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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

Foreign Trade: Final, detailed figures on Canada's domestic exports show that the rise of 10% in value was due largely to gains in forest products, metals, minerals and chemicals. Underlying the record shipments of commodities in these groups were strong demands for industrial materials in the United States - to which exports rose over 10% - and also in a number of overseas countries ... Final import figures for eleven months last year reveal increases in purchases from all main supplying countries and geographical areas. (Pages 3 to 5)

...

Prices: Wholesale prices as a whole moved up in January from December to bring the average level nearly 3% above January last year. The Bureau's general index (on the base 1935-39 equals 100) stood at 222.0 for January against 221.4 for December and 215.7 for January, 1955 ... In contrast, composite index of farm product prices moved downward from December to January. (Page 6)

...

Merchandising: Department store sales showed another increase in the week ending February 13, but somewhat smaller than in previous weeks this year. During the year 1955 these sales were more than 8% greater than in 1954. (Pages 8 & 9)

...

Food: Fluid milk sales last year were 5% larger than in 1954. Total milk production was some 2% larger. Domestic disappearance of butter was about six million pounds greater than the previous year, but on a per capita basis was slightly lower ... Commercial packs of most of the canned fruits and vegetables in chief demand were larger last year than in 1954. (Pages 10 to 12)

...

Transportation: Railway carloadings rose 14% in the second February week over last year to bring the cumulative gain this year to nearly 13%. Grain loadings jumped sharply ... Pipe-line deliveries of oil increased about 30% last year to over 224,000,000 barrels. (Pages 12 & 13)

...

Manufacturing: Producers' sales of both TV and radio receiving sets increased last year, the former reaching a new high figure of nearly 765,000 units .. January figures show increases in production of hard board and gypsum products, and a decrease in asphalt floor tiles. (Page 14)

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Domestic Exports Up
10% In Value In 1955

Canada's domestic exports in 1955 climbed 10% in value over the preceding year and were only slightly below the 1952 all-time peak value, according to final figures for the year released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The year's value was \$4,281,784,000 versus \$3,881,272,000 in 1954 and 1952's \$4,301,100,000. Volume of exports reached a peacetime peak in 1955, rising 7.8% over 1954, while prices averaged 2.3% higher.

The year's exports were boosted by record shipments abroad of forest products, metals, minerals and chemicals. Underlying these large movements were strong demands for industrial materials both in the United States and overseas countries. Among major individual commodities there were sharp gains in exports of planks and boards, wood pulp, newsprint paper, iron ore, aluminum and products, copper and products, nickel, zinc, asbestos, petroleum, and fertilizers. Wheat and other grains, wheat flour, and fish and fishery products were among the exports with lower values.

Geographically, gains were widespread with substantial increases to the United States, the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries, and European countries as a whole. Reduced values were shown for the Latin American countries and "all other" foreign countries.

Exports to the United States reached an all-time peak value of \$2,559,343,000 in the year 1955, an increase of 10.5% over the preceding year's \$2,317,153,000. They accounted for 59.8% of the year's total domestic exports, virtually unchanged from 1954's 59.7%. There were increased shipments to the United States of wood and paper products, iron ore and iron products, non-ferrous metals and products, petroleum and other non-metallic minerals and products, and chemicals and products. Largest group decreases were in agricultural and vegetable products, and animals and products.

Shipments to the United Kingdom jumped a substantial 17.7% in 1955 to \$769,313,000 from the preceding year's \$653,408,000, and accounted for nearly 18% of all domestic exports against about 17% in 1954. Gains were almost general among the commodity groups, largest increases being in agricultural and vegetable products, wood and paper, and non-ferrous metals. Declines were posted for animals and products, and miscellaneous commodities.

Domestic exports to the rest of the British Commonwealth as a whole rose to \$237,124,000 from \$195,053,000 in 1954. Substantial increases in exports to the Union of South Africa, India, Australia, New Zealand, Jamaica and Trinidad accounted for most of the group gain.

Mainly as a result of a sharp decline in the value of shipments to Brazil, domestic exports to the Latin American countries as a group fell to \$160,829,000 from \$186,661,000 in 1954. Shipments were higher in value to Colombia and Mexico but slightly lower to Venezuela.

Boosted by larger shipments to France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Norway, total exports to European countries as a group rose to \$388,887,000 from \$350,156,000 in 1954. Among the remaining group of foreign countries, reduced shipments to Japan and Israel more than counterbalanced a rise in sales to the Philippines, resulting in a decline in the overall group total to \$150,903,000 from \$166,199,000 in 1954.

MORE

Commodity-group values for the year 1955 were as follows, in thousands: agricultural and vegetable products, \$752,300 (\$803,500 in 1954); animals and animal products, \$263,600 (\$269,900); fibres, textiles and products, \$22,800 (\$21,000); wood, wood products and paper, \$1,520,900 (\$1,378,400); iron and products, \$398,800 (\$300,700); non-ferrous metals and products, \$826,400 (\$709,000); non-metallic minerals and products, \$206,200 (\$145,600); chemicals and allied products, \$210,000 (\$161,300); and miscellaneous commodities, \$80,700 (\$92,000). (1)

The following two tables show the values of Canada's domestic exports to 16 leading countries and of the 20 leading commodities in the year 1955, with comparative data for 1954.

	1954 (in thousands)	1955
<u>Exports by Leading Countries</u>		
United States	\$2,317,153	\$2,559,343
United Kingdom	653,408	769,313
Japan	96,474	90,893
Germany, Federal Republic of	86,899	90,751
Australia	45,768	58,482
Union of South Africa	39,883	56,026
Belgium & Luxembourg	54,987	53,384
Netherlands	39,777	47,689
Norway	43,813	47,031
France	33,799	42,563
Mexico	27,359	37,126
Venezuela	30,973	30,756
Italy	23,844	27,653
Switzerland	26,826	25,640
India	17,689	24,669
Colombia	21,000	22,691

<u>Exports of Leading Commodities</u>		
Newsprint paper	\$ 635,670	\$ 665,877
Planks & boards	324,724	385,313
Wheat	375,339	338,216
Wood pulp	271,418	297,304
Nickel	182,154	215,169
Aluminum & products	184,514	212,727
Copper & products	135,071	175,050
Fish & fishery products	129,890	125,287
Grains other than wheat	136,599	105,207
Iron ore	39,719	99,814
Asbestos & products	83,869	97,706
Farm machinery & implements	76,771	76,010
Flour of wheat	88,029	74,442
Zinc & products	58,469	70,720
Alcoholic beverages	62,638	64,629
Fertilizers	42,342	56,296
Seeds	31,694	48,745
Pulpwood	45,766	48,655
Precious metals (except gold)	48,042	46,832
Petroleum & products	8,677	39,919

Value Of Imports Rose 19% In
November & 15% In 11 Months

Boosted by large gains in a wide range of commodities, including rolling-mill products, engines and boilers, machinery, automobiles and parts, crude petroleum, and rubber, the value of Canada's merchandise imports rose 19% in November to \$443,100,000 from \$372,100,000 in the corresponding month of 1954, and 15% in the January-November period to \$4,325,900,000 from \$3,756,500,000.

There were generally larger imports from main geographic areas both in November and the January-November period. The United States accounted for a major part of the increase both in November and the 11 months, but there were also substantial gains in purchases from the United Kingdom, other Commonwealth countries as a group, Latin American countries and European countries.

Imports from the United States rose to \$303,483,000 in November from \$273,459,000 a year earlier and to \$3,162,246,000 in the January-November period from \$2,718,317,000. In November, declines in the agricultural and vegetable products, fibres and textiles, and miscellaneous commodities groups were more than counterbalanced by increases in the other major groups. There were gains in a wide range of commodities in the 11-month period and an especially sharp rise in the iron and products group.

General gains in all nine main commodity groups raised the value of purchases from the United Kingdom in November to \$40,348,000 from \$26,475,000 a year earlier. In the January-November period a substantial decline in the iron and products group -- by far the largest of the nine -- was counterbalanced by increases in the other groups, the total rising to \$372,495,000 from \$358,638,000 the previous year. Imports from the rest of the Commonwealth rose to \$24,029,000 in November from \$20,256,000 a year earlier and to \$198,034,000 in the January-November period from \$172,822,000. In November there were larger purchases from the Africa, Asia and Oceania groups but smaller imports from the America group. In the 11-month period there were smaller imports only from the Africa group.

Mainly due to sharply increased purchases from Venezuela and Mexico, imports from Latin American countries rose to \$31,639,000 in November from \$22,178,000 a year earlier and to \$293,411,000 in the January-November period from \$258,398,000. Purchases from European countries as a group climbed to \$26,746,000 in November from \$19,756,000 a year earlier and to \$186,279,000 in the January-November period from \$165,610,000. There were larger purchases both in November and the 11 months from Belgium and Luxembourg, France, the Federal Republic of Germany and Italy.

Imports from "all other" foreign countries increased to \$16,182,000 in November from \$9,194,000 and to \$105,843,000 in the January-November period from \$69,650,000. Japan and the Netherlands Antilles accounted for a major part of the rise both in November and the 11-month period.

Commodity-group values for November were as follows, in thousands: agricultural and vegetable products, \$57,300 (\$58,200 in November, 1954); animals and animal products, \$9,800 (\$7,200); fibres, textiles and products, \$34,600 (\$30,400); wood, wood products and paper, \$18,500 (\$15,100); iron and products, \$143,900 (\$99,700); non-ferrous metals and products, \$43,400 (\$35,600); non-metallic minerals and products, \$70,100 (\$60,000); chemicals and allied products, \$24,900 (\$20,600); and miscellaneous commodities, \$40,500 (\$45,400).

MORE

January-November group values were (in thousands); agricultural and vegetable products, \$518,200 (\$490,500); animals and animal products, \$95,600 (\$77,600); fibres, textiles and products, \$352,000 (\$303,500); wood, wood products and paper, \$180,100 (\$152,200); iron and products, \$1,469,300 (\$1,224,000); non-ferrous metals and products, \$363,100 (\$323,300); non-metallic minerals and products, \$612,100 (\$547,700); chemicals and allied products, \$239,600 (\$203,100); and miscellaneous commodities, \$496,000 (\$434,700). (2 & 3)

The following table shows the values of Canada's major imports, listed in order of dollar size for 1955's January-November period:

	<u>November</u>		<u>January-November</u>	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
	(in thousands)			
Machinery, non-farm	\$30,274	\$40,436	\$351,091	\$407,178
Automobile parts	12,532	16,959	166,056	229,041
Petroleum, crude	17,005	20,668	194,779	213,540
Farm implements & machinery	6,593	13,684	136,176	163,224
Petroleum products	16,339	18,682	118,569	132,163
Aircraft & parts	8,249	7,963	91,450	129,906
Rolling-mill products	8,130	16,781	90,465	114,422
Fruits	10,905	10,045	108,882	109,924
Engines & Boilers	6,636	7,188	84,177	101,870
Automobiles	7,680	10,286	70,154	101,833
Coal	11,446	11,104	96,591	97,643
Cotton products	6,598	7,836	70,383	79,473
Rubber & products	4,213	7,601	41,135	68,165
Canadian tourists' purchases	5,314	5,661	64,200	67,969
Books & printed matter	6,357	6,724	62,541	67,669
Sugar & products	8,267	8,400	60,067	63,273
Cotton, raw & linters	6,812	5,261	45,804	56,954
Coffee & chicory	5,302	6,622	61,364	56,544
Synthetic resins & products	4,419	5,882	46,109	55,703
Wool products	4,408	5,331	55,775	55,341
Pipes, tubes & fittings	3,293	6,069	55,526	46,007

PRICES

Security Price Indexes

Investors' Price Index

	<u>February 23</u>	<u>February 16</u>	<u>January 26</u>
Total Common Stocks	252.4	248.5	245.6
Industrials	261.8	257.2	253.6
Utilities	205.1	203.1	204.2
Banks	266.8	266.0	261.1

Mining Stock Price Index

Total Mining Stocks	126.9	124.7	123.9
Gold	76.9	76.8	75.8
Base Metals	241.3	234.4	234.1

Wholesale Price Index Up In January Canada's general wholesale price index advanced to 222.0 in January, 0.3% above December's 221.4 and 2.9% above last year's January index of 215.7. Six of the eight component groups moved to higher levels and two receded.

Non-metallic minerals and their products rose 1.1% from December to 178.7 in response to higher prices for raw asbestos, United States coal, crushed and building stone, pottery, window glass. A small decrease occurred for imported crude sulphur. Non-ferrous metals advanced 0.8% to 202.2, increases in lead, aluminum and its products, zinc and its products, and solder outweighing small decreases in gold, tin and silver.

Wood, wood products and paper rose 0.7% to 305.8, due to increases in B.C. fir lumber and timber, furniture, cedar lumber and shingles, and woodpulp. Newsprint declined slightly, reflecting a lower rate for the United States dollar in Canadian funds. Increases in iron and steel scrap, iron forgings, galvanized sheets, and hardware moved iron and its products up 0.6% from 230.7.

Fibres, textiles and textile products advanced 0.4% to 227.8 as a result of increases in miscellaneous fibre products, raw cotton, cotton fabrics, domestic and imported raw wool, and cotton yarns. Chemicals and allied products rose 0.1% to 178.3 when increases in paint materials, inorganic chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals, and explosives outweighed decreases in fertilizers and industrial gases.

Animal products declined 0.9% to 218.9 as a substantial decrease in eggs accompanied by lesser decreases in livestock, cured and fresh meats, and lard and tallow overbalanced increases in fowl, hides and skins, leather, fishery products, and boots and shoes. Vegetable products dropped 0.1% to 192.8, decreases in raw rubber, fresh imported fruits, cocoa and its products, and canned vegetables only fractionally offsetting increases in potatoes, grains, vegetable oils, raw sugar, onions, hay, and milled cereal foods.

The composite index of Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets receded 0.2% between December and January, from 197.1 to 196.7, due to weakness for animal products. The index for the latter series moved down 1.7% from 239.0 to 235.0, due to sharply lower egg prices and lesser declines for steers and hogs which were only partially offset by increases for calves, lambs, raw wool, eastern poultry and cheesemilk. In field products, the index advanced 2.1% from 155.2 to 158.4, due to considerably higher prices for potatoes particularly at eastern markets, coupled with smaller increases for wheat, hay, western rye and Ontario corn.

The index of residential building material prices increased 0.7% from 287.5 to 289.6 between December and January, reflecting advances for glass coupled with items in plumbing and heating equipment, structural lumber, roofing material, lath, plaster and insulating and electrical equipment. Merchantable spruce was slightly lower. The index of non-residential building material prices moved up from 126.0 to 126.7 for a gain of 0.6%. Higher prices were reported for boilers, most roofing materials, fir descriptions, crushed stone (seasonal), building stone, window glass, linseed oil, metallic sheet and asphalt tile. Prices were slightly lower for a number of spruce and jack pine series. (4)

Trend Continued Downward In 1955

Continuing the falling trend of the past two years, the number of divorces in 1955 was down to 5,796 from 5,922 in 1954, according to preliminary figures released by the DBS. It is estimated that when final returns are available, notably from Ontario, the 1955 Canadian total will be about equal to that for 1954.

The 1955 preliminary national figure represented a rate of 37.2 per 100,000 population as compared with 39.0 in 1954. There continued to be a wide variety in provincial rates, however, with a range from 113.6 in British Columbia to 0.2 in Newfoundland. In Newfoundland, as in Quebec, applicants for divorce must secure a private Act of Parliament.

The all-Canada divorce rate was less than 1 per 100,000 population before World War I. Following World War I it reached an all-time peak of 65.5 in 1947; since that year there has been a general decline.

Six of the ten provinces reported lower rates in 1955 than in 1954. Nova Scotia reported the same rate, Alberta about the same rate, Quebec an increase from 8.4 to 8.8 per 100,000 and New Brunswick a substantial increase from 21.4 to 32.4. The largest numbers of divorces were granted in Ontario and British Columbia, these two provinces accounting for 3,757 divorces out of the all-Canada total of 5,796.

Numbers of divorces for all Canada from 1947 to 1955 are as follows, rates per 100,000 population being in brackets: 1947, 8,199 (65.5); 1948, 6,881 (53.8); 1949, 5,934 (44.2); 1950, 5,373 (39.3); 1951, 5,263 (37.6); 1952, 5,634 (39.1); 1953, 6,110 (41.4); 1954, 5,922 (39.0); 1955, 5,796 (37.2).

Divorces by Provinces, Selected Years And
Rates per 100,000 Population

	1947		1953		1954		1955	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Newfoundland**.....	-	-	9	2.3	8	2.0	1	0.2
Prince Edward Island.	18	19.1	15	14.2	8	7.6	7	6.5
Nova Scotia	207	33.7	185	27.9	249	37.0	253	37.0
New Brunswick	236	48.4	181	33.8	117	21.4	181	32.4
Quebec**.....	348	9.4	273	6.4	370	8.4	396	8.8
Ontario	3,509	84.0	2,774	56.6	2,468	48.9	2,274*	43.9*
Manitoba	665	90.0	374	46.2	371	44.8	337	39.7
Saskatchewan.....	509	60.9	218	25.3	250	28.5	237	26.7
Alberta	881	106.8	603	60.2	610	58.7	627	58.8
British Columbia	1,820	174.9	478	120.2	1,471	116.2	1,483	113.6
Canada	8,199	65.5	6,110	41.4	5,922	39.0	5,796*	37.2*

* Preliminary

** Granted by Parliament of Canada

Industrial Employment Down Slightly From
November But At New High For December 1

1 when the index, on the 1949 base, stood at 117.8, 0.3% lower than at November 1, DBS reports. However, this was the highest index on record for the beginning of December, rising 5.1% over 1954's December 1 figure of 112.1.

Weekly payrolls distributed by the larger employers eased 0.4% from November but rose 9.3% from a year earlier. At 170.7 (1949 = 100) the payrolls index was a new high for December 1, comparing with 171.4 a month earlier and 156.2 at the beginning of December, 1954. Average weekly wages and salaries reached an all-time high of \$61.99 versus \$61.97 in November and \$59.59 at December 1, 1954.

Seasonal influences largely accounted for the industrial variations recorded at the beginning of December. There was important curtailment in employment in construction, with much smaller losses in manufacturing, transportation, public utility operation and the services industries. The decline in construction staffs was above-average, partly due to unusually severe weather in some areas, while those in the remaining groups approximated the post-war average for the beginning of December. Settlement of certain industrial disputes was a favourable factor in manufacturing, although strikes continued seriously to affect the situation in some industries. Employment in forestry and trade showed gains that were somewhat less than usual for December 1. The index number in trade, however, reached a new all-time peak, while that in logging was the highest in 36 months.

On the whole, the trend was slightly upward in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec. There was an advance in Ontario that was too small to move the employment index. Fairly large declines were recorded in Newfoundland, Alberta and British Columbia, partly a result of unfavourable weather. Among the most populous communities, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver reported heightened industrial activity, but there was a moderate reduction in Winnipeg. In nearly all industries and areas, industrial employment was at a higher level than at December 1, 1954. (5)

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

Department Store Sales Reached
New High Value In Year 1955

Department store sales reached an all-time high in 1955, being estimated at \$1,150,917,000, 8.4% above the preceding year's \$1,061,676,000, DBS reports. Since the majority of department store firms operate on a fiscal period ending January 31, 12-month cumulative sales by departments and provinces will be published along with the January summary.

All-Canada sales in December rose 7.4% to \$163,327,000 from \$152,022,000 a year earlier. Sales were up in value in all provinces except Saskatchewan where there was a decrease of 4.2%. The rise in the Atlantic Provinces was 6.4%, Quebec 11%, Ontario 5.3%, Manitoba 4%, Alberta 10.6%, and British Columbia 12.5%.

Women's and misses's sportswear departments had the largest percentage increase in sales in December with 182%, followed closely by the hardware and housewares category with 18.1%. Other notable increases appeared in the photographic equipment and supplies (17.4%), major appliances (16.9%), furniture (12.3%), and piece goods (12.1%) departments. (6)

Department Store Sales Department store sales rose 3.9% during the week ending
Rose 3.9% In Week February 18 as compared with a year earlier. Sales rose
 12.1% in the Atlantic Provinces, 2.7% in Quebec, 7.5% in
 Ontario and 7.4% in Alberta, but declined 4% in Manitoba, 3.7% in Saskatchewan and
 1.5% in British Columbia.

Retail Sales Little Changes In 1954 Total value of retail sales in Canada in 1954
 reached an estimated \$12,065,758,000, a slight
 decrease of 0.5% from the preceding year's record sales of \$12,128,034,000, according
 to the annual detailed report on retail trade for the year released by the DBS. Pre-
 liminary figures indicate that sales in 1955 rose to an all-time peak value of \$12,-
 874,099,000.

Declines in sales in 1954 in the three Prairie Provinces more than counter-
 balanced moderate increases in the other provinces. Among the trades there were in-
 creased sales for grocery and combination stores, meat stores, department stores,
 variety stores, garages and filling stations, women's clothing stores, appliance and
 radio stores, and fuel dealers. Other retail outlets had sales decreases ranging
 from 0.1% for drug stores to 11.2% for motor vehicle dealers.

Sales totals for the top 10 trades in 1954 were as follows, values for 1953
 being in brackets: grocery and combination stores, \$2,279,402,000 (\$2,132,560,000);
 motor vehicle dealers, \$2,028,751,000 (\$2,283,991,000); department stores, \$1,061,-
 676,000 (\$1,026,977,000); garages and filling stations, \$632,252,000 (\$556,272,000);
 general stores, \$514,959,000 (\$521,365,000); restaurants, \$452,554,000 (\$474,176,000);
 lumber and building material dealers, \$406,174,000 (\$417,238,000); appliance and
 radio dealers, \$291,751,000 (\$284,400,000); drug stores, \$281,810,000 (\$282,219,000);
 and fuel dealers \$249,846,000 (\$224,599,000).

Totals for the provinces: Atlantic Provinces, \$1,025,222,000 (\$1,016,056,000 in
 1953); Quebec, \$2,797,617,000 (\$2,756,116,000); Ontario, \$4,634,450,000 (\$4,615,879,-
 000); Manitoba, \$637,044,000 (\$677,161,000); Saskatchewan, \$758,295,000 (\$844,951,000);
 Alberta, \$963,630,000 (\$987,408,000); and British Columbia, \$1,249,499,000
 (\$1,228,231,000). (7)

T R A V E L

Fewer Foreign Vehicle Number of foreign vehicles entering Canada on travellers'
Entries In January vehicle permits in January was 56,076, a decline of about
 2% from last year's corresponding total of 57,451. All
 provinces contributed to the decrease with the exception of Ontario and entries to
 Newfoundland and Nova Scotia direct by vessel. The inauguration of a new service
 between Bar Harbour, Maine, and Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, no doubt contributed to the
 substantial increase in the number of vehicles being transported direct by vessel
 from the United States to Nova Scotia.

Entries were as follows, by provinces: Newfoundland and Nova Scotia -- by
 ship -- 134 (35 in January, 1955); New Brunswick, 3,880 (4,157); Quebec, 11,352
 (12,444); Ontario, 29,475 (28,421); Manitoba, 1,318 (1,685); Saskatchewan, 273 (338);
 Alberta, 605 (709); British Columbia, 8,838 (9,386); and Yukon Territory, 201 (276). (8)

Creamery Butter Stocks In 9 Cities Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on February 23 amounted to 53,180,000 pounds, down 6,241,000 pounds from February 1 holdings. Stocks were as follows by cities on February 1, in thousands: Quebec, 4,652 pounds (4,745 on February 1); Montreal, 25,521 (28,747); Toronto, 6,426 (6,652); Winnipeg, 13,794 (15,573); Regina, 823 (887); Saskatoon, 554, (590); Edmonton, 668 (1,074); Calgary, 160 (317); and Vancouver, 582 (836).

Fluid Milk Sales Up 5% In 1955 Sales of fluid milk and cream, the latter expressed in terms of milk, in the full year 1955 amounted to 5,330,100,000 pounds, an increase of 5% over the preceding year. Sales were higher in all provinces except Prince Edward Island where there was no change at 27,665,000 pounds.

The year's sales in the other provinces were as follows, percentage increases over a year earlier being in brackets: Nova Scotia, 182,054,000 pounds (4%); New Brunswick, 152,695,000 (3%); Quebec, 2,000,226,000 (4%); Ontario, 1,804,780,000 (5%); Manitoba, 234,059,000 (7%); Saskatchewan, 256,022,000 (3%); Alberta, 286,-155,000 (6%); and British Columbia, 386,444,000 (4%). (9)

Milk Production Up 5% In January Milk production in January is tentatively estimated at 997,000,000 pounds, an increase of 5% over a year earlier. Approximately 368,000,000 pounds was utilized for the manufacture of dairy factory products compared with 343,000,000 in January, 1955.

In the full year 1955 Canada produced 17,276,644,000 pounds of milk, 2.2% more than in 1954. Of 1955's output, 9,864,000,000 pounds were utilized in factories, comprising approximately 7,500,000,000 pounds represented in the milk equivalent of creamery butter, 1,500,000,000 pounds in concentrated milk products and ice cream, and 872,000,000 pounds in the production of cheddar cheese. Dairy butter production in 1955 amounted to 18,561,000 pounds, nearly 1,000,000 pounds less than in 1954.

Domestic disappearance of butter in 1955 (including creamery, dairy and whey butter), amounted to 321,201,000 pounds. While this represented an increase of approximately 6,000,000 pounds in the aggregate, on a per capita basis the average of 20.59 pounds in 1955 was reduced from 20.71 pounds in 1954. Canadians consumed 75,454,000 pounds of cheddar cheese in comparison with approximately 71,000,000 in the preceding year.

Milk production in December amounted to 1,061,610,000 pounds, a gain of approximately 5.5%. Fluid sales at 469,743,000 pounds compare with 447,021,000 a year earlier.

Farm cash income from the sale of dairy products in December amounted to \$29,-397,000, a gain of approximately 5% from a year earlier. The weighted average price of \$3.26 per hundred pounds of milk (all products included) was 3¢ per hundred lower than in the previous year. (10)

Production of Oils And Fats Smaller quantities of margarine and shortenings were produced in January than in the corresponding month last year but increases were shown for refined coconut oil and salad and cooking oils and lard. Production of margarine and spreads amounted to 10,554,000 pounds (11,488,000 a year earlier); shortening, 12,224,000 (13,522,000); refined coconut, salad and cooking oils, 2,929,000 (2,695,000); lard, 9,726,000 (8,769,000); tallow, 12,229,000 (11,027,000); and grease, 445,000 (787,000). (11)

Small Decline In Refined Sugar Sales In January Manufacturers' sales of refined beet and cane sugar were moderately lower in January at 98,394,000 pounds versus 101,065,000 in the corresponding month last year. Production rose to 80,569,000 pounds from 76,838,000, and month-end refinery stocks climbed to 322,001,000 pounds from 256,340,000.

Meltings and sales of raw cane sugar in January rose to 83,855,000 pounds from 72,827,000 a year earlier. Receipts in January jumped to 52,906,000 pounds from 26,661,000, and month-end stocks were down to 121,623,000 pounds from 127,270,000. (12)

Visible Supplies Of Wheat Little Changed; Marketings And Overseas Clearances Higher Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on February 15 amounted to 356,343,000 bushels, slightly larger than last year's corresponding total of 351,950,000 bushels. Marketings from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week jumped to 6,197,000 bushels from 1,804,000 and the overseas export clearances were approximately doubled at 5,195,000 bushels versus 3,105,000. (13)

Supplies And Exports Of Wheat In Major Producing Countries Supplies of wheat remaining on or about January 1 this year in the four major exporting countries for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 2,263,600,000 bushels, 3.6% above the 2,185,300,000 a year earlier.

Supplies at the beginning of this year were held as follows, with last year's figures in brackets: United States, 1,217,400,000 bushels (1,169,600,000); Canada, 740,400,000 (634,700,000); Australia, 196,100,000 (178,400,000); and Argentina, 109,700,000 (202,600,000). Estimates for both years include on-farm stocks as well as those in commercial positions. The newly harvested 1955-56 crops in the Argentine and Australia are taken into consideration in these estimates.

Total exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat from the four major exporting countries for the first five months of the Canadian crop year totalled 276,200,000 bushels, some 11% less than the shipments of 309,400,000 in the same period of 1954-55. Shipments from each of the four countries in the August-December period were as follows: United States, 93,900,000 bushels (101,800,000 a year earlier); Canada, 93,400,000 (116,900,000); Argentina, 52,700,000 (53,200,000); and Australia, 36,200,000 (37,500,000). (14)

Shipments Of Prepared Stock And Poultry Feeds Up In 1955 Shipments of prepared stock and poultry feeds in 1955 amounted to an estimated 2,727,875 tons, up from 2,677,586 a year earlier. The year's shipments comprised 288,773 tons of primary or concentrated feeds (258,505 in 1954); 1,882,444 tons of secondary or complete feeds (1,808,925); and 556,658 tons of other animal feeds (610,156). (15)

Commercial Packs Of Canned Fruits & Vegetables In 1955

Commercial canners packed larger quantities of apricots, cherries, peaches, pears, plums and gages, but smaller quantities of most other fruits in 1955 than in the preceding year. Among canned vegetables there were larger packs of asparagus, Lima beans, beets, carrots and peas combined, corn, peas and tomatoes, but smaller packs of other vegetables.

Packs of major canned fruits in 1955 were as follows: apple juice concentrate, 4,345,868 pounds (3,764,536 in 1954); apples, 12,734,696 (18,316,991); apple sauce, 10,288,286 (12,633,867); apple juice, 61,970,780 (70,728,500); apple pie filling, 4,755,271 (9,199,694); apricots, 8,425,440 (7,174,460); blueberries, 1,469,045 (2,138,929); cherries, 10,697,098 (8,846,776); cranberries, 2,879,531 (2,902,779); fruit cocktail, 8,079,948 (8,195,086); peaches, 66,464,785 (52,339,779); Bartlett pears, 12,948,442 (13,071,822); Keiffer pears, 23,431,417 (18,075,352); plums, gages, 16,098,228 (8,450,637); raspberries, 2,889,668 (4,494,924); rhubarb, 375,303 (229,192); and strawberries, 3,814,882 (4,884,285).

The year's packs of principal canned vegetables were: asparagus, 4,505,712 pounds (4,087,074 in 1954); baked beans, 82,320,749 (95,865,588); green or wax beans, 44,188,795 (48,315,467); Lima beans, 2,243,008 (2,022,596); beets, 14,394,735 (10,711,049); carrots, 5,641,668 (6,923,448); carrots and peas combined, 6,414,410 (4,629,762); mixed vegetables, 8,414,782 (10,435,819); cream and whole-grain corn, 86,082,219 (63,066,056); corn-on-cob, 4,132,938 (2,183,384); peas, 134,056,121 (100,103,454); pumpkin and squash, 5,655,736 (6,013,295); tomatoes, 85,960,222 (43,530,722); and mushrooms, 1,784,632 (1,350,585).

Packs of other canned foods products were: infant and junior foods, 55,386,919 pounds (52,852,632 in 1954); sauerkraut, 7,083,124 (7,650,927); soups, 230,376,198 (221,358,137); tomato paste, pulp and puree, 8,746,363 (10,490,420); tomato ketchup, 32,189,298 (32,024,038); and tomato juice, 139,110,171 (95,453,010). (16)

TRANSPORTATION

Railway Car Loadings Increased

Freight loadings on Canadian railways in the second week of February increased 14% from a year earlier, raising the total for the year to date by 12.8%. Receipts from connections were up 17.7% in the week and 13.9% in the cumulative period.

Loadings in Canada in the week totalled 76,622 cars versus 67,105 a year earlier, bringing the January 1 -- February 14 total to 473,541 cars versus 419,754. Receipts from connections amounted to 36,185 cars in the week versus 30,744, and cumulative receipts were 218,613 cars versus 191,885.

Commodities carried in greater volume in the second week of February were: grain, 7,829 cars (versus 4,010 in 1955); coal, 5,344 (4,854); iron ore, 542 (133); crude petroleum, 1,068 (472); sand, gravel and crushed stone, 1,950 (1,467); "other" mine products, 2,165 (1,740); and miscellaneous carload commodities, 5,177 (4,539). Agricultural implements and farm tractors were carried in 334 cars, down from 1,068 in 1955. (17)

Pipe-Line Deliveries Of Oil
Reached New Peak In Year 1955

Deliveries of oil through Canadian pipe lines reached an all-time high total of 224,274,768 barrels in the year 1955, an increase of 30% over 1954's 172,495,935. December deliveries also reached a new high for a month of 22,214,397 barrels versus 15,925,138 a year earlier.

Deliveries of the Trans-Mountain Oil Pipe Line Company more than doubled in 1955, rising to 30,718,142 barrels from 14,566,437 in the preceding year. The Montreal Pipe Line Company recorded deliveries of 67,691,018 barrels as against 53,323,422 in 1954, up 27%, while the Interprovincial Pipe Line Company had a 24% increase in deliveries to 80,701,123 barrels from 64,913,394.

Provincial deliveries for the year 1955 were as follows, 1954 data being in brackets: British Columbia, 30,718,142 barrels (14,566,334); Alberta, 18,518,740 (16,452,608); Saskatchewan, 15,543,202 (14,191,691); Manitoba, 53,909,645 (41,519,892); Ontario, 37,894,021 (32,441,988); and Quebec, 67,691,018 (53,323,422).

Refinery products delivered during the year rose to 38,607,751 barrels from 32,704,378 in 1954, an increase of 18%. Of this total, refined gasoline accounted for 21,730,914 barrels (19,910,966), distillate fuels for 13,478,675 (9,782,157), and refined oil and other products for 3,398,162 (2,958,618). (18)

HIGHWAY ACCIDENTS

Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents In October

There were 13,507 motor vehicle traffic accidents reported in Canada (excluding Quebec) in October, according to a special statement released by the DBS. The record showed that 250 persons were killed and 5,192 were injured. There were 217 accidents involving fatalities, 3,562 causing injuries and 9,728 involving property damage only. In eight provinces (excluding Quebec and Manitoba) and the territories, \$5,234,731 worth of damage was caused. The minimum property damage (excluding Quebec and Manitoba) reportable to the police varies from \$50 to \$100 in different provinces.

Province	Number of Accidents				Persons Killed	Persons Injured	Property Damage \$
	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage Only	Total			
Nfld.....	2	80	266	348	3	112	166,697
P.E.I.....	4	7	37	48	4	7	21,235
N.S.....	12	153	752	917	13	206	219,765
N.B.. ..	17	136	258	411	24	171	173,633
Que.....
Ont.....	113	1,886	4,377	6,376	125	2,739	2,851,241
Man.....	9	244	887	1,140	11	348	..
Sask.....	15	235	607	857	17	347	362,175
Alta.....	18	268	1,168	1,454	22	403	582,521
B.C.....	27	545	1,349	1,921	31	844	841,268
Yukon & N.W.T....	-	8	27	35	-	15	16,196
TOTAL	144	3,562	9,728	13,507	250	5,192	5,234,731

.. Not Available

- Nil

Larger Quantities Of Hard Board
Produced, Shipped In January

Production and both domestic and export shipments of hard board increased in January as compared with corresponding month last year. The month's output amounted to 20,277,888 square feet versus 13,992,182 a year earlier, domestic shipments totalled 10,288,840 square feet versus 7,284,690, and export shipments amounted to 8,557,988 square feet versus 7,174,735. (19)

Production and Shipments Of
Gypsum Products Up In January

Larger quantities of gypsum products were made and shipped in January than in the corresponding month last year. The month's output amounted to 43,971,431 square feet versus 39,031,249, shipments totalled 46,767,085 square feet versus 41,438,872, and month-end stocks amounted to 25,089,926 square feet versus 24,218,341. (20)

Production And Domestic
Shipments Of Floor Tiles

Production of asphalt floor tiles declined in January as compared with the corresponding month last year but the month's domestic shipments were moderately higher. Both production and domestic shipments of vinyl-asbestos floor tiles increased sharply.

January output of asphalt floor tiles amounted to 1,319,343 square feet versus 1,747,403; domestic shipments totalled 1,471,420 square feet versus 1,432,946. Output of vinyl-asbestos tile amounted to 1,309,259 square feet versus 731,969 and the domestic shipments totalled 865,135 square feet versus 495,124. (21)

TV-Set Sales At Record Level In 1955;
Radio Receiving Set Sales Also Jump

Producers' sales of TV receivers soared to a new high annual total of 764,957 units in 1955 as compared with 623,856 units in the preceding year, while sales of radio receiving sets rose to 609,993 units from 487,237. The value of TV-set sales jumped to \$234,814,948 from \$216,451,362 and radio sales to \$41,907,208 from \$35,816,274.

TV-set sales were larger than in 1954 in all areas except Quebec where there was a small decline. Sales in Ontario rose to 283,144 from 255,439 in 1954, Prairie Provinces to 132,045 from 72,665, the Atlantic Provinces to 75,051 from 27,139, and British Columbia to 71,421 from 61,862. Quebec sales were down to 203,296 units from 206,751.

Radio receiving-set sales were increased in all areas except the Atlantic Provinces in 1955. Sales in Ontario rose to 329,212 units from 222,321, Quebec to 109,809 from 98,446, Alberta to 40,167 from 38,234, British Columbia to 39,987 from 37,650, Manitoba to 33,062 from 29,615, and Saskatchewan to 21,715 from 19,918. Atlantic-province sales were down to 36,041 from 41,053. (22)

Shipments Of Primary Shapes By Steel
Mills Increased In November, 11 Months

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producer's interchange, amounted to 313,817 net tons in November, sharply above the preceding year's corresponding total of 213,196 tons. In the January-November period the shipments jumped to 3,306,805 net tons from 2,314,765. Producers interchanged 143,694 net tons in November versus 97,341 and 1,507,600 net tons in the 11-month period versus 1,164,960. (23)

Shipments & Production Of Salt Up Shipments of dry common salt by Canadian producers in the full year 1955 amounted to 747,523 tons, sharply above the preceding year's 520,006 tons. The year's production jumped to 754,937 tons from 513,999, and producers' year-end stocks amounted to 16,523 tons versus 13,419. (24)

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

- 1-Trade of Canada: Domestic Exports, December (summary), 20¢
- 2-Monthly Summary of Foreign Trade, November, 10¢
- 3-Imports for Consumption, November (Summary), 20¢
- 4-Prices & Price Indexes, January, 20¢
- 5-Employment & Payrolls, December, 25¢.
- 6-Department Store Sales & Stocks, December, 10¢
- 7-Retail Trade, 1954, 50¢
- 8-M: Volume of Highway Traffic Entering Canada on Travellers' Vehicle Permits, January, 10¢
- 9-M: Fluid Milk Sales, December, 10¢
- 10-The Dairy Review, December, 25¢
- 11-M: Oils and Fats, January, 10¢
- 12-M: Sugar Situation, January, 10¢
- 13-M: Grain Statistics Weekly, February 15, 10¢
- 14-The Wheat Review, January, 25¢
- 15-Shipments of Prepared Stock & Poultry Feeds, December, 25¢
- 16-M: Preliminary Report on the Pack of Canned Fruits & Vegetables, 1955, 25¢
- 17-M: Car Loadings on Canadian Railways, February 14, 10¢
- 18-M: Pipe Lines (Oil) Statistics, December, 10¢
- 19-M: Hard Board, January, 10¢
- 20-M: Gypsum Products, January, 10¢
- 21-M: Asphalt & Vinyl-Asbestos Floor Tiles, January, 10¢
- 22-Radio & Television Receiving Sets, December, 10¢
- 23-Primary Iron & Steel, November, 25¢
- 24-M: Salt, December, 10¢
- Inventories, Shipments & Orders in Manufacturing Industries, December, 25¢ --
Summarized in Weekly Bulletin of February 17.

Prepared in Press and Publicity Section, Information Services Division

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NEWS NOTES

Portland Cement Production of Portland cement by Canadian manufacturers in 1955 totalled 25,184,050 barrels, up from 22,357,442 in 1954.

Hot Water Tanks For Domestic Use Canadian manufacturers in 1955 shipped approximately 183,000 galvanized domestic hot water tanks and 40,000 of copper, monel and all other types.

2.5% Increase In Number of Families Estimated number of families in Canada in June 1955 increased 90,000 or 2.5% to 3,685,000 from 3,595,000 on June 1, 1954 and 402,500 or over 12% since June 1, 1951.

Wash Basins And Bath Tubs About 200,000 wash basins and 190,000 bath tubs were shipped by Canadian sanitaryware manufacturers in 1955, the number in each case being about 31,500 larger than in 1954.

Grindstones No shipments of grindstones were reported in Canada in 1954. From 1945 to 1953 shipments - all from New Brunswick - ranged between a high of 335 tons and a low of 15 tons. The sandstone stones are obtained along the shore of the Bay of Chaleur.

Mica Production of mica in Canada has fallen in the post-war years from 4,360 short tons in 1946 to 853 tons in 1954. Most of the output is from Quebec mines, and most of the Canadian consumption is by the paint, roofing, electrical apparatus, and rubber goods industries.

Fluorspar Canadian production of fluorspar amounted to nearly 119,000 tons in 1955, showing an increase of close to 85% in five years. Over 98% was from deposits in Newfoundland. Fluorspar is used most largely in the steel, aluminum and ceramics industries.

Television Growth Sales of television sets by Canadian producers in 1955 reached a new high for a year of nearly 765,000 units, which compares with 624,000 in 1954 and under 30,000 units in 1950, the first year for which such figures are available.

Fewer Divorces Granted In 1955 Preliminary figures show 5,796 divorces in Canada in 1955, or a rate of 37.2 per 100,000 population, compared to 5,922 and a rate of 39.0 in 1954. Peak year for divorces was 1947 with 8,199 or 65.5 per 100,000 population.

Silica Brick Production of silica brick, used chiefly in furnace construction and repairs, amounted in 1954 to 3,578 M bricks valued at \$465,157 compared to 3,720 M worth \$712,271 the preceding year. Its manufacture was confined to the steel plants at Sydney, Nova Scotia and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

Miscellaneous Metals Mining In 25 Years Over the 25 years from 1929 to 1954 the number of establishments engaged in mining metal-bearing ores other than those commonly classified as gold, silver, copper, nickel, cobalt, lead and zinc, increased from 8 to 180, the number of employees from 94 to 6,494, and gross value of products from \$6,400 to \$83,380,000.

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