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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

External Trade: Canada's commodity exports were sharply higher in value in January this year than last, while the value of commodity imports was slightly smaller. The result was an excess of exports over imports, the third in successive months. The month's overall trend in exports and imports was paralleled in trade with the United States, the import surplus with that country falling to less than half a year earlier. (Page 2)

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Manufacturing: Manufacturers' shipments in 1959 are estimated at a record \$23,238 million, over 7% higher than in 1958 and 5% above the previous peak in 1956. Unfilled orders at the end of the year were an estimated 6% higher than a year earlier. New orders during 1959 were running higher than in the previous year and were 11% higher in each of the second, third and fourth quarters ... Motor vehicle shipments in January were up 15% in number over January last year ... Tax-paid withdrawals of cigarettes for consumption set a new record in 1959 at 33,822,125,000, an increase of 4.3% over the previous peak in 1958. (Pages 3-5)

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Housing: Number of new dwelling units completed during January in urban centres of 5,000 and over was somewhat larger than a year ago, while the number started continued the downward trend of 1959. There were 8% fewer under construction at the end of the month than a year earlier. (Page 8)

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Labour: Total wages, salaries and other labour income of paid workers in 1959 rose nearly 8% to an estimated \$17,717,000,000 from \$16,434,000,000 in 1958. There were increases in all regions, these ranging narrowly from 7.3% to 8.9%. (Page 8)

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Agriculture: Fluid milk sales were larger in every month of 1959 except May than in 1958 to make a small increase of 2% for the year. The increase was spread through all provinces with gains varying only from 1% to 3%. (Page 11)

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Divorce: Preliminary figures show a small decline in the number of divorces granted in Canada last year to 6,222 from 6,279 in 1958. Both totals are below 1957 but larger than in any preceding year since 1948. On the other hand, the rate per 100,000 population in 1959 at an estimated 35.7 is the lowest for any post-war year. (Page 12)

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Commodity Imports And
Exports In January

Canada's commodity exports showed a substantial increase in January as compared with the corresponding month last year, while imports decreased slightly, resulting in an excess of exports over imports for the third successive month, according to preliminary figures compiled on a new basis**released by DBS. Exports were larger in value to the United States, the United Kingdom and all other foreign countries but smaller to the rest of the Commonwealth, while imports were larger from the United Kingdom and smaller in total from all other countries.

Total exports in January were valued at \$421,900,000, higher than in any previous January and an increase of slightly more than 21% over last year's corresponding total of \$348,000,000. Imports in the month were valued at an estimated \$396,500,000, slightly below 1959's like total of \$403,300,000. Thus the excess of exports over imports was \$25,400,000 as compared with an excess of imports over exports of \$55,300,000 in January 1959.

Exports to the United States rose in January to \$249,200,000 from \$198,600,000 in the corresponding month last year, while imports fell slightly to \$280,500,000 from \$284,900,000, resulting in a decrease in the excess of imports over exports to \$31,300,000 from \$86,300,000 in the same month last year. Total exports to the United Kingdom rose to \$68,700,000 from \$55,300,000 and estimated imports to \$41,400,000 from \$34,700,000; the export surplus was larger at \$27,300,000 versus \$20,600,000.

Total exports in January to all other Commonwealth countries decreased slightly to \$22,100,000 from \$24,900,000 a year earlier and estimated imports to \$12,100,000 from \$14,200,000. Exports to all other foreign countries rose to \$82,000,000 from \$69,200,000, while imports from the group fell to \$62,400,000 from \$69,500,000.

The preliminary figures for January, with comparative figures for 1959, are summarized in the table following. Detailed country and commodity figures for exports will be issued shortly, but those for imports will not be available for several weeks.

	<u>Month of January</u>			
	<u>Exports</u>		<u>Imports</u>	
	1959	1960	1959	1960*
	Millions of Dollars			
United Kingdom	55.3	68.7	34.7	41.4
Other Commonwealth countries .	24.9	22.1	14.2	12.1
United States	198.6	249.2	284.9	280.5
All other countries	69.2	82.0	69.5	62.4
Totals	348.0	421.9	403.3	396.5

Note: Figures may not add due to rounding. * Estimate only for 1960

** The statistics contained in this release are not directly comparable with those previously published. Effective January 1, 1960, certain special and non-commercial transactions have been excluded from export and import totals in order to increase the comparability of these series with each other and with the adjusted totals used in balance of payments calculations. A full description of these changes will be published in the January issues of the detailed Trade of Canada: Exports and Trade of Canada; Imports.

Manufacturers' Shipments
At Record Value in 1959

Manufacturers' shipments in December were valued at \$1,892 million, just less than 3% lower than the revised November total of \$1,948 million, according to advance DBS figures. December shipments have fallen each year from 1955 but the 1959 decrease was appreciably less than usual.

Shipments in the year 1959 are estimated at a record \$23,238 million, over 7% higher than the preceding year's \$21,656 million and almost 5% above the previous peak of \$22,178 million in 1956. Shipments in the fourth quarter of 1959 were valued at \$5,942 million, 8% higher than last year's like total of \$5,494 million. The peak level of shipments in 1959, as in 1958, was reached in the second quarter; second quarter shipments in 1959 were \$6,091 million, 8% higher than the second quarter shipments in 1958 valued at \$5,640 million.

Inventories owned at the end of December were valued at \$4,065 million, up nearly 2% from the revised November total of \$3,997 million. Inventory held but not owned fell between November and December, and total inventory held at the end of December at \$4,389 million was just over 1% higher than at the end of November.

Goods in process inventory which contain the major part of inventory held but not owned dropped by less than one-half of 1% to \$1,154 million from \$1,159 million at the end of November and 6.9% from \$1,226 million a year earlier. Inventories of finished products reached a new peak of \$1,262 million at the end of December, being 1.4% above the November figure of \$1,244 million and 5% higher than the 1958 year-end total of \$1,197 million. Inventories of raw materials were up to \$1,973 million from \$1,939 million a month earlier and \$1,935 million a year earlier.

The ratio of total inventory owned at the end of December to the value of shipments in December was up to 2.15 as compared with the revised ratio of 2.05 in November, reflecting both the decline in shipments and the increase in inventory owned. A similar increase showed up in the ratio of finished products inventory to shipments, which rose from 0.64 in November to 0.67 in December.

The steady upward trend in unfilled orders on manufacturers' books during 1959 continued in December to reach \$2,167 million, 6% higher than the year-earlier total of \$2,039 million. The decline from the peak of \$3,067 million on the books at the end of January 1957 reflects both the lower level of new orders and the increase in shipments. New orders during 1959 have been running higher than in the previous year, particularly in the last three quarters when they were 11% higher each quarter than in the corresponding quarter of 1958.

Manufacturers' Shipments by Provinces - Estimates of the value of manufacturers' shipments by province of origin show increases last November compared to November 1958 in all ten provinces. Increases ranged from 1.9% in British Columbia and Saskatchewan to 10.5% in Newfoundland. There were increases of 9.9% in Alberta, 8.0% in Ontario, 7.7% in Manitoba, 7.4% in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, 7.0% in Quebec and 5.4% in New Brunswick.

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The increase in Newfoundland was due almost entirely to increases in the wood and paper products industries; in Alberta the increase was due to increases in the foods and beverages, paper products, petroleum products and chemical products industries; and in Ontario to increased shipments in iron and steel products, non-ferrous metal products, paper products and foods and beverages industries. The all-Canada total in November was over 7% higher than in the same month of 1958.

Data for January-November 1959 showed gains over the same period of the previous year in all provinces and the all-Canada increase was over 7%.

Weekly Steel Ingot Output Production of steel ingots in the week ended February 27 declined 4.0% to 130,467 tons from the preceding week's all-time high of 135,875 tons, according to a special DBS statement. Output in the corresponding 1959 week was 103,812 tons. Canada's steel mills operated in the week at 100.9% of rated capacity (6,719,000 tons as at January 1, 1960) compared to 105.1% in the previous week and 85.5% of the rated capacity (6,313,000 tons as at January 1, 1959) in the same week last year.

Motor Vehicle Shipments In January Canadian producers shipped 15.5% more motor vehicles in January than in the corresponding month last year, gains being posted for both passenger and commercial units. Month's total shipments amounted to 38,808 units versus 33,610 a year earlier, comprising 32,324 passenger cars versus 29,617, and 6,484 commercial vehicles versus 3,993. Shipments of vehicles imported from the United States increased to 2,712 units from 2,255.

Shipments of passenger cars for sale in Canada rose in January to 30,496 units from 28,738 a year earlier, while units shipped for export increased to 1,828 units from 879. Of the month's shipments of commercial vehicles 6,367 units were for sale in Canada versus 3,836 and 117 units were for export versus 157. (1)

Rigid Insulating Board Shipments of rigid insulating board in January increased 27% to 25,794,343 square feet from 20,314,886 a year ago. Domestic shipments were one-fifth larger at 22,701,609 square feet versus 19,020,805 and export shipments more than double at 3,092,734 square feet versus 1,294,081. Month's total shipments were larger than a year ago for building board panels, asphalted sheathing board, roof insulation board and decorative board but smaller for "other" board. (2)

Veneers & Plywoods Shipments of veneers in 1959 increased 13.3% to 838,286,000 square feet from 739,862,000 in 1958, according to the December issue of the Bureau's monthly report "Peeler Logs, Veneers and Plywoods". December shipments were down to 62,946,000 square feet from 63,070,000 in the same month of 1958. December 31 stocks amounted to 45,649,000 square feet compared to 33,771,000 at the close of 1958, an increase of over 35%.

Shipments of plywoods in 1959 fell 1.1% to 1,480,358,000 square feet from 1,496,351,000 in the preceding year. December shipments climbed to 137,731,000 square feet from 106,872,000 a year earlier. End-of-1959 stocks totalled 74,637,000 square feet versus 77,334,000, a decrease of 3.5%. (3)

Mineral Wool Shipments Shipments in January were larger this year than last for mineral wool batts and granulated wool, but smaller for bulk or loose wool. Month's shipments of batts increased to 16,496,132 square feet from 13,338,137 a year ago and granulated wool to 734,139 cubic feet from 721,131, while shipments of bulk or loose wool dropped to 64,715 cubic feet from 71,240. (4)

Tax-Paid Withdrawals Of Cigarettes At Peak Level Tax-paid withdrawals of cigarettes for consumption, as indicated by the sale of excise revenue stamps, increased 4.3% in 1959 to a record 33,822,125,000 from 32,404,186,000 in 1958 (previous peak). Withdrawals of cigars declined 3.7% to 311,277,000 from 323,124,000 in the preceding year and cut tobacco rose 3.0% to 21,886,000 pounds from 21,251,000, snuff 5.2% to 824,000 pounds from 783,000 and raw leaf 0.2% to 1,042,000 pounds from 1,040,000.

Stocks of unmanufactured tobacco at the end of 1959 amounted to 178,077,-666 pounds, larger by 18.0% than the 150,964,927 pounds held at the close of 1958. End-of-year holdings of flue-cured tobacco increased to 157,396,333 pounds from 131,586,306 a year earlier, burley tobacco to 9,429,527 pounds from 6,532,233, pipe tobacco to 1,261,350 pounds from 1,244,940 and "other" tobaccos to 1,041,289 pounds from 971,895. Stocks of dark (air-fire cured) tobacco decreased to 1,371,629 pounds from 1,642,388 and cigar tobacco to 7,577,538 pounds from 8,987,165. (5)

Dealers' Stocks of Non-Ferrous Scrap Metals At The End Of 1959 Dealers' stocks were larger at the end of 1959 than at the end of 1958 for the aluminum group, the copper group and the tin-lead group, but smaller for the magnesium group, the nickel group and the zinc group. Year-end stocks were (end-of-1958 totals in brackets): aluminum, 2,718,249 pounds (2,403,441); copper, 13,225,864 (9,982,772); tin-lead, 6,067,320 (5,-762,989); magnesium, 19,015 (29,453); nickel, 511,128 (533,132); and zinc, 2,-960,267 (4,401,807). (6)

Refined Petroleum Products Production of refined petroleum products in December increased 7.0% to 23,662,534 barrels from 22,105,475 in the same month of 1958. Refineries used 6.2% more crude in the month at 23,276,258 barrels versus 21,926,297 a year earlier and received 7.5% more crude at 23,601,478 barrels against 21,949,585. Receipts comprised 7.3% more domestic crude at 13,695,923 barrels versus 12,767,607 and 7.9% more imported crude at 9,905,555 barrels against 9,181,978.

Net sales of liquid petroleum fuels in December 1959 were (like 1958 totals in brackets): naphtha specialties, 111,600 barrels (118,116); aviation gasoline, 290,998 (272,876); motor gasoline, 7,641,040 (7,343,421); aviation turbo fuel, 340,977 (309,209); tractor fuel, kerosene and stove oil, 2,287,556 (3,071,755); diesel fuel, 2,025,489 (1,947,321); light fuel oil, 9,502,931 (10,459,276); and heavy fuel oil, 5,620,592 (5,046,824). (7)

January Sugar Situation Production of refined beet and cane sugar in January was one-quarter smaller than in the corresponding 1959 month at 80,933,000 pounds versus 107,859,000, while sales were only 7% below last year at 97,639,000 pounds against 104,947,000. Company-held stocks at the end of January amounted to 327,489,000 pounds, a decrease of 13.7% from the year-earlier total of 379,379,000 pounds.

Month's receipts of raw cane sugar were almost one-third smaller than a year ago at 47,255,000 pounds versus 68,889,000, and meltings and sales were also nearly one-third under last year at 73,595,000 pounds against 108,406,000. End-of-January company-held stocks were close to one-third greater at 293,727,000 pounds versus 225,861,000. (8)

Production of Carbonated Beverages Production of carbonated beverages in January amounted to 9,718,889 gallons, an increase of 3.3% over last year's corresponding total of 9,406,504 gallons. (9)

Flour Milling Industry Reversing the downward trend begun in 1952, value of factory shipments in Canada's flour milling industry increased in 1958 by 6.8% to \$218,321,000 from \$204,376,000 in 1957 but was over 22% below 1951's all-time high of \$280,867,000, according to the Bureau's annual industry report. Number of establishments fell to 71 from 73 in 1957, employees to 4,412 from 4,417, while salaries and wages increased to \$15,949,000 from \$15,214,000, cost of materials to \$173,438,000 from \$168,635,000 and value added by manufacture to \$43,365,000 from \$34,189,000.

Shipments of enriched and non-enriched flour in 1958 increased to \$169,642,000 from \$157,493,000 in 1957, bran, shorts and middlings to \$26,833,000 from \$26,791,000 and prepared cake mixes to \$5,181,000 from \$3,829,000. Shipments of rolled oats decreased to \$7,359,000 from \$7,401,000.

Value of shipments from plants in Manitoba in 1958 declined to \$19,604,000 from \$20,262,000 in 1957, but increased from a year earlier in all other provinces. Totals were: Quebec, \$38,954,000 (\$38,500,000 in 1957); Ontario, \$87,347,000 (\$79,711,000); Saskatchewan and British Columbia, \$41,255,000 (\$39,385,000); and Alberta, \$31,161,000 (\$26,518,000). (10)

TRANSPORTATION

Railway Carloadings Cars of railway revenue freight loaded on lines in Canada in the seven days ended February 21 numbered 66,080, up slightly (0.4%) from the year-earlier total of 65,788. This brought loadings in the January 1 - February 21 period to 467,824 cars, some 2.1% below last year's like total of 478,010. Receipts from connections advanced in the seven days to 30,257 cars from 28,796 and in the cumulative period to 216,325 cars from 197,898. Flat cars loaded in piggyback services numbered 2,389 in the week and 16,766 since the beginning of the year. (11)

Department Store Sales Department store sales in the week ended February 20 were 0.9% smaller than in the comparable week last year, according to a special DBS statement. Increases of 11.8% in the Atlantic Provinces, 1.4% in Manitoba, 0.4% in Alberta and 3.9% in British Columbia were more than offset by decreases of 7.3% in Quebec, 2.8% in Ontario and 9.4% in Saskatchewan.

M O V I E T H E A T R E S

Attendances Drop In 1958 Expenditures on motion picture theatre entertainment continued to drop in 1958, the year's total (including taxes) falling 2% to \$88,848,000 from \$90,547,000 in the preceding year and by more than one-quarter from the 1953 all-time peak of \$120,198,000, DBS reports. The per capita figure dropped to \$5.21 from \$5.48 in 1957 and the record \$8.30 in 1953.

The drop in expenditures was accompanied by an even larger fall in the number of paid admissions which at 146,484,000 reached the lowest level since the 1930's. Admissions were down 6.5% from 156,701,000 in 1957 and more than two-fifths below the 1952 record of 256,112,000. The next lowest attendance, which included patrons of community enterprises, not covered since 1956, was 137,899,000 in 1939.

Number of regular motion picture theatres declined in 1958 to 1,622 from 1,716 in the preceding year, receipts from admissions to \$75,139,000 from \$76,486,000, amusement taxes to \$6,951,000 from \$7,815,000, and number of paid admissions to 136,335,000 from 146,756,000. Highest recorded total for admissions was 247,733,000 in 1952.

Except for 1954 when a peak of \$6,317,000 was reached, receipts of drive-in theatres at \$6,254,000 in 1958 were the highest on record. In 1957 the total was \$5,725,000. Amusement taxes were \$504,000 in 1958, \$520,000 in 1957 and \$722,000 in 1954. The number of paid admissions increased to 10,149,000 in 1958 from 9,946,000 in 1957 and compared with a peak total of 12,380,000 in 1954. Number of drive-in theatres in 1958 was 232 versus 229 in 1957.

Revenue from sources other than sales of admission tickets to regular motion picture theatres in 1958 amounted to \$11,954,000 (\$12,097,000 in 1957), and included \$11,121,000 from sales of candy, drinks, cigarettes, etc. (\$11,315,000), \$377,000 from the rental of concessions and vending machines (\$367,000), \$76,600 from exhibiting commercial films (\$73,600), and \$380,000 from other sources (\$342,000). Similar receipts for drive-in theatres in 1958 totalled \$2,784,000 (\$2,496,000 in 1957), of which \$2,640,000 was derived from sales of candy, drinks, cigarettes, etc. (\$2,496,000 in 1957).

Total receipts of film exchanges from film rentals in 1958 fell to \$33,747,000 from \$34,154,000 in the preceding year. New film releases for theatrical booking covered 1,432 titles, of which 831 were features, 149 cartoons, 246 newsreels, and 206 other short subjects. Of the feature films, 436 originated in the United States, 100 in France, 123 in the United Kingdom, 102 in Italy, and 70 in other countries. (12)

New Residential Construction In January

Starts on the construction of new dwelling units in urban centres of

5,000 population and over in January this year declined to 3,722 units from 4,833 in the corresponding month last year, while the month's completions increased to 7,832 units from 7,349, according to advance DBS figures. Units in various stages of construction at the end of January numbered 55,734 units, a decrease of 8% from 60,423 a year earlier.

The table following shows, by provinces, the number of units started and completed in January and the number of units under construction at January 31 in centres of 5,000 population and over for both 1959 and 1960.

	<u>Started - January</u>		<u>Completed - January</u>		<u>Under Construction at January 31</u>	
	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>
Canada	3,722	4,833	7,832	7,349	55,734	60,423
Nfld.	12	24	124	20	354	567
P.E.I.	3	2	3	1	36	90
N.S.	40	31	105	142	1,304	1,000
N.B.	26	20	67	61	520	369
Que.	1,080	1,203	1,885	2,432	14,095	15,356
Ont.	1,254	2,107	2,572	2,129	23,406	24,334
Man.	152	127	546	182	3,164	2,469
Sask.	84	39	406	187	1,772	1,533
Alta.	473	377	997	935	5,418	6,395
B.C.	598	903	1,127	1,260	5,665	8,310

Note: New residential construction statistics for the whole country, including urban centres of 5,000 and over, urban centres under 5,000 and rural areas are available on a quarterly basis.

L A B O U R

Labour Income In 1959

Canada's paid workers received an estimated \$17,717,000,000 in 1959 in the form of wages and salaries and supplementary labour income compared to \$16,434,000,000 in 1958, an increase of 7.8%, according to advance DBS figures. December labour income was estimated at \$1,482,000,000, down 1.9% from the November total of \$1,511,000,000 but up 7.2% from the December 1958 figure of \$1,383,000,000. On a seasonally-adjusted basis, labour income in December was \$1,519,000,000, an increase of 1.3% from the preceding month's \$1,500,000,000.

Labour income, on the unadjusted basis, was greater in December and the January-December period as compared to the like 1958 periods in all regions. Percentage increases in the month were (full-year gains in brackets): Atlantic region, 7.6% (8.2%); Quebec, 7.3% (7.3%); Ontario, 7.0% (7.7%); Prairie region, 6.4% (8.9%); and British Columbia, 9.7% (8.0%).

Industrial Employment In December Canada's industrial composite index number of employment for December was 118.2 (1949=100), down 3% from the November figure of 121.8. Seasonal factors led to declines in all industry divisions except trade. The effect of seasonal influences on employment in durable goods manufacturing was partly offset by non-seasonal increases in the automobile industries, in which large numbers of workers had been laid off in November owing to shortages of steel. Improvements in the supply situation following settlement of strikes in the United States led to the recall of these workers in December.

Employment indexes for all provinces and for all industry divisions except transportation, storage and communication were higher in December 1959 than in December 1958. The year-to-year rise in the industrial composite index amounted to 2.1%.

The composite figure of average weekly wages and salaries for December was \$72.55. As usual, average weekly earnings were lower in the last pay period in December than in the corresponding period in November. The month-to-month decline amounted to \$1.68. Many workers were laid off or on unpaid leave towards the end of December, although most received pay for Christmas Day. The composite payroll index for December was 200.7, down 5.2% from the November figure. (13)

M I N I N G

Gold Production Slightly Smaller Production of gold in 1959 eased 1.9% to 4,483,688 fine ounces from 4,571,347 in 1958, according to the December issue of the Bureau's monthly report "Gold Production". Production was smaller in 1959 than in the preceding year in all regions except the Northwest Territories. Totals were: Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, 13,288 fine ounces (13,564 in 1958); Quebec, 997,467 (1,044,846); Ontario, 2,678,488 (2,716,514); Prairie Provinces, 131,277 (174,228); British Columbia, 191,386 (210,612); Yukon, 66,958 (67,745); and the Northwest Territories, 404,824 (343,838). (14)

Shipments Of Uranium Precipitates In 1958 Producers' shipments of uranium precipitates more than doubled in 1958, rising in volume to 26,805,232 pounds from 13,271,414 in 1957 and in value to \$279,538,471 from \$136,304,364, according to the Bureau's annual report on the miscellaneous metal mining industry. Both volume and value totals were six times greater than the corresponding 1956 totals.

The report contains statistical data on aluminum, antimony, beryllium, bismuth, calcium, cerium, magnesium, mercury, molybdenum, selenium, tellurium, tin, titanium, vanadium and zirconium. In addition to particulars relating to these metals or minerals, the report contains notes of a summary nature on aluminum, beryllium, vanadium and a few of the rarer metals. (15)

Contract Drilling In 1958 Footage drilled by contract diamond drilling of deposits other than fuels amounted to a recorded low of 4,426,594 feet compared to 6,296,128 in 1957 and the record high of 7,840,670 feet in 1956. Some 48 firms (63 in 1957) had income from drilling of \$14,419,623 (\$21,221,593), and employed 1,717 persons (2,951) whose salaries and wages totalled \$6,921,761 (\$10,831,483).

Drilling for fuels engaged 105 contractors in 1958, down 10 from 1957. Other significant figures for the year were: gross income from drilling, \$69,344,896 (\$75,632,962 in 1957); average number of employees, 5,261 (5,468); and salaries and wages paid, \$24,079,834 (\$25,744,889). (16)

Production Of Leading Minerals In 1959 Production was larger in 1959 than in the preceding year for most of Canada's leading minerals, increases being posted for asbestos, cement, clay products, copper, gypsum, iron ore, lime, nickel, salt, silver and uranium. Lower totals were recorded for coal, gold, lead and zinc.

Totals for minerals showing increases in 1959 were: asbestos, 1,050,703 tons (925,331 in 1958); cement, 6,285,389 tons (6,153,421); clay products, \$43,395,167 (\$41,694,738); copper, 399,406 tons (345,114); gypsum, 5,854,261 tons (3,964,129); iron ore, 24,443,850 tons (15,726,323); lime, 1,697,023 tons (1,596,422); nickel, 186,341 tons (139,559); salt, 3,272,750 tons (2,375,192); silver, 31,927,054 fine ounces (31,163,470); and uranium, 31,807,541 pounds (26,965,144).

Year's output of coal fell to 10,586,233 tons from 11,687,110 in 1958, gold to 4,483,688 troy ounces from 4,571,347, lead to 181,610 tons from 186,680, and zinc to 396,175 tons from 425,099. In the first eleven months of 1959 the production of crude petroleum rose to 167,664,000 barrels from 149,889,000 a year earlier and natural gas to 385,015,942,000 cubic feet from 295,436,451,000. (17)

Crude Petroleum Industry In 1958 Production of crude petroleum in 1958 declined 9.0% to 165,496,000 barrels from the 1957 record total of 181,848,000 barrels and the value fell 12.1% to \$398,748,000 from 1957's high of \$453,594,000, according to the Bureau's detailed annual report on the "Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry". Number of operating wells in 1958 advanced 8.0% to a record 16,147 from the previous high of 14,946 in the preceding year.

Apparent supply of crude petroleum in 1958 was at a near-record total of 237,856,000 barrels, little changed from the 1957 all-time high of 238,079,000 barrels. This takes into account domestic production of 165,496,000 barrels versus 181,848,000 in 1957, imports of 104,039,000 barrels versus 111,905,000 and exports of 31,679,000 barrels versus 55,674,000.

Value of production was up from the preceding year in Ontario, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories but down in the other areas. Totals were: New Brunswick, \$21,300 (\$27,200 in 1957); Ontario, \$2,623,000 (\$2,160,000); Manitoba, \$14,415,700 (\$15,467,900); Saskatchewan, \$96,704,900 (\$79,325,100); Alberta, \$283,262,600 (\$355,555,100); British Columbia, \$1,022,200 (\$763,700); and the Northwest Territories, \$698,300 (\$294,600). (18)

Wheat Exports Larger Overseas export clearances of Canadian wheat in the week ended February 10 amounted to 4,717,000 bushels, bringing the August 1 - February 10 total to 134,312,000 bushels, an increase of 4.5% from the year-earlier figure of 128,526,000 bushels. Visible supplies at February 10 aggregated 379,759,000 bushels, smaller by 0.2% than the week-earlier total of 380,402,000 bushels but larger by 0.7% than the year-earlier amount of 377,105,000 bushels. (19)

Fluid Milk Sales Greater With increased sales in 1959 as compared to 1958 in all months except May, fluid milk and cream sales (in milk equivalent) reached a record 5,625,546,000 pounds in 1959, up 2% from the 1958 total of 5,491,484,000 pounds and 0.7% from the previous high of 5,589,245,000 pounds in 1956. December 1959 sales were 488,049,000 pounds, a rise of 2% from the like 1958 total.

Sales were greater in 1959 than in 1958 in all provinces. Totals were (percentage gains in brackets): Prince Edward Island, 26,850,000 pounds (2%); Nova Scotia, 187,514,000 (3%); New Brunswick, 156,260,000 (3%); Quebec, 1,686,158,000 (1%); Ontario, 2,111,370,000 (3%); Manitoba, 311,539,000 (2%); Saskatchewan, 323,322,000 (3%); Alberta, 360,493,000 (3%); and British Columbia, 462,040,000 (1%). (20)

January Egg Production Net egg production in January amounted to 39,465,000 dozen compared to 41,518,000 in the same 1959 month, a decline of 4.9%. Average number of layers decreased 5.1% to 29,389,000 from 30,979,000, while average number of eggs per 100 layers rose to 1,623 from 1,619.

Month's production was below a year earlier in all provinces except Prince Edward Island and Manitoba. Totals were: Prince Edward Island, 537,000 dozen (473,000 a year ago); Nova Scotia, 1,551,000 (1,773,000); New Brunswick, 641,000 (687,000); Quebec, 5,163,000 (5,783,000); Ontario, 16,610,000 (17,747,000); Manitoba, 4,027,000 (3,914,000); Saskatchewan, 3,700,000 (3,876,000); Alberta, 4,014,000 (4,025,000); and British Columbia, 3,222,000 (3,240,000). (21)

P R I C E S

Wholesale Price Indexes*

	February 1959	January 1960	February 1960
	(1935 - 1939 = 100)		
General Index.....	230.8	230.5	230.0
Vegetable products.....	198.7	202.2	202.4
Animal products.....	255.8	246.4	242.7
Textile products.....	227.5	229.2	228.5
Wood products.....	304.6	304.3	304.3
Iron products.....	254.9	256.3	256.3
Non-ferrous metals.....	174.3	176.5	178.2
Non-metallic minerals.....	189.0	186.2	186.2
Chemical products.....	185.5	187.8	188.3
Combined index, iron and non-ferrous metals (excluding gold).....	247.1	250.3	251.6

*These indexes are preliminary.

Security Price Indexes

	<u>February 25</u>	<u>February 18</u> 1935-39 = 100	<u>January 28</u>
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
Total common stocks.....	244.5	248.0	253.7
Industrials.....	252.0	255.9	262.0
Utilities.....	185.3	185.8	189.0
Banks.....	307.0	313.3	320.1
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
Total mining stocks.....	108.1	110.9	113.3
Golds.....	81.1	82.6	82.0
Base metals.....	170.0	175.8	185.1

D I V O R C E S

Slight Drop In 1959 Divorces granted in Canada in 1959 dropped slightly to 6,222 from 6,279 in the preceding year, according to preliminary figures released by DBS. Additional returns, notably from Ontario, may raise the all-Canada total slightly.

The national rate per 100,000 population estimated at 35.7 in 1959 was the lowest in recent years and stood in marked contrast to the all-time peak of 65.6 in 1947. Half of the provinces reported lower rates in 1959 than in the preceding year. As in the past, Ontario and British Columbia together accounted for about 65% of divorces in 1959, or 4,015 out of the national total of 6,222.

Number of divorces for post-war years not shown in the following table were (rates in brackets): 1946, 7,757 (63.2); 1948, 6,978 (54.5); 1949, 6,052 (45.1); 1950, 5,386 (39.3); 1951, 5,270 (37.7); 1952, 5,650 (39.1); 1953, 6,160 (41.6); 1954, 5,923 (38.8) and 1955, 6,053 (38.6).

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

	1947		1956		1957		1958		1959	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Nfld.**	-	-	5	1.2	6 ^x	1.4	7	1.6	1	0.2
P.E.I.	18	19.1	1	1.0	2	2.0	1	1.0	6	5.9
N.S.	207	33.7	230	33.1	250	35.6	220	31.0	215	30.0
N.B.	236	48.4	215	38.7	206	36.5	150	26.0	221	37.5
Que.**	348	9.4	351	7.6	519 ^x	10.9	311	6.4	351	7.0
Ont.	3,523	84.4	2,478	45.8	2,873	51.1	2,776	47.8	2,595*	43.6*
Man.	665	90.0	314	36.9	305	35.5	292	33.6	301	34.0
Sask.	509	60.9	221	25.1	242	27.5	281	31.6	276	30.6
Alta.	881	106.8	685	61.0	726	62.6	743	61.9	836	67.3
B.C.	1,826	174.9	1,502	107.4	1,559	104.8	1,498	97.0	1,420	90.4
Canada	8,213	65.6	6,002	37.4	6,688	40.4	6,279	36.8	6,222*	35.7*

*Preliminary; **Granted by Parliament of Canada; ^xGranted during the 2 sessions of Parliament held during the year.

Fewer Births, Marriages
And Deaths In January

Fewer births, marriages and deaths were registered in January than in the corresponding month last year. Birth registrations declined 17.6% to 37,708 from 45,737 a year earlier and were at the lowest level for the month since 1955 when 36,784 were registered. Number of marriages fell 7.1% to 8,016 from 8,625 a year ago and number of deaths 14.5% to 10,855 from 12,700. (22)

FISHERIES

January Sea-Fish Catch

Landings of sea fish and shellfish by Canadian fishermen in January this year declined sharply to 45,376,000 pounds from 73,542,000 a year ago, according to advance DBS figures. Landed value dropped correspondingly to \$1,557,000 from \$2,370,000. Catch on the Atlantic coast increased to 31,050,000 pounds from 30,406,000, but the landed value fell to \$1,215,000 from \$1,540,000. British Columbia landings fell substantially to 14,326,000 pounds from 43,136,000 and the value to \$342,000 from \$830,000.

RELEASED THIS WEEK

(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 - 42-002: Motor Vehicle Shipments, January, 10¢/\$1.00
- 2 - 36-002: Rigid Insulating Board, January, 10¢/\$1.00
- 3 - 35-001: Peeler Logs, Veneers & Plywoods, December, 10¢/\$1.00
- 4 - 44-004: Mineral Wool, January, 10¢/\$1.00
- 5 - 32-014: Quarterly Stocks & Consumption of Unmanufactured Tobacco, December, 1959, 25¢/\$1.00
- 6 - 41-007: Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal, 4th Quarter 1959, 25¢/\$1.00
- 7 - 45-004: Refined Petroleum Products, December, 30¢/\$3.00
- 8 - 32-013: The Sugar Situation, January, 10¢/\$1.00
- 9 - 32-001: Monthly Production of Carbonated Beverages, January, 10¢/\$1.00
- 10 - 32-215: Flour Milling Industry, 1958, 50¢
- 11 - 52-001: Carloadings on Canadian Railways, February 21, 10¢/\$3.00
- 12 - 63-207: Motion Picture Theatres & Film Distributors, 1958, 50¢
- 13 - 72-001: Advance Statement of Employment & Weekly Earnings, December, 10¢/\$1.00
- 14 - 26-004: Gold Production, December 1959, 10¢/\$1.00
- 15 - 26-219: Miscellaneous Metal Mining Industry, 1958, 75¢
- 16 - 26-207: Contract Drilling in the Mining Industry, 1958, 50¢
- 17 - 26-007: Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, December, 10¢/\$1.00
- 18 - 26-213: Crude Petroleum & Natural Gas Industry, 1958, 50¢
- 19 - 22-004: Grain Statistics Weekly, February 10, 10¢/\$3.00
- 20 - 23-002: Fluid Milk Sales, December, 10¢/\$1.00
- 21 - 23-003: Production of Eggs, January, 10¢/\$1.00
- 22 - 84-001: Vital Statistics, January, 10¢/\$1.00
- - 26-003: Copper & Nickel Production, December, 10¢/\$1.00
- - 26-008: Silver, Lead & Zinc Production, December, 10¢/\$1.00
- - 35-002: Production, Shipments & Stocks On Hand Of Sawmills East Of The Rockies, December, 20¢/\$2.00 -- Summarized in issue of February 26
- - 35-003: Production, Shipments & Stocks On Hand Of Sawmills In British Columbia, December, 20¢/\$2.00 -- Summarized in issue of February 26

PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

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