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### HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

**Merchandising:** Total sales of new passenger and commercial vehicles in 1959 amounted to a near-record 498,776 units, larger by 12.1% than 1958's total of 444,769 units and only slightly (0.2%) below the 1956 all-time high of 499,921 units ... Department store sales were valued at a record \$1,420,311,000 in 1959, topping the preceding year's \$1,345,317,000 by 5.6%; in January this year sales were slightly (0.1%) higher than in the same month last year. (Pages 2-3)

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**Industrial Production:** With gains in all major components Canada's industrial production index averaged 8% higher in 1959 than in 1958. Manufacturing climbed 7%, non-durables rising 6% and durables 8%. Mining was up 8% and electric power and gas utilities 14%. The seasonally-adjusted index for December advanced 2.1% to 169.0 from the revised November level of 165.5. (Page 4)

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**Mining:** Shipments of iron ore from Canadian mines in 1959 reached a record 24,444,000 tons, steeply above the preceding year's 15,726,000 and close to 10% above the previous peak tonnage of 22,348,000 in 1956. (Page 5)

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**Sawmilling:** Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia in 1959 fell 6% to 4,729,905,000 feet from 5,034,007,000 in 1958, while output (excluding ties) in the other provinces rose 13.0% to 2,633,745,000 feet from 2,331,684,000. (Page 7)

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**Manufacturing:** Production of steel ingots in the week ended February 20 amounted to a record 135,875 tons, up 3.9% from the week-earlier total of 130,750 tons and 26% from the year-earlier figure of 107,960 tons. (Page 8)

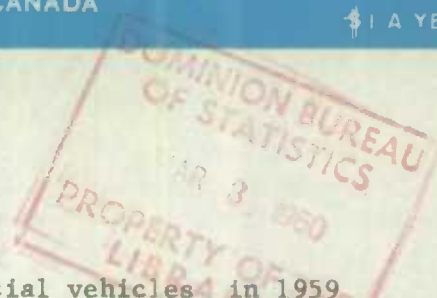
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**Transportation:** Cars of railway revenue freight loaded on lines in Canada in the seven days ended February 14 numbered 66,198, up slightly (0.8%) from last year's comparable total of 65,642. (Page 10)

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**Labour:** Claimants for unemployment insurance benefit numbered 782,500 on January 29, larger by 14% than the December 31 total of 685,700 and slightly smaller than the January 30, 1959 total of 785,100. (Page 11)

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New Motor Vehicle Sales In 1959

Total sales of new passenger and commercial vehicles in 1959 amounted to a near-record 498,776 units, larger by 12.1% than 1958's total of 444,769 units and only slightly (0.2%) below the 1956 all-time high of 499,921 units. Passenger car sales advanced 11.8% to a new peak of 421,232 units from 376,723 a year earlier and were 3.2% above the 1956 previous high of 408,233 units. Commercial vehicle sales climbed 14.0% to 77,544 units from 68,046 but were nearly 30% below the 1951 peak of 109,962 units.

Retail value of the year's total sales increased 12.2% to an all-time high of \$1,531,588,000 from \$1,365,466,000 in 1958 and was 5.2% greater than the previous record of \$1,455,375,000 in 1956. Value of passenger car sales advanced 11.0% to a new high of \$1,233,404,000 from \$1,110,724,000 a year earlier and 9.3% from the previous peak of \$1,128,640,000 in 1956. Commercial vehicle sales were valued at \$298,184,000, up 17.1% from \$254,742,000 in 1958 but down 8.7% from the record \$326,735,000 in 1956.

Sales of British and European motor vehicles (included in total sales) reached a record 118,513 units in 1959, sharply above 1958's previous high of 83,863. Passenger car sales climbed sharply to a record 110,301 units from 77,166 a year earlier (previous peak) and commercial vehicles to a new peak of 8,212 units from 6,697 in 1958 (previous high). Value of total sales climbed over the \$200,000,000-mark for the first time in 1959 to \$235,494,000 from \$165,273,000 in 1958, the passenger car total rising to \$218,164,000 from \$150,877,000 and the commercial vehicle total to \$17,330,000 from \$14,396,000.

Total amount of financing in new motor vehicles sales in the year increased to \$464,586,000 from \$404,012,000 in 1958 but was 10.8% below the 1956 high of \$520,944,000. Amount involved in financed new passenger car sales rose to \$370,452,000 from \$332,978,000 in 1958 and in financed commercial vehicle sales to \$94,134,000 from \$71,034,000. Peaks were reached in 1956 for both passenger cars (\$408,993,000), and commercial vehicles (\$111,951,000). (1)

Department Store Sales  
Rose Each Month In 1959

Department store sales were valued at a record \$1,420,311,000 in 1959, topping the preceding year's \$1,345,317,000 by 5.6%. Increases were posted for all provinces and for all except three of the 29 departments. Sales were higher in value than a year earlier for all months during the year with the December total up 2.3% to \$192,287,000 from \$188,032,000.

Sales in the Atlantic Provinces were up 1.2% in 1959 to \$100,538,000 from \$99,328,000 in the preceding year, Quebec 4.1% to \$241,017,000 from \$231,491,000, Ontario 7.0% to \$480,736,000 from \$449,127,000, Manitoba 8.2% to \$126,541,000 from \$116,933,000, Saskatchewan 2.4% to \$69,089,000 from \$67,493,000, Alberta 4.8% to \$160,132,000 from \$152,798,000, and British Columbia 6.2% to \$242,258,000 from \$228,147,000.

MORE



Major departmental sales increases in 1959, percentagewise, were posted for photographic equipment and supplies (13.4%), radio and music (10.8%), china and glassware (10.2%), major appliances (9.5%), women's and misses' dresses (9.5%), and stationery, books and magazines (9.4%). Other increases ranged from 0.4% for furs and 1.6% for piece goods to 8.2% for hardware and housewares and 8.4% for women's and misses' sportswear.

Decreases in 1959 were recorded for aprons, housedresses and uniforms (7.3%), food and kindred products (1.9%), and millinery (1.5%). (2)

Department Store Sales Department store sales were only slightly (0.1%) higher  
Unchanged In January in January this year than last, according to preliminary DBS figures. Increases of 1.6% in Quebec, 1.3% in Ontario, 3.7% in Manitoba and 0.6% in British Columbia just counterbalanced decreases of 2.9% in the Atlantic Provinces, 9.2% in Saskatchewan and 3.4% in Alberta. Sales in the week ended February 13 were unchanged from 1959, with declines of 0.6% in Ontario, 5.7% in Manitoba, 13.2% in Saskatchewan and 4.9% in Alberta more than offsetting increases of 9.7% in the Atlantic Provinces, 1.5% in Quebec and 4.6% in British Columbia.

Retail Chain Store Sales Retail chain store sales increased 8.1% in 1958 to  
Reached New Peak In 1958 an all-time high of \$3,073,147,000 from 1957's previous peak of \$2,841,569,000, according to the Bureau's annual report on retail chain stores. Number of chains rose to 509 from 493 in 1957, average number of stores to 9,122 from 8,822 and average sales per store 4.6% to \$336,900 from \$322,100.

Of the 13 major kinds of businesses, all chains except one (furniture stores) reported larger sales in 1958 than in 1957. Percentage increases were: grocery and combination stores, 10.2%; "other" food and beverage stores (excluding restaurants), 5.3%; variety stores, 6.9%; men's and boys' clothing and furnishings stores, 3.5%; family clothing stores, 11.1%; women's apparel and accessories stores, 10.5%; shoe stores, 10.6%; hardware stores, 9.0%; lumber and building material dealers, 10.0%; household appliance, radio and music stores, 3.2%; restaurants, 5.6%; and drug stores, 9.8%. Sales of furniture stores declined 9.6%.

Value of sales by chains in 1958 was as follows (1957 totals in brackets): grocery and combination stores, \$1,368,883,000 (\$1,241,725,000); "other" food and beverage stores (excluding restaurants), \$587,247,000 (\$557,728,000); variety stores, \$264,298,000 (\$247,223,000); men's and boys' clothing and furnishings stores, \$29,157,000 (\$28,159,000); family clothing stores, \$44,958,000 (\$40,459,000); women's apparel and accessories stores, \$78,147,000 (\$70,707,000); shoe stores, \$63,938,000 (\$57,823,000); hardware stores, \$43,043,000 (\$39,483,000); lumber and building material dealers, \$106,997,000 (\$97,254,000); furniture stores, \$52,480,000 (\$52,778,000); household appliance, radio and music stores, \$75,925,000 (\$73,560,000); restaurants, \$38,236,000 (\$36,194,000); and drug stores, \$49,912,000 (\$45,437,000). (3)

Operating Results Of  
General Stores In 1958

Gross profits of independent general stores declined slightly in 1958 to 14.81% of net sales from 15.16% in 1956, DBS reports in its biennial survey. Total operating expenses averaged slightly higher at 9.03% of net sales versus 9.00% in 1956, resulting in a decline to 5.78% from 6.16% in 1956 in net operating profit before deduction of proprietors' salaries and income tax and addition of net non-trading income.

Among operating expense items, employees salaries averaged 3.15% of net sales in 1958 versus 3.28% in 1956, occupancy 3.15% versus 3.07%, office and store supplies 0.35% versus 0.41%, advertising 0.29% versus 0.30%, and all other expenses 2.09% versus 1.94%. (4)

## I N D U S T R I A L P R O D U C T I O N

Index Shows Broad 1959 Rise

Canada's seasonally adjusted index of industrial production for December advanced 2.1% to 169.0 from the revised November level of 165.5. The volume of manufacturing production increased 2.2%, the result of a 6.5% rise in durables, partly offset by a 1.4% decline in the output of non-durable manufactures. The output of Canadian mines increased 3.1% while the electricity and gas component of the index remained relatively unchanged.

Gains were recorded in all major components in the year 1959 as compared with 1958. The total index advanced 8%. Manufacturing climbed 7%, non-durables rising 6% and durables 8%. Mining was up 8% and electric power and gas utilities 14%.

All major group components contributed to the December increase in durable manufactures. Reflecting largely the availability of steel following the resumption of production in the United States, transportation equipment advanced some 18%. Substantial increases of 9% and 6%, respectively, were also recorded in wood products and iron and steel products. The remaining three groups within durable manufactures -- non-ferrous metal products, electrical apparatus and supplies, and non-metallic mineral products -- each showed 2% production gains. Individual industries reflecting the most significant gains on a seasonally adjusted basis include: motor vehicles, 70%; sawmills, 19%; primary iron and steel, 15%; and iron castings, 14%.

Within non-durables manufacturing, most major groups registered losses in December. Decreases of 4% were shown in printing and publishing, 3% in foods and beverages, tobacco, leather and paper products, 2% in clothing and textile products, and 1% in the output of rubber products. These were partly offset by advances of 4% in products of petroleum and coal and 2% in chemical products.

The increase in mining production in December reflected largely the sizeable advance in the fuel-mining industry of 15%, offset in part by declines of 4% in metal mining and 18% in non-metal mining. In the latter two groups, substantial losses of 28% were recorded in iron ore, 7.0% in gold mining, and 22% in asbestos, which were only partly offset by gains of 9.0% in nickel, 6% in zinc, and 13% in lead. Output of petroleum increased by 19%, but there were declines of 6% in coal and 4% in natural gas.



Iron Ore Shipments In 1959 Shipments of iron ore from Canadian mines in 1959 reached a record 24,444,000 tons, steeply above the preceding year's 15,726,000 and close to 10% above the previous peak tonnage of 22,348,000 in 1956. Ore shipped for export jumped to a new high of 20,513,000 tons from 13,797,000 in 1958, while shipments to Canadian consumers were more than doubled at a record 3,931,000 tons versus 1,929,000. Stocks at year's end were smaller at 1,963,000 tons versus 2,607,000.

New records were posted in the volume of shipments from both Quebec and Ontario in 1959, while the combined total for Newfoundland and British Columbia, although somewhat larger than in 1958, fell short of the 1956 peak. Shipments from Quebec mines in 1959 amounted to 11,446,000 tons versus 6,060,000 in 1958 and the previous high of 8,873,000 in 1957; Ontario shipments totalled 5,973,000 tons versus 3,645,000 in 1958 and the previous top figure of 5,558,000 in 1956; and shipments from Newfoundland and British Columbia amounted to 7,025,000 tons versus 6,021,000 in 1958 and the 1956 high of 8,834,000 tons.

Total shipments in December amounted to 671,000 tons versus 512,000 in the corresponding month in 1958. Ores for export were larger at 491,000 tons versus 366,000 as were ores for shipment to Canadian consumers at 180,000 tons versus 147,000. (5)

Coal Production in January Production of coal in January this year declined to 1,082,000 tons from 1,279,800 a year ago and landed imports to 185,600 tons from 344,500. Output was lower than a year earlier in all producing areas. Totals were: Nova Scotia, 435,000 tons (451,100 a year ago); New Brunswick, 89,000 (102,200); Saskatchewan, 248,000 (304,500); Alberta, 250,000 (354,200); and British Columbia and the Yukon, 60,000 (67,800). (6)

Crude Petroleum & Natural Gas Output Greater In January-November 1959 Production of crude petroleum in November 1959 advanced to 14,324,346 barrels from 13,525,248 in the same month of 1958, bringing the January-November total to 167,663,894 barrels from 149,888,496 in the same 1958 period, an increase of almost one-third. Eleven-month output was larger than in 1958 in all producing areas except New Brunswick, Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. Totals were: New Brunswick, 13,265 barrels (14,072 in the first 11 months of 1958); Ontario, 923,140 (705,870); Manitoba, 4,636,740 (5,387,658); Saskatchewan, 43,361,832 (40,893,004); Alberta, 117,590,549 (102,024,302); British Columbia, 772,891 (444,179); and the Northwest Territories, 365,477 (419,411).

Natural gas production in November increased to 44,815,244,000 cubic feet from 36,816,586,000 a year earlier, moving the January-November total to 385,015,942,000 cubic feet from 295,436,451,000 in the like 1958 period, an advance of over 30%. Eleven-month totals were larger for all areas except New Brunswick and were: New Brunswick, 108,641,000 cubic feet (110,459,000 a year earlier); Ontario, 14,510,200,000 (13,353,582,000); Saskatchewan, 30,191,571,000 (15,710,162,000); Alberta, 278,145,598,000 (208,418,194,000); British Columbia, 61,999,847,000 (56,544,100,000); and the Northwest Territories, 60,085,000 (20,248,000). (7)

World Wheat Supplies Supplies of wheat remaining on or about January 1, 1960 in the four major wheat-exporting countries for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 2,513.6 million bushels, virtually the same as last year's corresponding total of 2,527.5 million. January 1 supplies, in millions of bushels, were: United States, 1,576.1 (1,511.1 a year earlier); Canada, 665.9 (718.1); Argentina, 105.5 (142.4); and Australia, 166.1 (155.9).

Total exports of wheat and wheat flour in terms of wheat from the four major exporting countries during the August-December period of the current Canadian crop year were 362.6 million bushels, some 1% below the preceding year's corresponding total of 366.6 million.

Exports from Canada and Australia in the August-December period were at higher levels than last year while those from the United States and Argentina were lower. Totals follow, in millions: United States, 161.4 (177.8 a year earlier); Canada, 134.1 (122.9); Argentina, 21.1 (39.6); and Australia, 46.0 (26.3). (8)

Wheat Export And Supplies Overseas export clearances of Canadian wheat in the week ended February 3 amounted to 2,744,000 bushels, placing the August 1 - February 3 total at 129,595,000 bushels, an increase of 5.3% from the year-earlier total of 123,071,000 bushels. Visible supplies in all Canadian positions at February 3 aggregated 380,402,000 bushels, down 0.4% from the week-earlier total of 381,761,000 bushels and up 0.1% from the year-earlier total of 380,133,000 bushels. (9)

9-City Creamery Butter Stocks Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada amounted to 48,672,000 pounds at February 18, larger by 13.0% than last year's comparable total of 43,081,000 pounds, according to a special DBS statement. Holdings were larger this year than last in six centres and smaller in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. February 18 stocks by city were: Quebec, 5,347,000 pounds (3,430,000 a year ago); Montreal, 20,153,000 (20,837,000); Toronto, 3,622,000 (4,577,000); Winnipeg, 13,529,000 (9,081,000); Regina, 1,614,000 (973,000); Saskatoon, 1,839,000 (853,000); Edmonton, 1,384,000 (1,185,000); Calgary, 414,000 (409,000); and Vancouver, 770,000 (1,736,000).

Farm Poultry Population Poultry population on Canadian farms on December 1 last year was 50,960,000 birds, 9% smaller than the year-earlier total of 56,008,000, according to DBS estimates. Smaller numbers of hens and chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese were reported.

Practically all of the decline occurred in the number of hens and chickens, which dropped 9% to 46,975,000 from 51,770,000 a year earlier. For Canada as a whole the number of hens and pullets 6 months old and over increased 1% over 1958, but pullets 2 to 6 months old decreased 25%, cocks and cockerels 34% and chicks 13%. The estimated number of turkeys on farms declined to 3,375,000 from the year earlier total of 3,609,000, geese to 269,000 from 280,000, and ducks to 341,000 from 349,000. (10)



Sawn Lumber Output In 1959      Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia in the full-year 1959 fell 6.0% to 4,729,905,000 feet from 5,034,007,000 in 1958, while output (excluding ties) in the other provinces rose 13.0% to 2,633,745,000 feet from 2,331,684,000, according to advance DBS figures. December output in British Columbia was up to 407,795,000 feet from 364,726,000 in the same month of 1958 and in the other provinces to 126,501,000 feet from 122,760,000.

The year's production was greater than a year earlier in all provinces east of the Rockies except Saskatchewan. Totals: Prince Edward Island, 9,313,000 feet (7,463,000 in 1958); Nova Scotia, 206,172,000 (176,594,000); New Brunswick, 292,648,000 (210,455,000); Quebec, 1,030,919,000 (890,150,000); Ontario, 706,662,000 (639,819,000); Manitoba, 36,290,000 (29,128,000); Saskatchewan, 49,269,000 (49,538,000); and Alberta, 302,472,000 (328,537,000).

## M A N U F A C T U R I N G

Leather Footwear      With increases in all months except September and October  
Production In 1959      the production of leather footwear in 1959 amounted to a record 45,922,000 pairs, a rise of 5% over the preceding year's 43,641,000. December production amounted to 3,423,000 pairs versus 3,320,000 a year earlier.

Year's production totals were larger in size groups for men, boys, youths, and women and growing girls, and smaller for misses, children, and babies and infants. The totals: men, 10,050,000 pairs (9,407,000 in 1958); boys, 1,675,000 (1,671,000); youths, 792,800 (465,900); women and growing girls, 22,402,000 (20,576,000); misses, 4,486,000 (4,650,000); children and little gents, 3,298,000 (3,337,000); and babies and infants, 3,218,000 (3,534,000).

December output by size groups: men, 775,700 (748,500 in December 1958); boys, 116,800 (136,300); youths, 68,800 (35,200); women and growing girls, 1,608,200 (1,524,200); misses, 348,900 (342,600); children and little gents, 264,800 (261,000); and babies and infants, 239,600 (272,000). (11)

Shipments Of Rolled Carbon Steel      Net shipments of rolled carbon steel products  
Products Sharply Greater In 1959      in the year 1959 amounted to 4,301,892 tons, nearly one-third larger than the 1958 total of 3,245,735 tons. Disposition of shipments to the 10 leading consumers in the year were: building construction, 884,036 tons (599,837 in 1958); pipes and tubes, 534,316 (461,297); wholesalers and warehouses, 513,589 (316,141); merchant trade products, 459,374 (318,875); railway operating 393,018 (317,376); container industry, 391,262 (320,899); pressing, forming and stamping, 234,035 (177,371); automotive industries, 218,066 (137,269); direct export, 195,049 (216,691); and machinery and tools, 156,244 (136,596). (12)

Weekly Steel Ingot Output      Production of steel ingots in the week ended February 20 this year amounted to a record 135,875 tons, up 3.9% from the week-earlier total of 130,750 tons and 26% from the year-earlier figure of 107,960 tons, according to a special DBS statement. Canada's steel mills operated in the week at 105.1% of rated capacity (6,719,000 tons as at January 1, 1960) compared to 101.2% in the previous week and 88.9% of the rated capacity (6,313,000 tons as at January 1, 1959) in the same week last year.

Shipments Of Asphalt And Vinyl-Asbestos Floor Tile      Shipments of asphalt floor tile in January this year were one-quarter smaller than a year earlier at 1,224,369 square feet versus 1,634,594, while shipments of vinyl-asbestos floor tile were nearly one-fifth larger at 4,455,902 square feet against 3,742,355. (13)

Shipments of Hard Board      Shipments of hard board in January this year decreased 11.6% to 18,397,783 square feet from 20,806,429 a year ago, a slight increase in domestic shipments to 14,934,655 square feet from 13,864,521 being more than offset by a sharp decline in export shipments to 3,463,128 square feet from 6,941,908. Total shipments were larger than a year earlier for hard board (not tempered or treated) but smaller for tempered or treated hard board and semi-hard board. (14)

Sugar Refining Industry      Shipments of sugar from Canadian refineries increased 6.8% in volume in 1958 to a record 1,621,357,000 pounds from 1,518,015,000 in 1957 and were 3.8% above the previous high of 1,562,469,000 pounds in 1956. The value declined 12.1% to \$131,434,000 from 1957's all-time peak of \$149,579,000. Shipments of refined cane sugar reached a new peak in volume at 1,321,061,000 pounds versus 1,274,769,000 in the preceding year, but the value was smaller at \$104,221,000 versus \$125,093,000. Shipments of refined beet sugar were at a record volume of 300,296,000 pounds against 243,246,000 a year earlier and at a new peak value of \$27,213,000 versus \$24,486,000.

Volume of shipments in 1958 was larger for granulated, yellow or brown, icing (starch added), including pulverized (no starch added), and loaf sugar, while the values were smaller.

Shipments in 1957 were: granulated, 1,393,526,000 pounds valued at \$111,992,000 (1,298,661,000 valued at \$125,995,000 in 1957); yellow or brown, 133,182,000 pounds valued at \$10,536,000 (124,923,000 worth \$12,748,000); icing (starch added), including pulverized (no starch added), 81,693,000 pounds valued at \$7,479,000 (81,657,000 worth \$8,995,000); and loaf, 12,956,000 pounds valued at \$1,427,000 (12,774,000 worth \$1,841,000).

Number of establishments in 1958 was unchanged from 1957 at 11, but employees declined to 3,270 from 3,306 and their salaries and wages increased to \$12,673,000 from \$12,134,000. Cost of materials decreased to \$91,854,000 from \$112,378,000, while fuel and electricity costs rose to \$3,131,000 from \$3,078,000 and value added by manufacture to \$42,385,000 from \$40,924,000. (15)



Macaroni & Kindred Products Industry Value of factory shipments in the macaroni and kindred products industry reached a record total of \$15,851,000 in 1958, larger by 19.2% than 1957's previous high of \$13,294,000, according to the Bureau's annual industry report. Number of establishments rose to 19 from 18 in 1957, and the number of employees advanced 12.4% to 778 from 692 and their salaries and wages almost 20% to \$2,187,000 from \$1,825,000. Cost of materials increased 25% to \$8,746,000 from \$6,995,000 and value added by manufacture nearly 13% to \$6,811,000 from \$6,038,000.

Shipments of macaroni, spaghetti, vermicelli and noodles climbed over 25% in volume to a record 112,849,000 pounds from 89,867,000 in the preceding year, and were almost treble 1944's low total of 44,425,000. Value of these shipments rose over 20% to a peak of \$14,658,000 from \$12,147,000 a year earlier and was six times larger than the low total of \$2,251,000 in 1942. (16)

Iron & Steel Products Industries Factory selling value of products made by Canada's iron and steel products industries rose 5.6% in 1957 to \$2,912,148,000 from \$2,756,769,000 in 1956, according to the Bureau's annual general review of the industries. Net value of production increased 3.2% to \$1,476,346,000 from \$1,429,985,000 in the preceding year. Number of establishments rose to 3,073 from 2,963 in 1956, employees to 198,555 from 196,918, salaries and wages to \$807,093,000 from \$766,376,000 and cost of materials to \$1,386,921,000 from \$1,315,814,000.

Provincial factory selling values in order of size in 1957 were (in thousands): Ontario, \$1,933,768 (\$1,821,034 in 1956); Quebec, \$593,096 (\$566,429); British Columbia and the Yukon, \$145,188 (\$140,289); Nova Scotia, \$81,544 (\$76,547); Alberta, \$68,254 (\$55,287); Manitoba, \$66,553 (\$72,774); New Brunswick, \$12,667 (\$14,062); Saskatchewan, \$8,624 (\$8,026); Newfoundland, \$2,303 (\$2,137); and Prince Edward Island, \$152 (\$184). (17)

## CONSUMER CREDIT

Balances Higher At End 1959 Balances outstanding on the books of sales finance companies at the end of December 1959 amounted to \$1,133,600,000, down 0.6% from the November 30 total of \$1,139,900,000 but up 10.5% from the December 31, 1958 figure of \$1,025,600,000.

December 31 balances on consumer goods were \$795,700,000, down 1.3% from the month-earlier total of \$806,500,000 but up 3.6% from the year-earlier total of \$768,200,000. Month-end balances on commercial goods were \$337,900,000, up 1.4% from \$333,400,000 at November 30 and 31.3% from \$257,400,000 at December 31, 1958.

Cash personal loans and instalment credit held by companies licensed under the Small Loans Act advanced to \$479,100,000 at December 31, 1959 from \$466,500,000 at November 30 and \$400,900,000 at the close of 1958. Accounts receivable held by department stores at the end of 1959 rose to \$314,300,000 from the month-earlier total of \$281,200,000 and the year-earlier total of \$281,800,000. (18)

Carloadings In Week Ending February 14 Cars of railway revenue freight loaded on lines in Canada in the seven days ended February 14 numbered 66,198, up slightly (0.8%) from last year's comparable total of 65,642. Loadings in the January 1 - February 14 period declined 2.5% to 401,814 cars from 412,222 a year ago. Receipts from connections increased in the seven-day period to 30,567 cars from 28,074 and in the cumulative period to 186,135 cars from 169,102. Flat cars loaded in piggyback services numbered 2,417 in the week, placing the year-to-date total at 14,377 cars. (19)

Transit Systems Carried Fewer Passengers In 1959 Continuing the downward trend of recent years, both urban and intercity and rural transit systems carried fewer passengers in 1959 than in 1958, while revenues were higher. Fewer passengers were carried in December as compared to a year earlier, while total revenue was slightly smaller for urban transit systems but slightly larger for intercity and rural bus lines.

Urban transit systems in 1959 carried 1,050,232,992 passengers, down by 2.8% from the 1958 total of 1,080,091,178, while total revenue rose 2.9 % to \$135,817,798 from the year-earlier total of \$132,005,786. Passengers carried by electric car decreased to 207,596,315 from 251,720,601 in the preceding year, by trolley coach to 201,346,742 from 214,249,082 and by chartered service to 7,903,787 from 8,097,418, while number carried by motor bus increased to 633,386,148 from 606,024,077.

Intercity and rural bus systems transported 2.4% fewer people in 1959 compared to 1958 at 48,827,212 versus 50,034,888, but total earnings were 1.5% greater at \$39,996,121 against \$39,412,512. Number of passengers carried in regular service in the year declined to 45,507,634 from 46,869,833, but those transported in chartered service rose to 3,319,578 from 3,165,055. (20 & 21)

Oil Pipe Line Transport In 1959 Net deliveries of oil through Canadian pipe lines increased 12.3% in 1959 to a record 308,454,005 barrels from 274,772,792 in 1958 and were 6.0% greater than the previous high of 290,857,612 barrels in 1957, according to the December issue of the Bureau's monthly report "Oil Pipe Line Transport". The current total is over six times greater than the figure of 50,654,282 barrels reported in 1950 when data were first collected. December 1959 deliveries advanced 11.2% to a monthly peak of 28,847,321 barrels from 25,940,106 in the same month of 1958 and were 1.8% above the previous high of 28,336,051 barrels in January 1959.

Provincial net deliveries were greater in 1959 than in 1958 for all and were at record level in all areas except British Columbia where the peak of 56,535,164 barrels was reached in 1957. Provincial totals in 1959 were: British Columbia, 35,857,162 barrels (29,565,915 in 1958); Alberta, 22,741,019 (16,150,606); Saskatchewan, 18,509,119 (16,289,000); Manitoba, 101,281,559 (90,963,180); Ontario, 45,693,356 (43,256,943); and Quebec, 84,371,790 (78,547,073); Included in Manitoba deliveries were 90,304,375 barrels (80,334,345 in 1958) transferred to the Lakehead Pipe Line Company at Gretna, the bulk of which moved through the United States destined to Ontario refineries. (22)



Natural Gas Deliveries Net deliveries of natural gas through Canadian pipe  
Jumped in December lines in December amounted to a record for any month  
of 25,976,662,000 cubic feet, up 12.2% from the November  
total of 23,150,508,000 and were 6.1% greater than January's previous high of  
24,486,915,000 cubic feet. This brought net deliveries in the full year 1959 to  
232,775,199,000 cubic feet; comparable data for earlier years are not available.  
(23)

## LABOUR

Unemployment Insurance Claims & Benefit Claimants for unemployment insurance  
benefit numbered 782,500 on January 29,  
larger by 14% than the December 31 total of 685,700 and slightly smaller than the  
January 30, 1959 total of 785,100, DBS reports in an advance statement. Seasonal  
benefit claimants included in these totals were as follows: 177,100 on January  
29, 116,500 on December 31, 1959, and 203,000 on January 30, 1959.

Initial and renewal claims filed during January totalled 306,600, a decline  
of 31% from the December claim load of 441,600, and also slightly below last  
year's January total of 317,500 claims. The failure rate on initial claims pro-  
cessed during January was 11.2%, unchanged from January last year but slightly  
below the December figure of 14.0%.

Benefit payments amounting to \$54.3 million during January were substanti-  
ally above the \$32.7 million paid out in December but slightly lower than the  
\$58.7 million paid out during January 1959.

## PRICES

Security Price Indexes

	<u>February 18</u>	<u>February 11</u>	<u>January 21</u>
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>		1935-39 = 100	
Total common stocks ....	248.0	252.7	258.3
Industrials .....	255.9	260.9	266.2
Utilities .....	185.8	188.0	191.6
Banks .....	313.3	320.8	333.2
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
Total mining stocks ....	110.9	110.9	114.2
Golds .....	82.6	82.4	82.4
Base metals .....	175.8	176.3	187.1

## HOSPITALS

List of Canadian Hospitals The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released the  
1959 edition of this annual list, which contains  
information on every hospital in operation during the year. It gives the name  
and location for each, type of service, ownership, numbers of beds and bassinets  
and data on certain special facilities. (24)

(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 - 63-007: New Motor Vehicle Sales & Motor Vehicle Financing, December, 10¢/\$1.00
- 2 - 63-002: Department Store Sales & Stocks, December, 10¢/\$1.00
- 3 - 63-210: Retail Chain Stores, 1958, 50¢
- 4 - 63-411: Operating Results & Financial Structure - Independent General Stores, 1958, 50¢
- 5 - 26-005: Iron Ore, December, 10¢/\$1.00
- 6 - 26-002: Preliminary Report on Coal Production, January, 10¢/\$1.00
- 7 - 26-006: Crude Petroleum & Natural Gas Production, November, 10¢/\$1.00
- 8 - 22-005: The Wheat Review, January, 30¢/\$3.00
- 9 - 22-004: Grain Statistics Weekly, February 3, 10¢/\$3.00
- 10 - 23-006: Report on the Poultry Survey, December 1, 1959, 25¢/50¢
- 11 - 33-002: Production of Leather Footwear, December, 20¢/\$2.00
- 12 - 41-001: Primary Iron & Steel, December, 30¢/\$3.00
- 13 - 47-001: Asphalt & Vinyl-Asbestos Floor Tile, January, 10¢/\$1.00
- 14 - 36-001: Hard Board, January, 10¢/\$1.00
- 15 - 32-222: Sugar Refining Industry, 1958, 50¢
- 16 - 32-219: Macaroni & Kindred Products Industry, 1958, 25¢
- 17 - 41-201: Iron & Steel Products, General Review, 1957, 50¢
- 18 - 61-004: Credit Statistics (Selected Holders), December, 10¢/\$1.00
- 19 - 52-001: Carloadings on Canadian Railways, February 14, 10¢/\$3.00
- 20 - 53-002: Passenger Bus Statistics (Intercity & Rural), December, 10¢/\$1.00
- 21 - 53-003: Urban Transit, December, 10¢/\$1.00
- 22 - 55-001: Oil Pipe Line Transport, December, 20¢/\$2.00
- 23 - 55-002: Gas Pipe Line Transport, December, 20¢/\$2.00
- 24 - 83-201: List of Canadian Hospitals & Related Health Facilities, 1959, 75¢
- - 24-001: Fish Freezings & Stocks, January, 20¢/\$2.00 -- Summarized in issue of February 19
- - 65-003: Articles Exported To Each Country, 12 Months Ended December 1959, \$1.00/\$4.00
- - 65-007: Imports, October & 10 Months Ended October 1959, 75¢/\$7.50
- - 72-004: Federal Government Employment, September 1959, 30¢/\$3.00 -- Summarized in issue of February 19

Prepared in Press and Publicity Section, Information Services Division

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Subscription orders for periodical reports should be addressed to the Information Services Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa. Orders for single copies may be sent to the Queen's Printer, Ottawa.

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Hospital Staffs Full-time employees of Canada's public hospitals in 1958 totalled 131,900 persons, or about 177 for every 100 patients. Of these 20% were graduate nurses.

Feature Films New film releases for theatrical booking in 1958 included 831 features, of which 436 originated in the United States, 123 in the United Kingdom, 102 in Italy, 100 in France and 70 in other countries.

Movies Per capita expenditure on motion picture theatre entertainment in 1958 dropped to \$5.21 from \$5.46 in 1957 and the record \$8.30 in 1953. Provincial averages were between \$2.42 for Prince Edward Island and \$6.40 for Alberta.

Sand & Gravel Production of sand and gravel in 1959 amounted to a record total of 177,765,000 tons, larger by 11% than the preceding year's 160,211,000 tons.

Macaroni Shipments of macaroni, spaghetti, vermicelli and noodles by 19 producers in 1958 amounted to a record total of 112,849,000 pounds valued at \$14,658,000 as compared with 89,867,000 pounds valued at \$12,147,000 in 1957.

Chain Stores There were 509 retail chain store firms operating in Canada during 1958 with 9,604 outlets and sales totalling \$3,073,147,000. Compared with 1957 there was a net increase of 16 firms, ~~347 stores~~ and ~~8.3% in sales~~.

Fox & Mink Foods Producers shipped 9,309 tons of fox and mink foods in 1959, a small increase over the preceding year's 9,087 tons.

Street Lighting Electric fixtures for street lighting were shipped by producers to the value of \$4,133,000 in 1958, little changed from the preceding year but 15% larger than in 1956.

Loaf Sugar Some 13,185,000 pounds of loaf sugar were produced in Canadian refineries in 1958, an increase of 5% over 1957. Top figure was 13,880,000 pounds in 1947.

Bus Traffic Intercity and rural bus companies carried 48,827,000 revenue passengers in 1959, a decrease of 1,208,000 from 1958, while vehicle miles increased 123,000 to 80,734,000.

Urban Transit Urban transit systems carried 1,050,000,000 passengers in 1959, close to 30,000,000 fewer than in 1958. Motor buses carried 4% more passengers and accounted for about three-fifths of the total. Fewer were carried by electric cars and trolley coaches.

Motorcycles Showing a steady decrease from the 1950 peak, registrations of motorcycles fell 3% in 1958 to 33,873 from 34,910 in 1957. In 1950 there were 43,670. The further drop in 1958 placed the current total at about the same level as in 1948.



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