WEEKLY BULLETIN

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

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Manufacturing: Manufacturers' shipments in March were valued at an estimated $\$ 1,959$ million, some $7 \%$ greater than in February and $3.5 \%$ above the March 1959 level ... Steel mills produced 115,306 tons of steel ingots in the week of May 14, some $4 \%$ less than in the previous week... Fewer washing machines, automatic clothes dryers and furnaces, and smaller quantities of asphalt roofing and Portland cement were produced in this year's first quarter compared to a year ago.
(Pages 2-5)

Merchandising: Department store sales in the week of May 7 were $16.1 \%$ greater than a year earlier, while April sales climbed $6.9 \%$... Natural gas sales in February increased $16.7 \%$ to $35,862,766,000$ cubic feet from 30,735,034, $=$ 000 last year, putting the January-February total at $72,024,147,000$ cuid ic feet, larger by $13.4 \%$ than a year ago.
(Page 8)

Construction: Building permits issued in March were valued at $\$ 132,275,000$, smaller by some $14 \%$ than a year earlier. Value of residential building permits fell by more than one-third to $\$ 57,933,000$, while non-residential permits rose by $16.5 \%$ to $\$ 74,342,000$.
(Dage 9)

Agriculture \& Food: More creamery butter, cheddar cheese, ice cream and skim nilk powder was produced in April and January-April this year than last. April output of margarine and spreads and evaporated whole milk was smaller than last year, while four-month totals were larger.
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Transportation: Number of cars of railway revenue freight loaded on Canadian lines in the week of May 7 rose slightly to 76,165 , leaving the January 1 May 7 total $0.8 \%$ below last year at $1,201,731$ cars ... Net deliveries of natural gas in February advanced over $26 \%$ from a year earlier, placing the two-month total over $22 \%$ above the like 1959 figure. (Page 15)

Vital Statistics: Registrations of births and deaths were lower in April and January-April this year than last, while marriages were down in the month but up in the four months. Record numbers of births were registered in Canada in 1958, while rates for births, marriages and deaths were below 1957 levels. The death rate (per 1,000 population) in 1958 reached an all-time low of 7.9 .
(Pages 15-16)

Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories And Orders

Manufacturers' shipments in March were valued at an estimated $\$ 1,959 \mathrm{million}$, an increase of nearly $7 \%$ from the revised February estimate of $\$ 1,837$ million, according to advance DBS figures. Last year's March total stood a: $\$ 1,893$ million. The upward trend in each of the three months in this year's first quarter is similar to last year's trend, although at a slightly higher rate.

Shipments were greater in March than February in all industry groups. Shipments in durable goods industries in March increased close to $9 \%$ tis $\$ 846$ million from $\$ 778$ million in February, gains ranging from $2 \%$ in non-ferrous metal products to $19 \%$ in transportation equipment industries. Month's shipments in nondurable goods industries rose $5 \%$ to $\$ 1,113$ million from $\$ 1,058$ million in the previous month, increases lying between $3.5 \%$ in leather products and $12.7 \%$ in tobacco and tobacco products industries.

Levels of inventory held by manufacturers at the end of March were slightly above a month earlier at $\$ 4,494$ million versus $\$ 4,462$ million. Since inventory held under progress payments (i.e. held but not owned) fell $3 \%$ to $\$ 325 \mathrm{million}$ from $\$ 334$ million, inventory owned rose $1 \%$ to $\$ 4,170$ million from $\$ 4,128$ million.

Both raw materials and goods in process inventories showed slight declines in March, while finished products inventories recorded a $3 \%$ rise $t$, $\$ 1,377 \mathrm{mil}$ lion from $\$ 1,340$ million in February. With the increase in finished products inventory to the highest level for many years taking place in a month when shipments also rose, the ratio of finished products inventory to shipments fell to 0.70 from 0.73 in February and 0.74 in January.

New orders received in March rose to $\$ 1,946$ million from $\$ 1,817$ million in the preceding month, but were below shipments, resulting in a slight decline in unfilled orders at the end of March compared to a month earlier. However, at $\$ 2,193$ million, the level of unfilled orders at the end of this year's first quarter was $10 \%$ above last year's corresponding total of $\$ 1,993 \mathrm{million}$.

The following table shows estimated value of shipments, inventories and orders in all manufacturing industries.

|  | March 1959 | January 1960 | February 1960 <br> (Revised) | March 1960 <br> (Preliminary) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Shipments............ | $1,893,313$ | $1,782,044$ | In thousands of dollars | $1,836,936$ |

Manufacturers' Shipments by Provinces. Estimates of the value of manufacturers shipments in February, by province of origin, show an increase from a year earlier of $5.5 \%$. Apart from the exceptional rise of $82.8 \%$ in Newfoundland from February last year (due mainly to a low level of shipments last year rather than an unusually high level this year), the nine provincial increases ranged from $2.5 \%$ in Manitoba to $17.6 \%$ in New Brunswick. Shipments in Saskatchewan declined by 2.6\%. Compared to January, shipments in February declined by less than $2 \%$.

The increase in Newfoundland was due to greater shipments in the paper products and the wood products industries, in New Brunswick to increases in the foods and beverages products and paper products industries, in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia to increases in the food and beverages products, wood products, iron and steel products and petroleum products industries although a substantial decline was recorded in the transportation equipment industries, and in British Columbia to increased shipments in the food and beverage products, wood products and the non-ferrous metal products industries. The decline in shipments in Saskatchewan was due to slight reductions in shipments in practically all major industrial groups. The all-Canada total in February 1960 was over $5 \%$ higher than in the same month of 1959.

Shipments for January-February 1960 as compared to the same period of 1959 showed gains in nine of the ten provinces, with Saskatchewan showing a decline. The all-Canada increase for this period over the same period last year was over $5 \%$.

## Gross Value of Factory Shipments, by Provinces

|  | February |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Change } \\ \% \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { January } \\ & \hline 1959 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | February | Change \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1959 | 1960 |  |  | 1960 |  |
|  | Thousands of Dollars |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newfoundland | 4,854 | 8,872 | 82.8 | 14,972 | 17,887 | 19.5 |
| Prince Edward Island) | 33,383 | 37,654 | 12.8 | 69,544 | 73,717 | 6.0 |
| Nova Scotia..........) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Brunswick. | 21,227 | 24,966 | 17.6 | 43,313 | 48,337 | 11.6 |
| Quebe | 504,808 | 531,654 | 5.3 | 988,984 | 1,036,758 | 4.8 |
| Ontari | 891,401 | 928,453 | 4.2 | 1,754,663 | 1,840,957 | 4.9 |
| Manito | 55,643 | 57,029 | 2.5 | 109,548 | 112,838 | 3.0 |
| Saskatch | 24,617 | 23,971 | -2.6 | 49,663 | 49,225 | -0.9 |
| Alberta | 64,090 | 66,650 | 4.0 | 128,814 | 133,301 | 3.5 |
| British Columbia(1). | 141,573 | 157,687 | 11.4 | 279,585 | 305,960 | 9.4 |
| CANADA .......... | 1,741,596 | 1,836,936 | 5.5 | 3,439,086 | 3,618,980 | 5.2 |

(1) - Includes Yukon and Northwest Territuries.

Shipments Of Asphalt Roofing Shipments of asphalt shingles by Canadian producers in the first quarter of this year declined to 285,868 roof squares from 447,751 in the corresponding period last year. The quarter's shipments of smooth surfaced roll roofing fell to 110,186 roof squares from 133,122 , mineral surfaced roll roofing to 76,486 roof squares from 91,759 , and roll-type sidings to 12,177 squares from 15,373 . (1)

## Weekly Steel Ingot Output

Production of steel ingots in the week of May 14 amounted to 115,306 tons, down $4.1 \%$ from the weekearlier total of 120,240 tons but up $12.2 \%$ from the year-earlier ifgure of 102, 801 tons, according to a special DBS statement. Canada's steel mills in the week operated at $89.2 \%$ of rated capacity $(6,719,000$ tons as at January 1,1960 ) compared to $93.0 \%$ in the previous week and $84.7 \%$ of rated capacity ( $6,313,000$ tons as at January 1, 1959) in the corresponding week last year.

Shipments Of Washing Machines And Clothes Dryers. In March

Shipments of washing machines in March declined $9.9 \%$ to 24,171 units from 26,819 in the corresponding period last year, leaving the JanuaryMarch total $8.2 \%$ below last year at 70,984 units against 77,347. End-of-March stocks at 46,393 units were above last year's 32,408 .

March shipments of automatic clothes dryers fell 12.3\% to 5,507 units from 6,307 a year earlier, putting the January-March tatal at 22,655 uilits, down 2.4\% from 23,219. End-of-March stocks totalled 24,182 units as compared with 9,769a year ago. (2)

## Shipments of Stoves \& Furnaces

Shipments of most types of stoves and furnaces were smaller in the January-March period this year than last. First-quarter shipments included: gas cooking stoves and ranges (not combinations), $\$ 1,067,000(\$ 1,255,400$ a year ago); gas heating stoves and space heaters, $\$ 74,000(\$ 39,600)$; domestic elec ic cooking stoves or ranges, $\$ 9,071,400(\$ 9,646,600)$; fuel oil (distillate) couilig stoves, ranges, heating stoves and space heaters, $\$ 418,100$ ( $\$ 470,800$ ); and warm air furnaces, $\$ 3,933,800$ ( $\$ 6,772,600$ ).
(3)

Output Of Concrete Products Output of specified concrete products in March (January-March totals in brackets), was as follows: concrete bricks, $5,623,353$ ( $11,762,077$ ); concrete blocks (except chimney blocks), $6,578,840(20,554,084)$; cement drain pipe, sewer pipe, water pipe and culvert tile, 81,254 tons $(180,855)$; and ready-mixed concrete, 352,526 cubic yai.. 947 , 840). (4)

Production Of Chemicals Production of most chemicals was larger in JanuaryMarch this year as compared to last, DBS reports. Shipments in the quarter included: hydrochloric (muriatic) acid, 10,967,530 pounds ( $10,645,332$ in 1959 's first quarter); sulphuric acid, 468,900 tons (399, 497); chlorine, 77,738 tons ( 68,664 ); mixed fertilizers, 306,358 tons (270,534); formaldehyde, $14,624,075$ pounds ( $11,262,585$ ); and sodium hydroxide (caustic soda), 92,300 tons $(83,857)$.

## Shipments of Iron Castings, Pipes And Fittings In Maxch And Quarter

Shipments of iron castings and cast iron pipes and fittings in March rose to 55,613 tons from 54,967 in the corresponding month last year, bringing the January-March total to 151,905 tons as compared with 147,127 a year earlier. Shipments of steel pipes, tubes and fittings amounted to 31,778 tons in March and 97,155 in the quarter; data for 1959 are not available. (6)

## Shipments of Electrical Appliances

Shipments of small domestic electrical appliances in this year's January-March period included the following: steam flat irons, 54,128 units ( 47,408 a year ago); fry pans, $42,610(56,952)$; kettles, $38,691(45,751)$; floor polishers, 37,560 (50,903); cylinder or other straight-suction type vacuum cleaners, 33,002 ( 31,478 ); automatic toasters, 27,534 (29,097); and heating pads, 21,588 (31,817).

Shipments of Air Conditioning And Refrigeration Equipment

Shipments of air conditioning and refrigeration equipment in this year's first quarter included: air conditioning units (not self-contained), $\$ 900,468$ ( $\$ 511,935$ a year ago); self-contained packaged air conditioners, $\$ 465$,783 ( $\$ 368,275$ ); window-sil1 type room air conditioners, $\$ 335,831$ ( $\$ 81,661$ ); air conditioning coils (steam, water and direct expansion), $\$ 396,166(\$ 210,503)$; low and normal temperature self-service display cases, $\$ 937,745(\$ 675,990) ;$ prefabricated walk-in coolers, $\$ 362,460(\$ 192,127)$; and beverage coolers, office-type water coolers and ice cream cabinets, $\$ 274,244$ ( $\$ 283,515$ ). (8)

Portland Cement Manufacturers of Portland cement shipped or used 269,554 tons in March compared to 292,162 in the corresponding month last year, bringing the January-March total to 654,842 tons, a decrease of $5.0 \%$ from the comparable year-earlier figure of 689,257 tons. End-of-March stocks at plants and warehouses amounted to 778,406 tons, a decrease of $5.7 \%$ from 825,212 tons a year ago. (9)

Shipments of Steel Wire And Specified Wire Products

Shipments of uncoated, plain, round steel wire in March increased to 10,264 tons from 8,896 in the corresponding month last year, welded or woven steel wire mesh (for purposes other than fencing) to 2,690 tons from 2,671, steel wire rope to 2,118 tons from 1,908 and iron and steel wire nails to 5,260 tons from 5, 249.

January-March shipments were larger than a year earlier for all these items except wire nails. Totals were: uncoated, plain, round steel wire, 30,674 tons ( 26,671 a year ago) ; welded or woven steel wire mesh (for purposes other than fencing), $6,951(6,875)$; steel wire rope, $5,875(5,153)$; and iron and steel wire nails, 13,947 ( 14,252 ). (10)

Sales of Paints, Varnishes \& Lacquers Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by firms that normally account for all but a small part of total Canadian production increased $8.0 \%$ in March to $\$ 12$, 259,800 from $\$ 11,355,500$ in the corresponding month last year, boosting JanuaryMarch sales $5.3 \%$ to $\$ 31,022,200$ from $\$ 29,467,300$.

Trade sales in March rose to $\$ 7,744,100$ from $\$ 7,128,700$ a year earlier and industrial sales to $\$ 4,515,600$ from $\$ 4,226,800$. Quarter's trade sales advanced to $\$ 18,750,200$ from $\$ 18,235,400$ in last year's first quarter and industrial sales to $\$ 12,272,000$ from $\$ 11,231,900$. (11)

Receipts \& Stocks Of Hides \& Skins

Tanners' receipts of cattle hides in March declined to 166, 932 from 197,620 in the corresponding month last year, calf and kip skins to 57,563 from 91,130, while sheep and lamb skins rose to 6,215 dozen from 6,090 dozen. January-March receipts of cattle hides fell to 502,994 from 610,825 , calf and kip skins to 189,969 from 222,216, while sheep and lamb skins rose to 21,499 dozen from 14,051 .

End-of-March stocks of raw hides and skins held by packers, dealers and tanners were: cattle hides, 459,484 ( 438,310 a year ago) ; calf and kip skins, $251,-$ 642 ( 216,214 ); sheep and lamb skins, 56,122 dozen ( 57,572 dozen); goat skins, 33,283 ( 69,343 ) ; horsehides, $1,781(5,756)$; and all "other" hides and skins, 2,$291(3,094)$. (12)

Production of Al1-Wool Suits Over two-thirds (68.1\%) of the all-wool suits (excluding uniforms) made for men and youths in 1959 were ready-made and the remainder ( $31.9 \%$ ) were made-to-measure, according to a special survey of DBS. The table below shows proportions by type and area:

|  | Quebec | Ontario | Rest of Canada | Canada Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ready-made suits | 80.5 | $38.2{ }^{\text {Per }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { of Area Total } \\ & 25.8 \end{aligned}$ | 68.1 |
| Made-to-measure suits | 19.5 | 61.8 | 74.2 | 31.9 |

Total factory production of these suits (both types), in 1959 was distributed geographically as follows: Quebec, $71.0 \%$; Ontario, $27.5 \%$; and the rest of Canada, $1.5 \%$.

Machine Shops Industry Factory shipments from Canada's machine shops industry in 1958 were valued at $\$ 59,786,000$, a decline of $4.6 \%$ from the preceding year's record total of $\$ 62,691,000$, according to the Bureau's annual industry report. Number of establishments increased to 700 from 656 in 1957, but number of employees dropped to 7,009 from 7,651, salaries and wages to $\$ 26,519,000$ from $\$ 26,553,000$ and cost of materials to $\$ 20,664,000$ from $\$ 22,685$, 000.

Value of factory shipments wss lower in 1958 than in 1957 in Newfoundland and Priace Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Provincial totals in 1958 were ( 1957 figures in brackets): Ontario, $\$ 20,666,000$ ( $\$ 20,290$, 000 ); Quebec, $\$ 14,095,000(\$ 17,088,000)$; Alberta, $\$ 8,793,000(\$ 8,638,000)$; British Columbia, $\$ 8,705,000(\$ 10,285,000)$; Manitoba, $\$ 3,024,000(\$ 2,263,000)$; New Brunswick, $\$ 1,983,000(\$ 1,405,000)$; Nova Scotia, $\$ 1,523,000(\$ 1,449,000)$; Saskatchewan, $\$ 580,000(\$ 760,000)$; and Nerwfoundland and Prince Edward Is land, $\$ 416,000$ ( $\$ 512,000$ ). (13)

Slaughtering \& Meat Packing Industries Factory shipments from Canada's slaughtering and meat packing industry in 1958 were valued at an all-time high of $\$ 1,050,461,000$, an increase of $15.7 \%$ from 1957's previous peak total of $\$ 907,088,000$, according to advance DBS figures.

Number of establishments increased to 178 from 160 in 1957, employees to 25,712 from 25,091 , and salaries and wages to $\$ 102,677,000$ from $\$ 94,431,000$. Cost of animals, materials and supplies used advanced to $\$ 852,842,000$ from $\$ 720$,778,000.

Major sales in 1958 included the following: fresh and frozen meats and poultry, $\$ 620,952,000$ ( $\$ 507,518,000$ in 1957); canned, cured and smoked meats, sausage and sausage casings, $\$ 293,884,000(\$ 273,202,000) ;$ lard, margarine and shortening, $\$ 70,890,000(\$ 68,946,000)$; and hides and skins, $\$ 14,864,000(\$ 14,-$ 881,000).

## Industry And Production Notes

The following advance releases give figures which have recently become available in the regular compilations of the Industry and Merchandising Division, and which will appear at a later date in regular publications.

Women's Factory Clothing six hundred and sixty establishments classified to the women's factory clothing industry in 1958 had shipments valued at $\$ 250$,457,400 , an increase of $2.1 \%$ from the $1957670-$ plant total of $\$ 245,394,600$. Number of employees declined to 25,676 from 26,192 in the preceding year, while salaries and wages rose to $\$ 68,469,900$ from $\$ 66,393,100$ and cost of materials to $\$ 132,488,600$ from $\$ 132,232,200$.

Men's Factory Clothing: Value of shipments from the men's factory clothing industry in 1958 fell $3.0 \%$ to $\$ 264,293,970$ from $\$ 272,425,600$ in the preceding year. Number of establishments dropped to 546 from 559 in 1957, employees to 29, 969 from 32,024 , salaries and wages to $\$ 74,013,900$ from $\$ 76,754,600$ and cost of materials to $\$ 144,479,400$ from $\$ 152,560,600$.

Fur Goods: Factory shipments from Canada's fur goods industry in 1958 were valued at $\$ 61,124,200$ compared to $\$ 62,187,600$ in 1957 , a decrease of $1.7 \%$. Number of establishuents dropped to 493 from 540 in 1957, employes to 4,326 from 4,736 , and salaries and wages to $\$ 14,932,900$ from $\$ 15,034,400$. Cost of materials fell to $\$ 37,667,800$ from $\$ 38,988,600$.

Stamps \& Stencils: Sixty-nine establishments engaged chiefly in the manufacture of stamps and stencils in 1958 had factory shipments valued at $\$ 6,866,-$ 600 , a rise of $8.6 \%$ from the preceding year's 69 -plant total of $\$ 6,321,800$. These establishments employed 927 persons in 1958 (957 in 1957) and paid them $\$ 3,277,500$ in salaries and wages $(\$ 3,203,200)$. They spent $\$ 1,963,900$ for materials and supplies $(\$ 1,921,100)$.

Wood Handles \& Turning Value of factory shipments from this industry in 1958 rose $2.4 \%$ to $\$ 10,022,000$ from $\$ 9,790,000$ in 1957. Establishments decreased by one to 63 , while employees increased to 1,373 from 1,358 and salary and wage payments to $\$ 3,576,200$ from $\$ 3,515,700$. Cost of materials and supplies eased to $\$ 4,373,200$ from $\$ 4,558,200$.

Jewellery \& Electro-Plated Warer Factory shipments from the 221 plants classified to Canada's jewellery and electro-plated ware industry were valued at an all-time high $\$ 53,899,000$ in 1958 , up $2.1 \%$ from 1957 's 220 -plant total of $\$ 53,789,000$ and $0.8 \%$ from 1956's previous peak of $\$ 53,461,000$. Number of employees edged up to 4,739 from 4,731 in 1957, salaries and wages to $\$ 14,935,800$ from $\$ 14,572,500$ and cost of materials and supplies to $\$ 30,147,700$ from $\$ 28$,885,800.

White Metal Alloys: Sixty-four plants classified to the white metal alloys industry in 1958 had shipments valued at $\$ 50,177,700$, a decline of $11.9 \%$ from the preceding year's $61-\mathrm{plant}$ total of $\$ 56,969,200$. These establishments employed 2,825 persons versus 3,154 in 1957 , paid out $\$ 10,576,100$ in salaries and wages versus $\$ 11,258,200$ and spent $\$ 30,305,400$ for materials and supplies versus $\$ 37,-$ 734,200.

MERCHANDISING
Department Store Sales
Department store sales in the week ended May 7 were $16.1 \%$ greater than in last year's comparable week, according to a special DBS statement. All regions posted gains, with advances in all except Quebec exceeding the national average. Percentage increases were: Alberta, 17.7\%; Ontario, 17.5\%; Atlantic Provinces, 17.1\%; Manitoba, 16.5\%; Saskatchewan, $16.4 \%$; British Columbia, $16.2 \%$; and Quebec, $11.8 \%$.

Sales were $6.9 \%$ greater in April this year as compared to last, according to preliminary figures. All regions posted gains from a year earlier except Saskatchewan where a decline of $1.6 \%$ was recorded. Increases were: Atlantic Provinces, $9.1 \%$; Quebec, $11.5 \%$; Ontario, $4.9 \%$; Manitoba, $4.3 \%$; Alberta, $5.0 \%$; and British Columbia, $10.2 \%$.

Sales of Natural Gas Sales of natural gas in February increased 16.7\% to 35,$862,766,000$ cubic feet from $30,735,034,000$ in the corres ponding month last year. This raised January-February sales $13.4 \%$ to $72,024,-$ 147,000 cubic feet from $63,416,684,000$ in the same 1959 period.

Number of customers using natural gas in February advanced 8.4\% to 1,135,000 from 1,046,000 a year earlier and revenue from sales by almost one-quarter to $\$ 23,017,000$ from $\$ 18,525,000$. Natural gas purchased by industrial consumers In February increased to $12,942,651,000$ cubic feet from $10,407,288,000$, by domestic customers to $15,949,867,000$ cubic feet from $14,374,384,000$, and by commercial customers to $6,952,951,000$ cubic feet from 5,936,703,000.

Natural gas sales in Alberta in the month amounted to $15,378,741,000$ cubic feet ( $42.9 \%$ of the national total) and revenue from sales in Ontario totalled $\$ 11,500,000$ ( $50.6 \%$ of the total). (14)

Operating Results of Independent Retail Food Stores In 1958

Independent retail food stores averaged smaller net profit before deduction of proprietors' salaries and income tax and addition of non-trading income in 1958 than in 1956, according to the Bureau's biennial survey of five trades -- grocery, combination, meat, confectionery, and fruit and vegetable stores. Gross profits were larger for grocery and confectionery stores and smaller for the other three.

Average gross protit of independent grocery stores, expressed as a percenlage of average net sales, rose to $15.07 \%$ in 1958 from $14.7 \%$ in 1956 , while operating expenses went up on average to $9.18 \%$ of net sales from $8.67 \%$. Net operating profit fell on average to $5.89 \%$ of net sales from $6.09 \%$.

Gross profit of independent combination stores worked out at an average of $15.07 \%$ of nel sales, down from $15.40 \%$ in 1956 . Operating expenses averaged $10.66 \%$ of net sales, up slightly from the 1956 figure of $10.65 \%$, while net operating profit averaged lower at $4.41 \%$ of net sales versus $4.75 \%$.

Average gross profit of Independent meat markets declined to $19.07 \%$ of net sites from $19.61 \%$ in 1956. Operating expenses rose on average to $12.95 \%$ of net sales from $12.73 \%$, while net operating profit averaged lower at $6.12 \%$ of net sales versus 6.88\%.

Gross profit of confectionery stores averaged higher in 1958 at $19.15 \%$ of net sales as compared with $18.98 \%$ in 1956 , while operating expenses rose on average to $11.68 \%$ of net sales from $11.01 \%$, and net operating profit averaged lower at $7.47 \%$ of net sales versus $7.97 \%$.

Average gross profit of fruit and vegetable stores declined to $19.00 \%$ of net sales in 1958 from $19.39 \%$ in 1956 , while operating expenses worked out to a higher average of $12.49 \%$ of net sales versus $12.07 \%$, and net opelating profit was lower $6.5 i \%$ of net sales as compared with $7.32 \%$. (15)

CONSTKUCTION
Building Permits Issued In March Value of building permits issued by Canadian municipalities in March amounted to $\$ 132,275$, 000 , a decrease of $14.1 \%$ from last year's March total of $\$ 154,064,000$. Value of residential building permits issued in the month fell to $\$ 57,933,000$ from $\$ 90$, 231,000 , while non-residential permits rose to $\$ 74,342,000$ from $\$ 63,833,000$.

Total value of building permits issued in March was below year-earlier levels in all provinces except New Brunswick, Quebec and Manitoba. Totals were: Newfoundland, $\$ 186,000$ ( $\$ 434,000$ a year ago); Prince Edward Island, nil ( $\$ 36,000$ ); Nova Scotia, $\$ 1,192,000(\$ 1,275,000)$; New Brunswick, $\$ 688,000(\$ 212,000)$; Quebec, $\$ 33,398,000(\$ 32,545,000)$; Ontario, $\$ 55,494,000(\$ 71,194,000)$; Manitoba, $\$ 12,-$ $631,000(\$ 6,394,000)$; Saskatchewan, $\$ 3,955,000(\$ 5,115,000)$; Alberta, $\$ 10,585,-$ $000(\$ 13,432,000)$; and British Columbia, $\$ 13,873,000(\$ 23,427,000)$. (16)

Crop Conditions Across Canada
Good progress was made with seeding during the past week and operations are now general in practically all areas of the Prairie Provinces. Threshing of the over-wintered 1959 crop has been completed in Alberta and most of Manitoba, while about $25 \%$ remains to be done in Saskatchewan. Moisture conditions are still generally satisfactory although the recent combination of high temperatures and high winds caused rapid surface drying and soil drifting in some local areas. Pasture growth is good in most southern areas but still backward in the north.

Unseasonably wet weather has delayed field work throughout most of Ontario. Although some seeding has been done, operations continue to be delayed due to wet soil conditions. However, winter wheat, hay and pastures are growing well in most areas. Early vegetables are now being harvested in Essex county. Most fruit trees are in full bloom or have completed blooming but weather conditions have been very unfavourable for bees.

Cold rainy weather, which has persisted for some time, has retarded field work in Quebec. Seeding of cereals is not far advanced except in the south and center of the province where about $50 \%$ is done. However, seeding should now proceed rapidly providing warmer weather develops. Planting in the Montreal district is going ahead rapidly. Growth is good and fruit trees are in full bloom. Pastures and meadows are generally in good condition and very little winterkilling is indicated. Despite a shortage of forage, livestock are in good condition and are being moved gradually into pastures as conditions warrant.

Continued cool and cloudy weather has slowed growth in most parts of British Columbia, but recent rains have considerably improved conditions in the interior part of the province. Spring seeding is now well advanced, while early potatoes are making satisfactory progress in coastal areas. Fair to good conditions are reported from the interior ranges, but still more rain is required to maintain good grazing.

Recent rains throughout the Maritime Provinces have delayed seeding operations. However, in many areas good progress had been made before the wet weather, and some early seeded grains are up. The growth of grass in haylands and pastures is rapid. In Prince Edward Island about $25 \%$ of the potatoes have been planted with some of the early crop above ground. In the earlier districts of Nova Scotia about $80 \%$ of the planting has been completed while elsewhere about $40 \%$ to $50 \%$ has been seeded. New Brunswick requires several days of good drying weather before work on the land can recommence. In this province seeding is not so far advanced due to excessive moisture, with flooding reported along the lower St. John River Valley. (17)

## Wheat Exports \& Supplies

Overseas export clearances of Canadian wheat in the week ended April 27 amounted to $6,519,000$ bushels, bringing the August 1 - Apr 1127 total to $175,507,000$ bushels compared to the year-earlier total of $176,148,000$ bushels. Visible supplies at April 27 aggregated $370,803,000$ bushels as compared with $369,560,000$ a week earlier and 376 , 535,000 in the corresponding week last year. (18)

World Wheat Supplies \& Exports Supplies of wheat remaining on or about April
1 this year in the four major wheat exporting countries for export and for carryover at the end of their raspective crop years amounted to $2,284.1$ million bushels, little changed from the year-earlier total of $2,304.2$ milifon bushels. April 1 supplies, in millions of bushels, were: United States, $1,439.9$ (1,397.0 a year ago); Canada, 610.9 (655.0); Argentina, 91.9 (120.4); and Australia, 141.4 (131.8).

Total exports of wheat and wheat flour in terms of wheat from these four countries in the first eight months (August-March) of the current Canadian crop year at 627.6 million were $5 \%$ greater than the corresponding year-earlier total of 597.8 million bushels. Eight-month exports by countries, in millions of bushels, were: United States, 309.9 (297.2 a year ago); Canada, 191.6 (188.5); Argentina, 41.3 (61.7); and Australia, 84.8 (50.4). (19)

## 9-City Creamery Butter Stocks Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Ca-

 nada at May 12 amounted to $44,796,000$ pounds, an increase of $20.5 \%$ from last year ${ }^{\text {s }} \mathrm{s}$ corresponding total of $37,185,000$ pounds, ac cording to a special DBS statement. May 12 holdings by city were: Quebec, 5, 487,000 pounds (2,269,000 a year ago); Montreal, 19,260,000 (17,366,000); Toronto, $2,435,000(4,682,000)$; Winnipeg, $11,275,000(9,575,000)$; Regina, $1,762,000(891,-$ 000) ; Saskatoon, 2,139,000 (679,000); Edmonton, 1,545,000 (610,000); Calgary, $269,000(236,000)$; and Vancouver, $624,000(877,000)$.Stocks of Dairy \& Poultry Products Stocks of creamery butter and cheddar cheese were larger at May 1 this year than last, while holdings of evaporated whole milk, skim milk powder, eggs and poultry meat were smaller. May 1 stocks were: creamery butter, $80,653,000$ pounds $(62,302,000$ a year ago); cheddar cheese, $42,168,000$ pounds ( $32,263,000$ ); evaporated whole milk, 19,332,000 founds (21,883,000); skim milk powder, 18,783,000 pounds (68, $618,000)$; eggs, 288,000 cases $(473,000)$; and poultry meat, $14,357,000$ pounds $(28,431,000)$. (20)

Stocks Of Meat \& Lard Holdings of all meat at May 1 this year amounted to 99, 097,000 pounds, up slightly from $96,446,000$ pounds at April 1 but over one-third below last year's May 1 total of $149,701,000$ pounds. May 1 stocks of cold storage frozen meat amounted to $69,175,000$ pounds compared to $63,359,000$ a month earlier and $117,688,000$ a year ago, fresh meat 20,811,000 pounds versus $21,446,000$ and $22,171,000$, and cured meat $9,111,000$ pounds against $11,641,000$ and $9,842,000$.

Stocks of lard at May 1 totalled $6,474,000$ pounds compared to $5,788,000$ at April 1 and $10,444,000$ at May 1 last year, and holdings of tallow aggregated 4, 526,000 pounds versus $4,981,000$ and $4,350,000$. (21)

Stocks Of Fruit And Vegetables At May 1

Stocks of apples, pears, fruit (frozen and in preservatives), potatoes and celery held in cold or comon storage were smaller at May 1 this year than last, while holdings of onfons, carrots, cabbage and vegetables (frozen and in brine) were larger. May 1 fruit stocks were: apples, 635,000 bushels ( $1,178,000$ at May 1 last year); pears, 14,000 bushels ( 15,000 ); and fruit (frozen and in preservatives), $32,517,000$ pounds $(33,916,000)$.

Stocks of vegetables at May 1 were: potatoes, 3,085,000 cwt. ( $4,486,000$ a year ago) ; onions, 155,000 bushels ( 55,000 ) ; carrots, 146,000 businels ( 107,000 ); cabbage, 38,000 bushels $(27,000)$; celery, 21,000 crates ( 24,000 ) ; and vegetables (frozen and in brine), $34,034,000$ pounds $(23,504,000)$. (22)

Dairy Factory Production Production of creamery butter, cheddar cheese, ice cream and skim milk powder was larger in April and January-April this year than last. Output of evaporated whole milk was slightly lower in the month but higher in the four months.

April production of creamery butter increased to $25,723,000$ pounds from $24,507,000$ a year earlier, cheddar cheese to $7,461,000$ pounds from $6,222,000$, ice cream to $3,212,000$ gallons from $3,088,000$ and skim milk powder to $15,146,000$ pounds from $14,934,000$. Month's output of evaporated whole milk was little changed at $28,133,000$ pounds versus $28,215,000$.

January-April totals were: creamery butter, $66,912,000$ pounds $(62,822,000$ a year ago) ; cheddar cheese, $18,693,000$ pounds ( $14,306,000$ ) ; ice cream, 10,002, 000 gallons ( $9,231,000$ ) ; evaporated whole milk, $87,745,000$ pounds ( $76,763,000$ ); and skim milk powder, $38,137,000$ pounds $(36,986,000)$. (23)

Output Of Oils \& Fats Production of margarine (including spreads) and refined salad and cooking oils was greater in March and JanuaryMarch this year than last. Output of shortening, refined coconut oil and lard was smaller than a year earlier in both periods.

March production of these comodities was (in thousands): margarine (including spreads), 13,751 pounds (12,643 a year earlier); shortening (package and bulk), 11,640 ( 13,337 ); refined coconut oil, 575 (906); refined salad and cooking oils, $3,592(3,370)$; and lard, $13,226(13,633)$.

January-March totals were (in thousands): margarine (including spreads), 44,056 pounds ( 35,364 a year ago); shortening (package and bulk), 38,191 (39,480); refined coconut o11, $2,575(2,729)$; refined salad and cooking 011s, 11,532 $(9,930)$; and lard, $36,091(38,342)$ (24)

Margarine Production Production of margarine (including spreads) in April declined to $11,810,000$ pounds from 13,179,000 in the corresponding month last year. With increases in all earlier months this year, the January-April total rose $12.8 \%$ to $55,870,000$ pounds from $49,543,000$ a year ago. May 1 stocks held by manufacturers, wholesalers and other warehouses amounted to $5,182,000$ pounds compared to $5,723,000$ at April i and 5,105,000 pounds at May 1 last year. (25)

Production \& Stocks. Production of process cheese in Aprtl amounted to 3,427, $=$ Of Process Cheese 390 pounds, a decrease of $36.5 \%$ from the revised March total of $5,399,127$ and an increase of $16.4 \%$ over last. year's Aprit output of $2,943,774$ pounds. Tn the January-April period production increased $6.5 \%$ to $17,768,800$ pounds from $16,692,074$ in the same period last year. Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of April amounted to 2, 229,658 pounds versus $2,320,169$ a month earlier and $2,340,971$ a year ear:ler.

## TRANSPORTATION

Intercity Ton-Miles, By Type of Transport

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics presents for the first time estimates of intercity ton-miles performed in Canada by each mode of transport as well. as a percentage distribution. The figures are preliminary and are subject to revision in the future. Untill the recent establishment of the Bureau's annual. motor transport raffic survey, reliable statistics were not available for the Canadian trucking industry.

The motor transport traffic surveys conducted in 195 ? and 1958 provided sufficient data to enable estimation of a time series of intercity ton-miles performed by the trucking industry back to 1938. Speciai estimates have also been made for water and air ton-miles covering the same period. Comparable figures for rail and oil pipe line transport: were readily avallable from esisting Dominion Bureau of Statistics publications.

The "ton-mile" which is defined as one ton goods carried one mile is probably the best indicator of out.put or work performed by any transport industry as it is a combination of both weight and distance.

From an analysis of the data provided in the followiog wo tables it can be seen that between 1.938 and 1958 ton-miles performed by ratiways in Canada grew two and one-half times, while ton-miles performed by water teasaport rose by onehalf. Road ton-miles, however, expanded more than nine times during this twenty year period, and air freight traffic grew at an even greater rate. Oil pipe line transport which had its beginnings in the last decade increased its ton-mile output by about one-half each year.

In 1944 the railways performed $77 \%$ of the total ton-miles recorded by all forms of transport. Since that year, however, thelr share has declined to $52 \%$. The proportion of ton-miles performed by water carriers has decifned from $42 \%$ in 1938 to approximately $23 \%$ of the total. in 1958 . On the other hand, the $0.0-m i l e$ performance of oill pipe lines has risen from nill prifor to 1950 to about $13 \%$ and ton-mile figures for highway trucks show a rise from about 3\% in 1938 : © just over $11 \%$ in 1958. A1though the tonnage of frefght carried by alifloks in Canada has increased many times the proportion of the tota? iniercity cor-milts conilnues to be negligible.

Intercity Ton Miles Performed In Canada By Type Of Carrier, 1938-1958

|  | Rail | Roas ${ }^{\text {l/ }}$ | $\frac{\text { Water } 2}{\text { Mil }}$ | $\frac{A_{1 r}}{\text { of }} \frac{3}{t}$ | $\text { Pipe Line } 4$ | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1938 | 26,835 | 1,515 | 20,688 | 1 | - | 49,039 |
| 1939 | 31,465 | 1,670 | 19,625 | 1 | - | 52,761 |
| 1940 | 37,898 | 1,847 | 19,188 | 1 | - | 58,934 |
| 1941 | 49,982 | 2,237 | 19,688 | 2 | - | 71,909 |
| 1942 | 56,154 | 2,424 | 17,532 | 2 | - | 76,112 |
| 1943 | 63,915 | 2,458 | 18,032 | 3 | - | 84,408 |
| 1944 | 65,928 | 2,668 | 17,313 | 3 | - | 85,912 |
| 1945 | 63,349 | 2,995 | 18,750 | 3 | - | 85,097 |
| 1946 | 55,310 | 3,501 | 15,657 | 3 | - | 74,471 |
| 1947 | 60,143 | 4,310 | 18,063 | 4 | - | 82,520 |
| 1948 | 59,080 | 5,193 | 19,782 | 7 | - | 84,062 |
| 1949 | 56,338 | 5,920 | 20,469 | 8 | - | 82,735 |
| 1950 | 55,538 | 7,597 | 23,032 | 10 | 1,496 | 87,673 |
| 195: | 64,300 | 8,238 | 24,625 | 11 | 3,551 | 100, 725 |
| 1952 | 68,430 | 8,903 | 26,313 | 17 | 4,793 | 108,456 |
| 1953 | 65,267 | 9,778 | 28,001 | 21 | 6,992 | 110,059 |
| 1954 | 57,547 | 10,012 | 25,250 | 20 | 9,270 | 102,099 |
| 1955 | 66,176 | 10,248 | 29,282 | 31 | 12,928 | 118,665 |
| 1956 | 78,820 | 10,614 | 33,594 | 39 | 18,141 | 141, 208 |
| 1957 | 71,047 | 10,679 | 31, 251 | 38 | 19,190 | 132,205 |
| 1958 | 66,357 | 14,078 | 29,457 | 35 | 16,951 | 126,878 |
| Percentage Distribucion |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1938 | 54.7 | 3.1 | 42.2 | * | - | 100.0 |
| 1939 | 59.6 | 3.2 | 37.2 | * | - | 100.0 |
| 1940 | 64.3 | 3.1 | 32.6 | * | - | 100.0 |
| 1941 | 69.5 | 3.1 | 27.4 | * | - | 100.0 |
| 1942 | 73.8 | 3.2 | 23.0 | * | - | 100.0 |
| 1943 | 75.7 | 2.9 | 21.4 | * | - | 100.0 |
| 1944 | 76.7 | 3.1 | 20.2 | * | - | 100.0 |
| 1945 | 74.5 | 3.5 | 22.0 | * | - | 100.0 |
| 1946 | 74.3 | 4.7 | 21.0 | * | - | 100.0 |
| 1947 | 72.9 | 5.2 | 21.9 | * | - | 100.0 |
| 1948 | 70.3 | 6.2 | 23.5 | * | - | 100.0 |
| 1949 | 68.1 | 7.2 | 24.7 | * | - | 100.0 |
| 1950 | 63.3 | 8.7 | 26.3 | * | . 7 | 100.0 |
| 1951 | 63.8 | 8.2 | 24.5 | * | 3.5 | 100.0 |
| 1952 | 63.1 | 8.2 | 24.3 | * | 4.4 | 100.0 |
| 1953 | 59.3 | 8.9 | 25.4 | * | 6.4 | 100.0 |
| 1954 | 56.4 | 9.8 | 24.7 | * | 9.1 | 100.0 |
| 1955 | 55.8 | 8.6 | 24.7 | * | 10.9 | 100.0 |
| 1956 | 55.8 | 7.5 | 23.8 | * | 12.9 | 100.0 |
| 1957 | 53.8 | 8.1 | 23.6 | * | 14.5 | 100.0 |
| 1958 | 52.3 | 11.1 | 23.2 | * | 13.4 | 100.0 |

1. Prior to 1957 estimated by using the trend of Canadian registrations, U.S. Bureau of Public Roads average load and average miles travelled with 1957 Motor Transport Traffic Statistics as the base. 2. Estimated by using cargo data in "Shipping Statistics", 1.957 and 1958 together with assumed average distances for major water lanes. The 1957 ton mile figure was then adjusted according to the fluctuations of canal traffic in previous years. 3. Includes an estimate for bulk transportation ton miles. 4. Includes trunk and gathering lines. *Less than one-tenth of $1 \%$.

## Railway Carloadings Cars of railway revenue freight loaded on lines in Canada

 in the first seven days of May numbered 76,165 compared to 75,395 in the corresponding 1959 period. This brought loadings in the January 1 May 7 period to $1,201,731$ cars, slightly ( $0.8 \%$ ) below the year-earlier total of 1,211,656 cars.Receipts from connections rose slightly in the seven-day period to 27,981 cars from 27,925 year earlier and $5.4 \%$ in the cumulative period to 532,615 cars from 505,267. Piggyback loadings in the week advanced to 3,956 cars from 3,008 , placing the year-to-date total at $53,515 \mathrm{cars}$, an increase of over $30 \%$ from last year's corresponding total of 41,069 cars. (26)

Railway Freight Traffic Railway revenue freight loaded in Canada or received from United States rail connections in January declined $4,5 \%$ to $10,481,264$ tons from $10,975,292$ in the same month last year. Loadings in Canada (including imports at lake or ocean ports) fell to $8,454,231$ tons from 8,912,838, and receipts from United States rail connections destined to points in Canada to 765,312 tons from 905,465 , while intransit freight (U.S. to U.S. through Canada) rose to $1,261,721$ tons from $1,156,989$.

January loadings of products of mines decreased to $2,933,528$ tons from 2, 998,464 a year earlier, products of agriculture to 1,391,459 tons from 2,030,037 and animals and products to 75,354 tons from 81,054 . Month's loadings of manilfactures and miscellaneous commodities increased to $2,832,700$ tons from 2,734, 301 , products of forests to $1,141,461$ tons from 989,837 and $1 . c .1$. freight to 79,729 tons from 79,145 . (27)

## Gas Pipe Line Transport

Net deliveries of natural gas through pipe lines in February increased $26.2 \%$ to $27,492,783,000$ cubic feet from $21,783,091,000$ in the same month last year, lifting the January-February total $22.1 \%$ to $56,476,887,000$ cubic feet from $46,270,006,000$ a year ago. Net deliveries per day averaged $948,027,000$ cubic feet in February compared to 934 , 971,000 in January and $777,968,000$ in February last year.

Net deliveries in February to distribution systems rose to $18,023,490,000$ cubic feet from $13,538,810,000$ a year earlier, to industrial consumers and others to $1,267,429,000$ cubic feet from $996,794,000$ and exports to the United States to $8,201,864,000$ cubic feet from 7,247,487,000. (28)

## VITALSTATISTICS

## Registrations of Births,

 Marriages And DeathsFewer births and deaths were registered in April and January-April this year than last, while numbers of marriages were down in the month but up in the four months. Birth registrations declined in April to 38,005 from 43,239 a year earlier, marriages to 6,567 from 7,577 and deaths to 11,793 from 13,734. JanuaryApril birth registrations fell to 153,502 from 163,241 and deaths to 47,891 from 49,254 , while marriages rose to 30,014 from 27,807 . (29)

Birth, Marriage And Record numbers of births were registered in Canada during Death Rates In 1958

1958, while birth, marriage and death rates (per 1,000 population) were lower than in 1957, according to the
final detailed report on 1958 Vital Statistics released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The report contains, in addition to detalled statistics for 1958, several historical tables showing the major vital statistics trends of the past: few decades. Between 1957 and 1958 the birth rate moved downard from 28.3 to 27.6, marriages from 8.0 to 7.7 and deaths from 8.2 t.0 7.9

Preliminary estimates for 1959, released last. January in the monthly bulletin of Vital Statistics, indicated that births would move up from 470,118 in 1958 to 486,000 in 1959, with an advance in the rate trom 27.6 (per 1,000 population) to 27.9 . Marriages were expected to continue the decline fxom 131,525 in 1958 to 127,000 in 1959, dropping from 7.7 to 7.3. The 1959 death ra'e is expected to rise from 7.9 in 1958 to 8.1 and the total number of deaths from 135, 201 to 141,000.

Some of the highlights of the 1958 report just released are:

1. Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia and the Northwest Tertiories accounted for all of the increase in births between 1957-58;
2. Provincial birth rates were all below 1957, in some provinces reverting to pre-World War II levels;
3. Almost one-third of Canadian births occurred in Ontario (152,637); 30\% in Quebec $(141,396)$ and $8.5 \%$ in British Columbia ( 39,577 ), or $71 \%$ in the three largest provinces;
4. Ontario has had more births than Quebec each year since 1953, although the latter has consistently had the higher birth rate;
5. As in previous years, Newfoundland had the highest birth race (33.8), followed by Alberta (30.7), Quebec (29.0) and New Brunswick (28.4); and Manitoba the lowest (24.9);
6. 92 of every 100 infants delivered in 1958 were born in hospital, as compared with 40 before World War II, 67 at the end of the War and 79 in 1951:
7. Annual number of marriages has declined gradually from a record 137,398 in 1946 to 128,029 in 1955; rose in 1956 and 1957 and dropped again in 1958, while the marriage rate has dropped steadily from 10.9 to 7.7 in the same period:
8. Canada had a record low death rate of 7.9 (per i, 000 population) in 1958 as compared with 9.5 in U.S.A. and 11.7 in the U.K., and compared with 11.6 in 1921. At the 1921 rate there would have been 198,000 deaths in 1958 instead of the 135,201 actual deaths;
9. Of 135,201 deaths in 1958, 14,178 were inflants under 1 year of age, of whom 9,055 died within four weeks of birth and 4,437 within 24 hours of birth:
10. The infant death rate (per 1,000 infant:s born alive, has declined from 100 in the $1920^{\circ}$ s to a record low of 30 in 1958; however Canadaंs ate is still considerably higher than some 13 other major countries of the world, of which Sweden is the lowest at 16 per 1,000 live births :
11. As in previous years almost half (49\%) of 1958 dea hs were due co diseases of the heart and circulatory system, one-sixth $t 0$ cancer, and almost. $7 \%$ to accidents. (30)

## Maritime Fisheries In April

Landings of sea fish and shelifish by fishermen in the Maritime Provinces in April amounted to 27, 356,000 pounds, about one-third below last year's corresponding total of 42,282,000 pounds, according to monthly summary fish statistics released jointly by the Department of Fisheries and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Landed value was also about one-third smaller at $\$ 2,279,000$ versus $\$ 3,360,000$.

April take of groundfish dropped to $21,552,000$ pounds from $35,606,000$ a year earlier and the landed value more steeply to $\$ 903,000$ from $\$ 1,830,000$. Sharply smaller catches of cod and haddock more than offset a shar pain for small flatfish. Totals were larger for pollock and redfish, but smaller for cusk, catfish and halibut.

Catch of pelagic and estuarial fish in April decreased to 3, 132,000 pounds from 3,814,000 and the landed value to $\$ 75,000$ from $\$ 82,000$. Reduced landings of herring and mackerel were mainly responsible for the overall decline. Landings of molluscs and crustaceans declined to $2,772,000$ pounds from 2,862,000 and the landed value to $\$ 1,301,000$ from $\$ 1,448,000$. Decreased catches of lobsters and clams more than offset a heavier take of scallops.

Fish Freezings \& Stocks Freezings of fish (excluding smoked fish, bait and animal feed) in April amounted to $10,565,000$ pounds, $21 \%$ below last year's corresponding total of $13,371,000$ pounds, according to advance DBS figures. April 30 stocks (excluding smoked fish, bait and animal feed) were $8.6 \%$ greater than a year earlier at $30,409,000$ pounds versus $28,012,000$.

## PRICES

Consumer Price Indexes For Regional Cities

Consumer price indexes increased in nine of the ten regional cities between March and April 1960 with the Vancouver index decreasing $0.4 \%$. Increases in the other nine cities ranged from a fractional 0.1\% in Edmonton-Calgary to $1.0 \%$ in St. John's.

Higher food indexes were mainly responsible for movements in the total indexes as foods increased in all regional cities except Edmonton-Calgary and Vancouver. In the latter two cities, food indexes declined $0.1 \%$ and $0.5 \%$, respectively, while increases in the other eight regional cities ranged from $0.6 \%$ in Saskatoon-Regina to $1.8 \%$ in Montreal. Other commodities and services group indexes were up in all regional cities except Halifax and Saint John with the increase of $0.4 \%$ in $S t$. John's the largesc upward movement.

Shelter indexes were unchanged in five of the ten regional cities, down in Toronto and Vancouver, and up in the remaining three.

Clothing indexes showed mixed results, with five city indexes higher, three lower and two unchanged from March levels. Household operation indexes decreased in five cities, increased in four cities and remained unchanged in the remaining regional city.

Consumer Price Indexes For Regional Cities Of Canada At The Beginning Of April 1960 (1) (Base $1949=100$ )

|  | Total | Indexes |  | Group Indexes - April 1960 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { March } \\ 1960 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 1960 \end{aligned}$ | Food | Shelter | Clothing | Household Operation | Other Commodities \& Services |
| St. John's (2) | 114.5 | 115.6 | 113.3 | 115.7 | 106.9 | 109.7 | 128.0 |
| Halifax ...... | 126.7 | 127.0 | 117.3 | 134.4 | 120.5 | 129.5 | 139.4 |
| Saint John | 128.9 | 129.1 | 122.1 | 138.6 | 118.9 | 124.2 | 143.4 |
| Montreal | 126.5 | 127.6 | 125.6 | 145.0 | 105.1 | 119.6 | 137.7 |
| Ottawa | 127.4 | 128.0 | 120.9 | 148.1 | 113.8 | 121.2 | 137.6 |
| Toronto ........ | 129.2 | 129.7 | 119.8 | 153.2 | 114.2 | 123.8 | 139.0 |
| Winnipeg | 124.0 | 124.7 | 118.8 | 133.9 | 117.6 | 119.8 | 133.9 |
| Saskatoon-Regina. | 123.4 | 123.6 | 117.8 | 124.7 | 122.1 | 125.1 | 129.3 |
| Edmonton-Calgary. | 123.3 | 123.4 | 114.7 | 124.8 | 120.1 | 127.2 | 133.4 |
| Vancouver . ...... | 128.7 | 128.2 | 119.7 | 138.7 | 116.7 | 132.8 | 136.9 |

(1) Total indexes for March and April and April group index detail are shown in the above table. These indexes show changes in retail prices of goods and services in each city. They do not indicate whether it costs more or less to live in one city than another.
(2) Index on the base June $1951=100$.

Security Price Indexes


MINING
Shipments of Salt
Shipments of dry common salt by Canadian producers in the first quarter of this year amounted to 479,488 tons as compared with 467,256 in the corresponding month last year, while the salt content of brines used and shipped totalled 406,812 tons compared to 363,214 . Total salt and salt content of brine used and shipped amounted to 886,300 tons versus 830,470 a year earlier. End-of-March producers" stocks were 62,369 tons against 42,224. (31)

## Small General Hospitals In 1957

The typical small general hospital in Canada had a theoretical capacity of 12 beds and
uribs and 4 bassinets in 1957. Actually set up in the hospital at the end of the year were 14 beds and cribs -- over two-thirds of them in medical and surgical units -- and 5 bassinets in obstetrical service. Receiving treatinent and care at that date were 8 adults and children and 1 newborn infant. Thus, the occupancy rate at December 31 was $50.2 \%$ for beds, cribs and bassinets.

Admitted to/tyeical small general hospital during 1957 were 428 adults and children, or 36 patients per bed and crib of theoretical capacity. There were 65 live births, or 16 per bassinet of theoretical capacity, and:l stillbirth. Live births accounted for 13 out of every 100 admissions.

During the course of the year 10 adults and children and 1 newborn infant died in the hospital. The gross death rate was, therefore, 2 deaths of adults, children and infants out of every 100 separations. Adults and children separated during the year stayed in the hospital an average of 7 days. Newborn infants were kept 6 days. Out-patients treated by the hospital in 1957 numbered 436. (32)**
(Publications listed below are numbered similarly to news items to indicate source of latter. Catalogue order numbers precede titles of reports. Prices for both single copies and annual subscriptions are shown for periodicals).

```
    1 - 45-001: Asphalt Roofing, March, 10k/$1.00
    2 - 43-002: Domestic Washing Machines & Clothes Dryers, March, 10c/$1.00
    3-41-005: Stoves & Furnaces, March, 10k/$1.00
    4-44-002: Concrete Products, March, 10k/$1.00
    5-46-002: Specified Chemicals, March, 10&//$1.00
    6-41-004: Iron Castings & Cast Iron Pipes & Fittings, March, 10k/$1.00
    7 - 43-003: Specified Domestic Electrical App1iances, March, 10k/$1.00
    8- 43-006: Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Equipment, March, 10k/$1.00
    9-44-001: Cement, March, 10k/$1.00
    10-41-006: Stee1 Wire & Specified Wire Products, March, 10&/$1.00
    11-46-001: Sales of Paints, Varnishes & Lacquers, March, 10k/$1.00
    12 - 33-001: Raw Hides, Skins & Finished Leather, March, 10k/$1.00
    13 - 42-20%: Machine Shops Industry, 1958, 50&
    14-45-005: Sales of Manufactured & Natural Gas, February, 10k/$1.00
    15 - 63-409: Operating Results & Financial Structure Retail Food Stores
                                    (Independent), 1958, 50&
    16 - 64-001: Building Permits, March, 50k/$6.00
    17 - 22-002: Telegraphic Crop Report - Canada, May 18, 20&/$4.00
    18-22-004: Grain Statistics Weekly, April 27, 10k/$3.00
    19-22-005: Wheat Review, April, 30k/$3.00
    20-32-009: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products, May, 20k/$2.00
    21 - 32-012: Stocks of Meat & Lard, May, 30k/$3.00
    22-32-010: Stocks of Fruit & Vegetables, May, 206/$2.00
    23 - 32-002: Dairy Factory Production, April, 10k/$1.00
    24-32-006: 011s & Fats, March, 10k/$1.00
    25 - 32-005: Margarine Statistics, April, 10k/$1.00
    26 - 52-001: Carloadings on Canadian Railways, May 7, 10k/$3.00
    27 - 52-002: Railway Freight Traffic, January, 20</$2.00
    28-55-002: Gas Pipe Line Transpor:, February, 20k/$2.00
    29-84-001: Vital Statistics, April, 10k/$1.00
    30-84-202: Vital Statistics, 1958, $2.00
    31-26-009: Salt, March, 10k/$1.00
**32 - 83-503: Smal1 General Hospital In 1957 (Statistical Summary), 50&
    - -11-003: Canadian Statistical Review, April, 50l/$5.00
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