.7% In Year, 10.3% In December

Canada's composite index of industrial production for the year 1955 averaged 265.9, 8.7% above 1954's figure of 244.6, according to preliminary calculations. The December index stood at 265.5, up 10.3% from 240.6 a year earlier.

For the year as a whole the manufacturing index rose 7.4% to 270.1 from 251.4 in 1954, the non-durables component rising 6.1% to 235.2 from 221.7, and the durables index 9.1% to 324.9 from 297.7. The year's mining index advanced 15.6% to 242.4 from 209.7, and the electricity and gas index rose 8.3% to 275.7.

The manufacturing component of the industrial production index rose by 9.8% in December to 266.1 from 242.4 a year earlier. At the same time the index of mineral output advanced 17.4% to 250.7 from 213.5.

The index of non-durable manufactures rose 8.5% in December to 229.9 from 211.9 a year earlier. All groups recorded increases in this comparison with the output of rubber products advancing over 28%. Gains of between 8 and 10% were shown by the tobacco products, textiles, clothing and paper products groups. The foods and beverages, printing and publishing and chemicals industries showed smaller gains.

The composite index of durable manufactures for December stood at 322.8, 11.3% above 1954's December figure of 290.1. Output of iron and steel products recorded an advance of nearly 35%, while production in the non-metallic minerals and wood products group rose over 14% and nearly 12%, respectively. Output of electrical apparatus advanced nearly 9%. Due principally to reduced activity in the aircraft industry, production of transportation equipment declined 3%. Output of non-ferrous metal products declined nearly 2%.

## ELECTRIC POWER

Output Of Electric Energy  
Reached New Peak In 1955

Electric energy produced by central electric stations reached an all-time high record total of 76,296,630,000 kilowatt hours in the year 1955, 10% above the preceding year's 69,136,584,000. December's output also climbed to a new high for any month at 6,900,024,000 kilowatt hours, 5% above the 6,556,201,000 kilowatt hours produced in December, 1955.

All provinces except New Brunswick shared in the rise in production in the year 1955 as compared with 1954. Quebec accounted for approximately one-half of the all-Canada output, the year's production rising to 35,845,093,000 kilowatt hours from 34,732,279,000 in 1954. Ontario was next with 25,336,147,000 kilowatt hours, up from 20,963,613,000, and British Columbia third with 6,052,296,000 kilowatt hours, up from 5,371,338,000.

Production totals for the other provinces in 1955 were: Manitoba, 3,100,999,000 kilowatt hours (3,008,202,000 in 1954); Alberta, 1,706,649,000 (1,484,905,000); Saskatchewan, 1,416,466,000 (1,287,706,000); Nova Scotia, 1,196,481,000 (1,130,445,000); New Brunswick, 843,533,000 (886,737,000); Newfoundland, 661,736,000 (237,846,000); Prince Edward Island, 46,172,000 (33,513,000); and the Yukon and Northwest Territories, 91,058,000 (not available for 1954). (5)



2.8% More Households And 2.5% More Families in Canada in 1955 Than in 1954

There was a larger rise in the number of households than in the number of families in Canada in the 12 months to June 1 last year, according to the annual estimates by the DBS. The average size of households was unchanged from 1954 but the average size of families was slightly larger.

The Bureau estimates the number of households in Canada at June 1 last at 3,891,000, 106,000 or 2.8% more than a year earlier and 330,000 or 9.3% more than at the same date in 1952. Average size of households was 3.9 persons, the same as in 1954, and slightly below the 4.0 persons in the period 1951-1953. The average size of household was largest in Newfoundland at 5.1 persons, while British Columbia showed the smallest average size of household at 3.4 persons.

Estimated number of families in June last was 3,685,000, an increase of 90,000 or 2.5% since June 1, 1954, and a rise of 272,000 or 8% since June 1, 1952. Average size of family in 1955 was 3.8 persons as compared with 3.7 in 1954. Average size was greatest in Newfoundland at 4.5 persons and smallest in British Columbia at 3.4 persons. (6)

Several Vital Statistics Records Established In 1954

The Bureau has released its final annual report on vital statistics for the year 1954, for which preliminary figures were issued last Fall.

The 34th in a series issued since 1921 on data obtained under arrangement with provincial registration offices, the 136-page report contains, in addition to comprehensive and detailed statistics on births, deaths, marriages, divorces and still-births, comparisons of Canadian vital statistics rates with those of other countries, several historical series and detailed statistics for the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

As previously announced, several vital statistics records were established in 1954. The year saw the highest number of births ever recorded in Canadian history at 435,142 in the 10 provinces and 1,056 in the Yukon and Northwest Territories; the birth rate of 28.7 was the second highest in the last 33 years, only slightly below the post-war record 28.9 in 1947, and the 6th highest among the major countries of the world. For the second year, Ontario had more births than the traditionally highest province, Quebec. Newfoundland had the highest birth rate at 34.3 and Prince Edward Island and British Columbia the lowest at 25.9 and 26.0 per 1,000 population.

Despite an ageing population the 1954 death rate of 8.2 per 1,000 population was the lowest ever recorded, having dropped from a previous record low of 8.6 in 1953. Only the Netherlands had a lower rate (7.5) among major world countries.

Although a record low infant mortality (under 1 year) rate of 32 out of every 1,000 children born alive was established in 1954, 10 countries have lower rates than Canada. Similarly, neo-natal mortality (deaths under 4 weeks of age) reached a record low in 1954 of 19 per 1,000 infants born alive, bettered also by 10 countries.

These high fertility and low mortality rates during 1954 gave Canada the 6th highest rate of natural increase (excess of births over deaths) in the world, exceeded only by Venezuela, Mexico, Ceylon, Chile, and Peru, all of which have very high birth rates. Almost 311,000 persons were added to the Canadian population in 1954 through natural increase alone, the highest number in Canadian history. Natural increase has added slightly over 1,000,000 persons to the population between the date of the 1951 census and the end of 1954. (7)

Registrations Of Births, Deaths  
And Marriages Increased In January

Birth registrations in January reached a new high record for the month, while five-year highs for January were registered for both marriages and deaths. Registrations of births in provincial vital statistics offices in January numbered 40,141 versus 36,784 a year earlier, marriages totalled 8,285 versus 6,949, and deaths numbered 11,957 versus 11,264. (8)

## LABOUR

Seasonal Decline In Employment

Total employment showed the customary sharp seasonal decline between December 10, 1955 and January 21 this year, states the joint monthly release by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Department of Labour. The drop was smaller than last year but larger than during the same period two years ago. Unemployment as a consequence showed a marked rise during this six-week period due to seasonal factors.

At January 21, the number of persons with jobs was estimated at 5,231,000, some 157,000 less than at December 10 but 228,000 more than a year earlier. The number of persons with jobs in non-farm industries was 4,543,000, a drop of 132,000 from December 10 but a rise of 295,000 over a year ago. Persons without jobs and seeking work on January 21 numbered 286,000, up from 200,000 on December 10 but down from 363,000 a year earlier. On January 19 there were 484,600 applications for employment on file at NES offices, an increase of 197,900 over the number on file on December 8 but 85,000 less than a year earlier.

While over-all employment has held fairly firm in the past two months, apart from seasonal movements, there has been some slackening in the rapid rate of increase that occurred during most of the latter half of 1955. One reason for this slowdown was the severe weather during December and most of January, which hampered logging and lumbering operations in the Maritimes and construction and other outdoor activities on the Prairies. Apart from the effects of weather, there have been somewhat heavier than usual layoffs in a few industries such as transportation equipment industry. A return to more normal weather and resumption of work at General Motors will help to stimulate employment.

Persons at work 35 hours or more in the week ending January 21 totalled 4,705,000 versus 4,749,000 a month earlier and 4,487,000 a year earlier. The number at work less than 35 hours was 364,000 versus 512,000 in December and 381,000 at the same time in 1955. Persons with jobs but not at work for various reasons numbered 162,000 versus 127,000 a month earlier and 135,000 at the same time last year.

Of the 364,000 who worked less than 35 hours in the January survey week, 219,000 or 4% of the labour force, were regular part-time workers, while the remaining 145,000 or 2.6% of the labour force, included 40,000 on short-time, 33,000 who were ill, 23,000 off work because of bad weather, and 49,000 with other reasons. Of the 162,000 or 2.9% who had jobs but did not work during the survey week, 156,000 usually worked full-time and these included 60,000 who were ill and 16,000 on vacation.



Labour Income Up From Year Earlier Wages, salaries and supplementary labour income received by paid workers in Canada in November are estimated at \$1,133,000,000, down \$6,000,000 from the all-time peak in October, but up 9% from the November, 1954 total of \$1,037,000,000. In the January-November period the total rose 7% to \$11,736,000,000 from \$10,957,000,000 a year earlier.

November losses in total wages and salaries amounted to \$10,000,000 in construction and \$1,000,000 in manufacturing. On the other hand, there were increases of \$3,000,000 in the finance and services group and \$1,000,000 in the primary and distributive groups of industries.

Labour income for November for the industrial groups was as follows, in millions: agriculture, forestry, fishing, trapping, mining, \$83 (\$81 a year earlier); manufacturing, \$357 (\$321); construction, \$89 (\$77); utilities, transportation, communication, storage, trade, \$290 (\$269); finance, services, \$274 (\$253); and supplementary labour income, \$40 (\$36).

January-November totals were as follows, in millions: agriculture, forestry, fishing, trapping, mining, \$810 (\$787 a year earlier); manufacturing, \$3,766 (\$3,553); construction, \$853 (\$751); utilities, transportation, communication, storage, trade, \$3,020 (\$2,858); finance, services, \$2,874 (\$2,618); and supplementary labour income \$413 (\$390). (9)

## H O T E L S

Hotel Receipts Slightly Lower In 1954 There were 5,208 full-year and seasonal hotels in operation in Canada in 1954 and their receipts totalled \$405,856,000, 1% less than the \$410,715,000 reported by 5,209 hotels in 1953, according to advance figures released by the DBS. The number of rooms decreased slightly to 148,890 from 149,653 and the percentage of room occupancy decreased to 53% from 55%. The average room rate increased to \$3.81 from \$3.64.

Sales of beer, wine and liquor accounted for over one-half of total hotel receipts in 1954, amounting to \$204,555,000 versus \$209,984,000 in 1953. Receipts from room rentals accounted for \$94,094,000 in 1954 versus \$93,914,000, meals for \$70,829,000 versus \$70,974,000, and all other sources for \$36,378,000 versus \$35,843,000.

Receipts of full-year non-licensed hotels showed a 16.9% decline to \$22,557,000, seasonal non-licensed hotels a drop of 3.2% to \$12,063,000, and full-year licensed hotels a decrease of 0.1% to \$359,784,000. Receipts of the seasonal licensed group rose 3.2% to \$11,452,000.

Hotel receipts in Toronto were higher than in any other city in Canada at \$27,724,000 (\$26,948,000 in 1953), followed by Montreal with \$23,100,000 (\$23,514,000), Vancouver, \$15,251,000 (\$15,016,000), and Winnipeg \$10,184,000 (\$10,124,000).

Receipts from the sale of beer, wine and liquor were highest in Toronto at \$9,114,000 (\$9,048,000 in 1953), but Montreal hotel room rental receipts were highest at \$9,593,000 (\$9,723,000). Room occupancy was highest in Halifax at 83% and lowest in Sherbrooke at 49%. Estimated daily room rate was highest in Montreal at \$7.20 (Toronto \$6.97) and lowest in Brantford at \$2.96.

Security Price IndexesInvestors' Price Index

	<u>February 16</u>	<u>February 9</u> 1935 - 39 = 100	<u>January 19</u>
Total Common Stocks .....	248.5	247.2	245.1
Industrials .....	257.2	255.8	252.7
Utilities .....	203.1	203.3	205.1
Banks .....	266.0	262.4	261.5

Mining Stock Price Index

Total Mining Stocks .....	124.7	124.3	123.7
Golds .....	76.8	76.7	75.7
Base Metals .....	234.4	233.4	233.6

Wholesale Price Indexes

	<u>January</u> 1955	<u>December</u> 1955 (1935 - 1939 = 100)	<u>January</u> 1956
<u>General Index</u> .....	215.7	221.4	222.0
Vegetable Products .....	197.2	192.9	192.8
Animal Products .....	226.5	220.8	218.9
Textile Products .....	224.0	226.8	227.8
Wood Products .....	289.7	303.7	305.8
Iron Products .....	214.5	229.3	230.7
Non-ferrous Metals .....	170.6	200.6	202.2
Non-metallic Minerals .....	176.4	176.8	178.7
Chemical Products .....	176.6	178.1	178.3
Combined Index, Iron and Non-ferrous Metals (excluding gold)	221.0	251.1	253.1

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

Railway Car Loadings Up 16.1%  
In First Week Of February

Car Loadings on Canadian railways in the first week of February rose 16.1% as compared with the corresponding week last year. At the same time receipts from connections increased 13.1%. For the year to date, loadings in Canada increased 12.8% and the receipts from connections were up 13.6%.

Loadings in the week amounted to 77,763 cars versus 66,981 a year earlier, bringing the cumulative total to 397,638 cars versus 352,649. The week's receipts from connections were 35,745 cars versus 31,608, bringing the January 1 - February 7 total to 183,026 cars versus 161,141.

Commodities carried in larger volume in the week ending February 7 were: grain, 7,171 cars (versus 4,500 in 1955); coal, 5,736 (4,654); iron ore, 506 (98); non-ferrous ores and concentrates, 2,963, (2,492); crude petroleum, 1,065 (427); sand, gravel and crushed stone, 2,069 (1,559); "other" mine products, 2,165 (1,527); logs, posts, poles and piling, 1,696 (1,205); pulpwood, 6,359 (5,486); and miscellaneous carload commodities, 5,242 (4,279). (10)



Production & Shipments Of Wire Nails Up In Year 1955

to 93,891 tons from 75,422.

Production of iron and steel wire nails in the full year 1955 rose to 88,897 tons from the preceding year's 79,028 tons. Shipments in the year increased (11)

Production Of Washing Machines Reached 5-Year High In 1955

Almost 268,000 washing machines were produced in Canada in 1955, an increase of 24% over the preceding year's 215,000 units and the highest annual total since 1950's 282,000 units. Shipped in 1955 were 269,000 units (218,000 in 1954) and factory inventories at the end of the year were slightly smaller at 25,700 units versus 26,700.

The year's output of conventional electric models increased to 226,700 units from 179,500 in 1954, automatic electric models to 35,400 units from 30,400, and gasoline models to 5,600 units from 5,400. Shipments in 1955 comprised 227,700 conventional electric models (183,300 in 1954), 35,100 automatic electric models (28,800), and 5,900 gasoline units (5,900).

Factory shipments in 1955 were as follows by provinces: Newfoundland, 3,400 units (3,400 in 1954); Maritimes, 21,200 (16,000); Quebec, 69,900 (56,800); Ontario, 104,800 (83,900); Prairie Provinces, 42,200 (35,900); British Columbia, 20,100 (17,000). Shipments for export numbered 6,900 units (4,900). (12)

Production And Shipments Of Electric Refrigerators Up In 1955

Production of domestic-type electric refrigerators increased 5% in 1955 from the preceding year but declined 10% from 1953. The year's output amounted to 247,629 units versus 236,022 in 1954 and 274,126 in 1953. Shipments in the 12-month period totalled 268,100, up from 236,190 a year earlier and close to 1953's 267,328 units. Factory stocks at the end of the year were down to 19,181 units from 40,897 a year earlier.

The year's output of individual electric home and farm freezers rose to 11,995 units from 9,090 in 1954, and the year's shipments jumped to 12,380 units from 8,339. Factory stocks at year's end declined to 1,326 units from 1,628. (13)

Production And Shipments Of Veneers & Plywoods In 1955

Production and shipments of veneers and plywoods both were larger in 1955 than in the preceding year. The year's output of veneers rose to 1,012,640 square feet from 742,247 in 1954 and the shipments climbed to 1,016,261 square feet from 758,632. Output of plywood increased to 1,136,287 square feet from 910,134 and the shipments to 1,143,539 square feet from 908,793. Year-end stocks of veneer fell to 24,538 square feet from 26,924 and plywood to 37,642 square feet from 48,837. (14)

Production, Shipments Of Portland Cement Reached New Peaks In 1955

Production and shipments of Portland cement reached all-time peaks in the year 1955. The year's output advanced to 25,184,050 barrels from 22,604,723, and the year's shipments to 25,160,538 barrels from 22,357,442. Stocks at plants and warehouses at year's end were up to 1,112,292 barrels from 1,094,159 at the end of 1954.

The year's output of concrete products showed general increases over 1954: bricks to 130,086,033 from 88,113,257; concrete blocks, 106,148,912 (99,173,318); cement drain pipe, sewer pipe, water pipe and culvert tile, 433,419 (328,670); and ready-mixed concrete, 3,775,957 cubic yards (2,310,837). (15)

Production, Consumption  
And Stocks Of Rubber

Domestic production of synthetic and reclaim rubber increased in December over a year earlier but consumption and month-end stocks of natural, synthetic and reclaim rubber both declined. Combined output of synthetic and reclaim rubber in December rose to 10,169 tons from 9,661 a month earlier. Domestic consumption of natural, synthetic and reclaim fell to 9,064 tons from 10,076, and the month-end stocks declined to 14,318 tons from 14,486. (16)

Larger Supplies Of Coke  
Available For Consumption

Supplies of coke available for consumption in Canada were larger in November and the January-November period than a year earlier. DBS places the November total at 377,400 tons versus 321,100 and the 11-month total at 3,930,400 tons versus 3,271,200. Domestic production in November amounted to 345,400 tons in November versus 301,300, bringing the January-November output to 3,674,700 tons versus 3,123,500. (17)

Production Of Refined Petroleum  
Products Up 30% In September

Production of refined petroleum products rose more than 30% in September as compared with the corresponding month of 1954. The month's output of refined products amounted to 17,231,493 barrels (13,229,245 a year earlier), consumption of crude petroleum totalled 16,865,966 barrels (13,763,289), and receipts of crude amounted to 16,671,387 barrels (13,675,629). The month's receipts comprised 7,430,962 barrels of imported oil (5,717,172) and 9,240,425 barrels from Canadian sources of supply (7,958,457). (18)

Factory Sales Of Primary Iron  
& Steel Declined 16.5% In 1954

Factory sales of pig iron, ferro-alloys, steel ingots and castings and finished rolled products declined 16.5% in value in 1954 to \$383,154,000 from \$458,904,000 in the preceding year, according to the Bureau's annual report on the primary iron and steel industry. The industry employed an average of 28,861 persons (34,956 in 1953) and their salaries and wages grossed \$108,817,000 (\$129,710,000).

Output of 2,211,000 net tons of pig iron in 1954 was 26.4% less than the 3,012,000 tons reported for the preceding year. Production of basic iron amounted to 1,741,000 tons or 78.7% of the total; foundry iron amounted to 168,000 tons and malleable iron to 303,000 tons. Producers' sales of pig iron totalled 446,000 tons valued at \$22,142,000 versus 627,000 tons worth \$31,511,000.

Production of ferro-alloys in 1954 amounted to 116,000 tons, a decline of about 24.4% from the preceding year's 154,000 tons. Steel shipments declined about 22.4% to 3,195,000 tons in 1954 from 4,116,000 in 1953, the output of steel ingots dropping to 3,114,000 tons from 4,010,000 and castings to 81,200 tons from 106,500.

Rolling-mill sales declined 12.6% in 1954 to \$301,926,000 from \$345,491,000 in the preceding year. The main items sold during the year were: hot-rolled bars at \$56,525,000; plates, \$20,569,000; rails and rail fastenings, \$27,120,000; semi-finished forms, \$12,749,000; structural shapes, \$18,955,000; wire rods, \$26,848,000; and cold-reduced bars, \$7,717,000. (19)



Manufacturers' Shipments Of Clothing  
Reached New High In Value In 1953

Canadian clothing manufacturers shipped \$697,189,000 worth of goods in 1953, the highest value on record for the group of industries, and an increase of 1% over the preceding year's \$690,330,000, according to the Bureau's general review of the clothing industries.

Employment was up 1.3% with the payroll listing an average of 95,658 persons in 1953 compared with 94,434 persons the year before. Salary and wage payments amounted to \$202,005,000 and \$191,577,000, respectively. Materials used in manufacturing cost \$333,239,000 in 1953 as against \$324,472,000 in 1952.

The high level at which the clothing industries operated during the latter part of 1952 carried well into 1953. In the second quarter, however, a gradual decline set in and by December activity was considerably below that of the previous year. Despite the decline in the latter part of the year, activity for 1953 as a whole was ahead of 1952 and the level of operations was the highest on record. This peak activity was sustained by the second highest level of expenditure on clothing in history. (20)

## FOOD &amp; AGRICULTURE

Stocks Of Creamery Butter  
In 9 Cities Of Canada

Stocks of creamery butter in 9 cities of Canada on February 16 amounted to 54,785,000 pounds as compared with 46,452,000 a year ago. Holdings were as follows by cities: Quebec, 4,710,000 pounds (2,223,000 a year ago); Montreal, 26,031,000 (22,286,000); Toronto, 6,452,000 (8,307,000); Winnipeg, 14,567,000 (10,258,000); Regina, 828,000 (871,000); Saskatoon, 560,000 (195,000); Edmonton, 759,000 (798,000); Calgary, 180,000 (229,000); Vancouver, 698,000 (1,295,000).

Stocks Of Creamery Butter  
Larger; Cheese, Eggs Lower

Stocks of creamery butter, evaporated whole milk, skim milk powder and poultry meat were larger on February 1 this year than last. On the other hand, holdings of cheddar cheese and eggs were smaller. Stocks of creamery butter amounted to 88,190,000 pounds (80,370,000 a year earlier); cheddar cheese, 36,080,000 pounds (40,149,000); evaporated whole milk, 32,676,000 pounds (26,195,000); skim milk powder, 12,632,000 pounds (9,299,000); poultry meat, 26,240,000 pounds (24,940,000); and eggs, 239,000 cases (452,000 cases). (21)

Production Of Creamery Butter  
And Cheddar Cheese Up In January

Larger quantities of creamery butter, cheddar cheese, ice cream and concentrated milk products were made in Canada in January than in the corresponding month last year.

Production of creamery butter rose 6% to 11,646,000 pounds from 10,971,000, and domestic disappearance increased 2% to 22,042,000 pounds from 21,598,000. The month's make of cheddar cheese increased 4% to 2,023,000 pounds from 1,944,000, and the output of ice cream rose 10% to 1,515,000 gallons from 1,381,000.

Output of concentrated milk products rose 18% in January to 24,202,000 pounds from 20,592,000 a year earlier. (22)

Production Of Processed Foods In 1955

Canadian food processors manufactured larger quantities of plain and fancy biscuits, jams, canned soups, infants' foods, ready-to-serve cereals, roasted coffee, macaroni, jelly powders, process cheese, and canned meats in 1955 than in the preceding year. Among the decreases were: soda biscuits, chocolate bars, sugar confectionery, marshmallows, baked beans, peanut butter, custard powders, prepared cake mixes, and blended and packed tea.

The following are figures for some principal food items in the year 1955, totals for 1954 being in brackets:

Biscuits & Confectionery: plain and fancy biscuits, 188,783,584 pounds (188,601,382); soda biscuits, 45,225,817 pounds (45,552,809); chewing gum, 14,-793,979 boxes (14,539,548); cocoa powder for sale, 8,007,197 pounds (8,316,647); chocolate coatings for sale, 11,168,061 pounds (13,133,674); chocolate bars, 44,-676,436 dozen (48,197,994); chocolate confectionery in bulk, 13,839,903 pounds (14,304,574); boxed and packaged chocolates, 19,849,667 pounds (20,049,792); sugar confectionery, 76,312,970 pounds (77,075,326); ice cream cones, 406,600 M (379,235 M); marshmallows, 5,478,928 pounds (5,401,045).

Fruit & Vegetable Preparations: glacé cherries, 3,395,801 pounds (3,254,-718); maraschino cherries, 3,456,488 pounds (3,373,032); jams, 81,438,637 pounds (81,428,467); jellies, 6,907,844 pounds (6,335,485); marmalades, 19,681,688 pounds (21,068,748); baked beans, 82,320,749 pounds (95,865,588); canned mushrooms, 1,784,632 pounds (1,350,585); bottled olives, 922,548 gallons (567,707); pickles, 6,005,761 gallons (5,220,567); relishes, 753,306 gallons (824,217); canned soups, 26,069,503 dozen cans (25,049,014); tomato ketchup, 32,189,298 pounds (32,024,038); spirit vinegar, 8,158,110 gallons (8,143,903); infants' foods — cereals, 7,881,516 pounds (7,347,308); canned foods, 55,386,919 pounds (52,852,632).

Miscellaneous Foods: baking powder, 9,441,419 pounds (9,139,157); ready-to-serve cereals, 83,515,565 pounds (73,515,658); roasted coffee, 76,734,015 pounds (68,732,478); dry macaroni, 79,829,277 pounds (77,180,380); canned macaroni, 31,353,010 pounds (31,340,089); mince meat, 6,839,487 pounds (6,095,485); salted and roasted peanuts, 20,104,046 pounds (19,380,737); peanut butter, 25,-090,153 pounds (25,256,630); custard powders, 574,863 pounds (763,616); ice cream powders, 747,891 pounds (1,699,014); jelly powders, 16,285,652 pounds (14,117,888); pie filling powders, 7,395,224 pounds (5,965,402); pudding powders, 16,586,394 pounds (16,123,562); prepared cake mixes, 45,154,261 pounds (45,358,703); prepared pie mixes, 5,604,947 pounds (4,783,240); process cheese, 44,994,735 pounds (44,-440,296); salad dressing & mayonnaise, 26,028,762 pounds (23,341,380); sandwich spread, 3,547,081 pounds (3,461,396); blended and packed tea, 41,852,472 pounds (44,787,444); ice cream toppings, 472,613 gallons (280,933).

Canned Meat and Meat Products: corned beef, 749,022 pounds (309,322); spiced beef, 793,364 pounds (944,030); luncheon meat, 21,666,827 pounds (10,669,371); canned hams, 14,073,502 pounds (13,549,709); pork sausage, 520,231 pounds (831,-583); ready dinners, 19,018,380 pounds (17,599,563); bologna, 1,280,712 pounds (1,084,862); meat paste, 6,484,323 pounds (5,109,907); lunch tongue, 672,586 pounds (638,898); chicken and turkey, 2,485,137 pounds (1,884,752); wieners, 1,066,417 pounds (816,427); wieners and beans, 1,669,234 pounds (1,613,189); total canned meat, 75,606,391 pounds (57,450,465). (23)



Visible Supplies Of Wheat Slightly Larger Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on February 8 amounted to 358,243,000 bushels, slightly larger than last year's corresponding total of 355,241,000 bushels, DBS reports. Marketings from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending February 8 rose to 4,689,000 bushels from 3,090,000, and overseas export clearances increased to 2,813,000 bushels from 1,880,000. (24)

Wheat Flour Production Lower Wheat flour production in December amounted to 1,-640,300 barrels, smallest monthly total so far this crop year, but almost equal to the December, 1954 total of 1,672,200 barrels. Output in the first five months of the current crop year fell to 8,742,500 barrels from 9,240,200 and the calendar year output eased to 20,200,000 barrels from 21,-300,000. (25)

Holdings Of Vegetables Larger Stocks of potatoes, onions, carrots and celery in cold and common storage were larger on February 1 than at the same time last year. Holdings of potatoes rose to 16,812,000 bushels from 12,854,000, onions to 290,000 bushels from 225,000, carrots to 251,000 bushels from 210,000, and celery to 29,000 crates from 21,000. Stocks of cabbage fell to 45,000 bushels from 85,000.

February 1 stocks of apples rose to 4,120,000 bushels from 2,914,000 a year earlier and pears to 29,000 bushels from 28,000. Holdings of fruit, frozen and in preservatives increased to 36,712,000 pounds from 34,751,000, and vegetables, frozen and in brine, to 24,829,000 pounds from 18,841,000. (26)

Cold Storage Stocks Of Meat Larger Cold storage holdings of meat were 21% larger on February 1, totalling 87,568,000 pounds versus 72,140,000 a year earlier. Holdings of frozen meat weighed 54,951,000 pounds (40,737,000 a year earlier); fresh meat, 21,235,000 pounds (18,761,000); and cured meat, 11,-382,000 pounds (12,642,000). (27)

Stocks Of Frozen Fish Down 27% Stocks of frozen fish at the end of January amounted to 30,931,000 pounds, 27% smaller than last year's corresponding total of 42,502,000 pounds. Holdings of cod dropped to 6,124,000 pounds from 8,117,000, haddock to 4,374,000 pounds from 5,676,000, halibut to 4,888,000 pounds from 8,965,000, salmon to 3,106,000 pounds from 7,591,000, and sea herring to 1,623,000 pounds from 3,153,000. Stocks of all other sea fish increased to 6,-667,000 pounds from 4,910,000, and inland fish to 4,149,000 pounds from 4,089,000. (28)

## MINING

Gold Production Higher Canadian production of gold was slightly higher in November at 388,493 fine ounces versus 385,380 in the corresponding month of 1954. January-November output rose 5% to 4,164,762 fine ounces from 3,982,038 a year earlier. Estimated total for the full year, as announced earlier by the Bureau, amounted to 4,556,400 fine ounces versus 4,366,-440 in 1954.

January-November production was as follows by provinces: Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, 10,030 fine ounces (9,419 a year earlier); Quebec, 1,065,858 (997,-664); Ontario, 2,301,326 (2,149,923); Prairie Provinces, 198,687 (218,476); British Columbia, 225,716 (248,668); Yukon, 70,379 (77,810); and Northwest Territories, 292,766 (280,088). (29)

Expansion In All Phases Of  
Public Library Activity In 1953

Public libraries in Canada had a general expansion in all phases of activity in 1953 over 1951, according to the latest biennial survey of libraries released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The number of volumes on library shelves rose 10.8% to 8,405,375 from 7,584,256, circulation 22.6% to 30,946,730 volumes from 25,240,630, borrowers by 20.2% to 1,671,942 from 1,391,066, current receipts by 26.8% to \$7,925,899 from \$6,250,977, and current expenditures by 25.6% to \$7,811,465 from \$6,217,725.

The Bureau's report includes information on 765 public (free, association and regional), 9 open-shelf (mail order) and travelling, 268 university and college and 131 business, professional and technical society libraries for the calendar year 1953, and 102 federal and 99 provincial government libraries for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1954. Together the libraries contain 20,651,411 volumes.

An estimated 55% of the total Canadian population (from 23% in New Brunswick to 100% in Prince Edward Island) had public library service, while 21% of the population with such service were registered borrowers.

Public library current expenditures in 1953 for all Canada amounted to a per capita rate of 53¢. The rate varied from 11¢ in New Brunswick to 93¢ in British Columbia. There were 0.6 volumes per capita available (from 0.2 in Manitoba to 1.0 in Ontario), while circulation per capita was 2.1 volumes (from 0.4 in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec to 3.8 in Ontario). On the average, each registered borrower took 18.5 volumes during the year.

Based on 1951 Census figures for urban areas of over 10,000 population, Niagara Falls led the public libraries in 1953 with a per capita current expenditure rate of \$3.05, followed by Sudbury (\$2.78), London (\$2.70), New Toronto (\$2.09), Regina (\$1.98), Windsor (\$1.93), and Vancouver (\$1.91). Circulation per capita on the same basis, was largest in Kingston (11.5), followed by North Bay (11.0), West Vancouver (10.2), Port Arthur (9.5), and St. Thomas (9.1).

The 268 academic libraries contained 7,630,261 volumes, the 102 federal government libraries (of which 64 were in Ottawa) contained 2,067,430 volumes, while the 99 provincial government and 131 business, professional and technical society libraries held 1,389,516 and 774,629 volumes, respectively. Sixty-three public libraries reported stocks of films, 15 contained microfilms and 54 had musical recordings for loan.

There were 5,151 full and part-time staff members in the 1,374 libraries surveyed by the Bureau.

Sections of the survey deal with library associations, library science training, a resume of the progress of the National Library and of provincial developments in library service, together with listings of the individual libraries.



Fewer Motor Vehicle Accidents But More  
Fatalities And Injuries In Nine Months

There were fewer motor vehicle accidents in Canada (excluding Quebec) in the first nine months of 1955 than in the corresponding 1954 period but they resulted in larger numbers of deaths and non-fatal injuries, according to the Bureau's third-quarter report on motor vehicle accidents.

Motor vehicle accidents in the 9 provinces and the Territories fell to 99,507 from 100,563 in the like 1954 period. The number of fatalities rose to 1,475 from 1,288, and the non-fatal injuries to 35,736 from 32,585.

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia had fewer motor vehicle accidents in the first nine months of 1955 but there were increases in the other provinces. Fatalities were fewer in number in Nova Scotia, unchanged in Manitoba and the Yukon and the Northwest Territories, but there were larger totals for the other provinces.

Nine-month totals of the reported accidents follow by provinces: Newfoundland, 1,535 (2,215 a year earlier); Prince Edward Island, 610 (879); Nova Scotia, 7,387 (6,980); New Brunswick, 4,487 (4,313); Ontario, 43,835 (44,961); Manitoba, 8,761 (9,136); Saskatchewan, 5,892 (5,942); Alberta, 12,056 (11,091); British Columbia, 14,677 (14,784); and Yukon Territories, 267 (262).

Fatalities were as follows, by provinces: Newfoundland, 34 (13); Prince Edward Island, 8 (4); Nova Scotia, 86 (110); New Brunswick, 85 (76); Ontario, 801 (713); Manitoba, 81 (81); Saskatchewan, 78 (33); Alberta, 152 (121); British Columbia, 148 (134); and Yukon and Northwest Territories, 3 (3).

Number of persons injured was as follows, by provinces: Newfoundland, 337 (402); Prince Edward Island, 138 (103); Nova Scotia, 1,858 (1,801); New Brunswick, 1,326 (1,251); Ontario, 19,057 (17,380); Manitoba, 2,191 (2,165); Saskatchewan, 1,895 (1,828); Alberta, 3,354 (2,627); British Columbia, 5,500 (4,937); and Yukon and Northwest Territories, 80 (91). (31)

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

- 1-Quarterly Stocks & Consumption of Unmanufactured Tobacco, December, 25¢
- 2-Retail Trade, December, 25¢
- 3-Chain Store Sales & Stocks, December, 10¢
- 4-Wholesale Trade, November, 10¢
- 5-M: Central Electric Stations, December, 10¢
- 6-Estimates of Households & Families in Canada, 1955, 10¢
- 7-Vital Statistics, 1954 (Final Report), \$1.00
- 8-Vital Statistics, January, 10¢
- 9-Estimates of Labour Income, November, 10¢
- 10-M: Car Loadings on Canadian Railways, February 7, 10¢
- 11-M: Steel Wire & Specified Wire Products, December, 10¢
- 12-M: Domestic Washing Machines, December, 10¢
- 13-M: Domestic Electric Refrigerators, December, 10¢
- 14-M: Peeler Logs, Veneers & Plywoods, December, 10¢
- 15-M: Cement & Cement Products, December, 10¢
- 16-Consumption, Production & Inventories of Rubber, December, 25¢
- 17-Coal & Coke Statistics, November, 25¢
- 18-Refined Petroleum Products, September, 25¢
- 19-Primary Iron & Steel Industry, 1954, 25¢
- 20-General Review of the Clothing Industries, 1953, 25¢
- 21-M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products, February 1, 10¢
- 22-Dairy Factory Production, January, 10¢
- 23-Quarterly Report on Processed Foods, December, 25¢
- 24-M: Grain Statistics Weekly, February 8, 10¢
- 25-M: Grain Milling Statistics, December, 10¢
- 26-M: Stocks of Fruit & Vegetables, February 1, 10¢
- 27-M: Cold Storage Holdings of Meat & Lard, February 1, 10¢
- 28-M: Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, January 31, 10¢
- 29-M: Gold Production, November, 10¢
- 30-Survey of Libraries, 1952-54, 75¢
- 31-M: Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents, 3rd Quarter, 25¢
- Man-Hours & Hourly Earnings with Average Weekly Wages, December, 25¢ --  
Summarized in Weekly Bulletin of February 10.

M: Memorandum

Prepared in Press and Publicity Section, Information Services Division

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## NEWS NOTES

Refrigerators And Freezers Production of domestic-type electric refrigerators in 1955 totalled 247,629 compared with 236,022 the preceding year and of home and farm freezers 11,995 versus 9,090.

Public Library Service Public libraries are within reach of an estimated 55% of the population of Canada's ten provinces and about 21% of this proportion make use of them or approximately 11% of the total population.

Children In Families Of the estimated 3,685,000 families in Canada at June 1, 1955, 809,000 had one child and 101,000 had 7 or more. A total of 2,530,000 families had children compared with 2,419,000 in 1954, leaving 1,155,000 childless as against 1,176,000.

Juvenile Books Lead In Circulation Total circulation of books in 1953, reported by 765 public libraries, was nearly 31,000,000, juvenile books accounting for 13,256,000, adult fiction for nearly 11,363,000, and adult non-fiction for 5,581,000, the remainder being unclassified.

Library Expenditure Expenditures of Canada's public libraries amounted to 53 cents per head of population in 1953. British Columbia had the highest per capita expenditure at 93 cents, closely followed by Ontario at 92 cents. Next in order were: Alberta, 47 cents; Prince Edward Island, 45; Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia, 34; Manitoba and Newfoundland, 32; Quebec, 16; and New Brunswick, 11 cents.

Wheat Flour Production of wheat flour for the August-December period of the current crop year amounted to 8,742,494 barrels compared with 9,240,165 barrels for the same period in the crop year 1954-55.

Use Of Libraries By Borrowers Circulation of books in public libraries in urban centres was just over 18 per borrower in 1953. In academic libraries the average was over 23 per borrower.

Family Size The average size of Canadian families in June last year is placed at 3.8 persons, the same as in 1953 but up from 3.7 in 1954, 1952 and 1951. Average family size in 1955 was largest in Newfoundland (4.5) and smallest in British Columbia (3.4).

Pitchblende Canadian refinery production of pitchblende products was valued at \$26,374,000 for 1954, which is the first year since 1940 for which the figure is available. The value was \$410,200 for 1940 and \$1,121,600 for 1939, which was the highest figure of the pre-war years from the start of production in 1933.

Natural Increase The addition to Canada's population in 1954 by natural increase amounted to almost 311,000, the highest figure up to that year. It brought total natural increase from the date of the 1951 Census to the end of 1954 to slightly over 1,000,000. Preliminary returns of provincial registrations for 1955 indicate a still higher natural increase in excess of 313,000 last year.

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