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C.1 *Annual*

Report of the
**DOMINION BUREAU
OF STATISTICS**



For the Fiscal Year
ended March 31, 1956

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
ENDED MARCH 31, 1956



EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.
QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
OTTAWA, 1956

*To His Excellency the Right Honourable Vincent Massey, C.M., Governor
General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.*

The undersigned has the honour to forward to Your Excellency the
report of the Dominion Statistician on the activities of the Dominion Bureau
of Statistics for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1956.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "L. D. Howe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Minister of Trade and Commerce

Ottawa, Canada
June 30, 1956

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REPORT OF THE DOMINION STATISTICIAN

*THE RIGHT HONOURABLE C. D. HOWE,
MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE,
OTTAWA.*

Sir, — While carrying on the regular work of its divisions during the fiscal year ended March 31, 1956, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics made intensive preparations for taking the first national quinquennial census, as of June 1, 1956.

Canada's rapid development in recent years, the movement of people between and within provinces, the exodus to the outskirts of cities, which have created heavy demands on municipal and provincial governments for all manner of services — roads, schools, waterworks, fire protection, health services, etc., — have made necessary more frequent information on population growth. Only a complete census provides accurate figures of population by local areas which are basic to estimates of present and future needs for such services. Such data are also invaluable for the analysis of markets, the organization of production and sales programs, location of retail outlets, arrangement of sales and advertising quotas, and for many other purposes. More frequent agricultural censuses are necessary to provide the benchmarks which are the starting points for accurate estimates in intercensal years. With a ten-year interval between censuses, these estimates tend to get seriously out of line. Canada has lagged behind other countries in the frequency of taking agricultural censuses. Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom, France, and some other countries take one annually. The United States takes one every five years.

There have been in the past two obstacles to the taking of a more frequent census for Canada than once in ten years. One was the cost and the other the length of time required to compile it. The introduction, in 1951, of new census techniques such as mark-sense documents, more efficient machines, decentralization of operations, and other improvements which halved the time of compilation and greatly reduced costs, removed these obstacles.

The taking of a census is much the biggest single statistical undertaking of governments. To ensure success it must be planned in exhaustive detail long in advance of the actual operation. The task of planning for the 1956 Census, however, was lightened by experience with the 1951 Census. Having thought out and applied the new procedures in 1951 it was not necessary to go through that laborious process again. It was necessary only to make improvements at certain points and make further applications of basic time-saving principles.

As was done prior to the 1951 Census, a Census Executive Committee was set up under the chairmanship of the Dominion Statistician. This Committee includes the Assistant Dominion Statistician for Administration,

the Director of the Census Division, the Chiefs of Censuses of Agriculture, Population, Occupations, and Housing, the Senior Research Statistician, the Chief Administrative Officer, and the Directors of the Agriculture, Health and Welfare, and Special Surveys Divisions. Other senior officers of the Bureau have assisted the Committee on various aspects of the Census.

Several other government departments also co-operated. Special arrangements were made with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Department of Northern Affairs and Development to take the Census in remote areas. The Department of National Defence enumerates the armed forces, both in and outside Canada, and the Departments of External Affairs and Trade and Commerce assist with diplomatic missions and trade missions abroad. Other co-operating government departments include Agriculture, Citizenship and Immigration, Health and Welfare, Public Works, and Veterans Affairs. Indeed there is hardly a department of government whose collaboration to some degree is not required in the broad scope of the Census. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the National Film Board have provided material assistance.

The selection of the 264 commissioners, 528 field supervisors, and 16,000 enumerators was almost completed by the end of the year under review. A group of Bureau employees were given an intensive training course as master trainers to instruct the census commissioners and field supervisors in their duties.

Since many of the supervisory activities and the initial receipt of returns are decentralized in the Bureau's eight regional offices across Canada, considerable organization of these offices and the instruction of their personnel was necessary. Most of this, too, was completed during the year just closed.

The fact that this first nation-wide quinquennial census is on a simplified basis is noteworthy. The population questionnaire will have only five questions instead of the 29 of the 1951 Census. These are: age, sex, marital status, relationship to head of household, and whether living on a farm. Information on the other questions asked in the 1951 Census has not the same degree of urgency, in fact some of the characteristics of the population such as religion, origin, education, citizenship, etc., change only slowly. The agricultural questionnaire has been reduced from more than 200 questions to 76. After much discussion with federal and provincial agriculturists and other interested parties, it was decided that these 76 questions would give the essential benchmarks and other basic material required.

In September, in connection with the United States-Canada Joint Census Study Program, the Assistant Dominion Statistician and the Director of the Special Surveys Division visited Washington to attend the Conference of Regional Supervisors of the United States Bureau of the Census. The responsibilities of regional and head offices, personnel difficulties, and proposals for current programs were discussed, also future plans for the Joint Census Study Organization, particularly in conjunction with observation of the 1956 Census of Canada.

The general program of developing and co-ordinating economic statistics was carried forward during the year. Particular research topics included: a study of Canada's international investment position, the changing structure of Canada's export trade, the recent financing of Canadian development, and the relationship between imports into Canada and the production of various Canadian industries. New administrative arrangements with the Department of National Revenue were worked out recording the movement of United States automobiles on short-term visits to Canada and the sampling of the expenditures involved. Research was carried forward on the relationship between labour input and output and pilot studies of a few manufacturing industries were organized to test the feasibility of various theoretical concepts and data processing techniques. The problem of integrating the various series on labour statistics collected by the Bureau received considerable attention. A pilot study to extend the present framework of the National Accounts to include financial transactions relating to the Accounts was inaugurated. The study of the inter-industry flow of goods and services was continued and contributed to the integration of statistics throughout the Bureau and the filling of existing gaps. The release in the February *Canadian Statistical Review* of selected seasonally adjusted economic indicators represented the culmination of a long period of research in this field of statistical development.

Considerable effort has been devoted to research into the various implications of health and health services. The latter have received new prominence with the resumption of federal-provincial health insurance talks emphasizing the administrative and economic problems involved.

The growing interest in Canada's northland has resulted in a demand for more information concerning those areas and attention is being given to the extension of statistical series to provide separate statistics for the Territories wherever feasible.

Efforts to reduce the time lag between the collection of statistics and their publication were continued in all Divisions. These involved promotion of better reporting, streamlining of tabulation and compilation procedures, and changes in the content of published reports. The Daily Bulletin was used more extensively for making available advance summary information.

Much study is being given to the question of adding an electronic computing machine to the Bureau's mechanical equipment. Two officers of the Bureau's staff are taking courses of instruction in the operation of different types of electronic computers for the purpose of becoming thoroughly familiar with their individual capabilities, assessing their applicability to Bureau work and obtaining the necessary skill to operate them if, as, and when, they are added to the Bureau equipment. The Bureau has had three representatives on the Government Committee to Study Developments in Electronic Computing Machines and their Application.

The Advisory Board of Publications continued to review the Bureau's publishing program with a view to ensuring that each new publication is justified, achieving further economies through consolidation of material

and avoidance of duplication, and improving the quality and format of Bureau reports.

The Dominion Statistician headed the Canadian delegation to the Third General Assembly of the Inter-American Statistical Institute and the 29th Assembly of the International Statistical Institute, both held in Quitandinha, Brazil, June 3–July 2. He contributed a paper on "Regional Statistics in Canada" to the ISI Session on Regional Statistics. In December he attended the 115th annual meeting of the American Statistical Association of which he is Past President. He was Chairman of the following conferences held in the Bureau during the year under review: Second Dominion-Provincial Conference on Economic Statistics, Vital Statistics Council, Conference on Statistics of Higher Education, Dominion-Provincial Conference on Agricultural Statistics.

The Assistant Dominion Statistician for Statistical Integration was a member of the Canadian delegation to the IASI and ISI Conferences in Brazil in June–July and presented a paper on "An Economist's View on the Teaching of Statistics" at one of the sessions. In September he attended a meeting of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth at Hindsgavl, Denmark and presented a paper on "Income Size Distribution Statistics and Research in Canada".

The Assistant Dominion Statistician for Administration attended meetings of the Census Sub-committee of the Inter-American Statistical Institute's Committee on the Improvement of National Statistics, January 30–February 10, at which the bases for the program for the 1960 Census of America were established and the Draft International Recommendations for the World Population Census of 1960 were approved.

The Senior Research Statistician was a member of the Canadian delegation to the IASI and ISI Conferences in Brazil in June–July. He contributed a paper "Calculation of Variances in a Monthly Population Survey" to the 29th Session of the International Statistical Institute. He also lectured at the ISI Seminar on "Area Sampling with Two Units per Stratum".

The Bureau continued to participate in international technical assistance programs. Seven students on United Nations Fellowships and five on Colombo Plan Fellowships spent part of their training period in the Bureau studying its organization and methods. Of the United Nations Fellows, three were from Egypt, and one from each of Sweden, Singapore, Turkey, and Formosa. Two of the Colombo Plan Fellows were from Burma, two from Ceylon, and one from Pakistan. One FAO Fellow from Colombia also studied the Bureau's methods.

H. Marshall

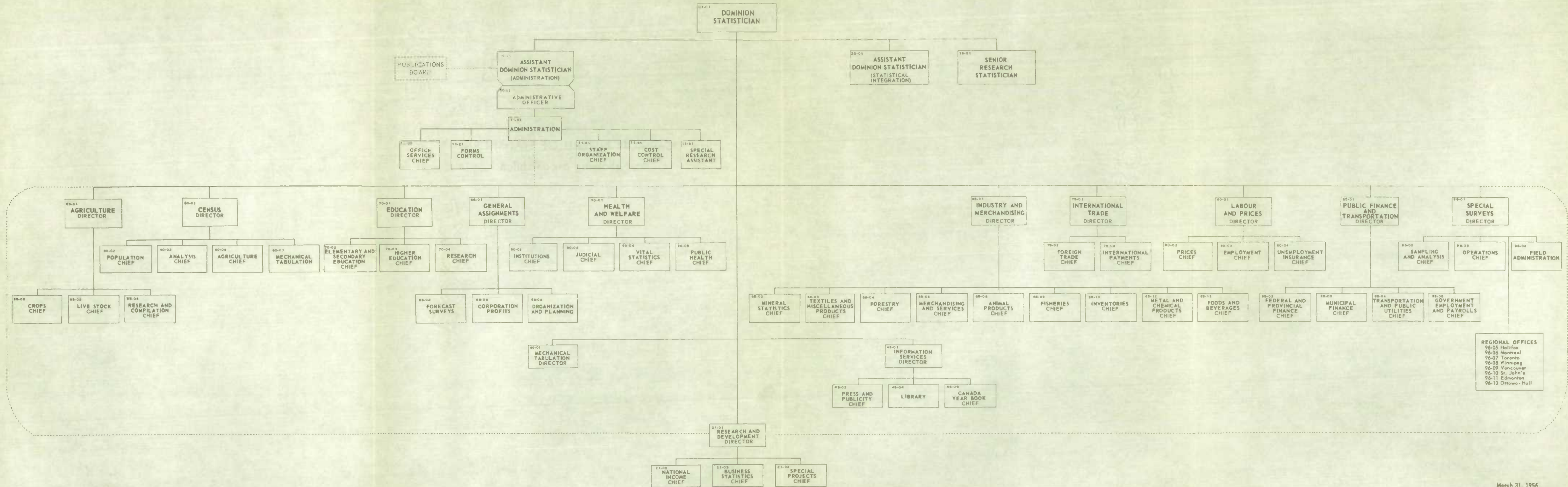
H. Marshall,
Dominion Statistician.

Ottawa, Canada
April 1, 1956.

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Chart showing organization

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL ORGANIZATION



DETAILED REVIEW

ADMINISTRATION

The Administration Division continued to study and apply the principles of up-to-date organization and methods to ensure the use of the most efficient equipment, improve work flows, eliminate superfluous operations, simplify and standardize questionnaires and forms, achieve better working conditions and, in general, improve the business aspects of the Bureau's activities.

Staff Organization

The Personnel Section dealt with problems concerning establishment, recruitment, pay, promotions, reassignments, and related matters and maintained close liaison with the Civil Service Commission.

The regular staff of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at March 31, 1956 was 1,411, an increase of 58 from the total at the same date in 1955. The 1951 Census staff totalled 2 at March 31, 1956, a decrease of 20 over the same date in 1955. The total 1956 Census staff as at March 31, 1956, was 38. During the year the Bureau conducted 165 promotion competitions.

The Suggestion Award Committee received 31 suggestions of which 2 were approved, 15 were rejected, and 14 are under investigation.

Health Unit

The office management maintains close liaison with the Health Unit, a branch of the Civil Service Health Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare, located in the Bureau. Visits of Bureau employees to the Health Unit during the year numbered 14,780 as compared with 13,629 during the preceding year.

Employees requiring medical examination and special investigation are referred to their family physician or to the Health Centre of the Civil Service Health Division where complete advisory and diagnostic services are available.

Office Services

Vari-type, stenographic, addressograph, supplies, mail and messenger, and drafting services were maintained.

Cost Control

The Cost Control Section is responsible for the preparation of the annual estimates of funds required to operate the Bureau; the preparation of financial encumbrances; the verification, preparation, and approval of accounts and their submission to Treasury Office for payment; and the operation of the Commitment Control of expenditures.

This Section maintains records of all expenses to provide information on the operating costs of the various Bureau divisions and their sections,

the regional offices, and of the field work in connection with surveys and censuses.

The Main Estimates for 1956-57 included the major portion of the funds required for the taking and compiling of the 1956 Census. These Estimates involved special statements and summaries of the various expenditures and the funds required.

Invoice forms and instructions to regional statistics officers, and district treasury officers and to field staffs of the 1956 Census were prepared in collaboration with the Treasury Office, Department of Trade and Commerce, the Census Division, and the Census Executive Committee of the bureau. Payments of \$250 each on account were made to census commissioners as at March 31, 1956.

A punch card system of recording vari-typing and printing costs was established and operated throughout the year under review.

Effective April 1, 1955, payments of all invoices for stationery and office supplies and equipment requisitioned through the Queen's Printer were paid directly to the supplier rather than through the Queen's Printer. These invoices are approved by the Queen's Printer and submitted to the Cost Control Section for vouchering, final approval, and payment. This has increased the number of vouchers by approximately 2,000 per year.

Forms Control

During the year approximately 2,500 forms and questionnaires, totalling 5,600 pages were submitted to the Forms Control Section. Of this number, 410 forms were redesigned and 1,130 forms were revised. Considerable time was given to the designing and preparation of the 1956 Census forms and questionnaires.

Operation of a punch card system of recording office service and printing costs for each printing job was initiated.

The Chief of the Section represented the Bureau on the Government Committee on Standardization of Forms and the several working sub-committees.

Advisory Board of Publications

Eleven meetings of the Advisory Board of Publications were held during the year.

Approval was given to publishing the following Reference Papers: *Trends in Canadian Agriculture* and *A Graphic Summary of Canadian Agriculture*, both prepared in collaboration with the Federal Department of Agriculture; *City Family Expenditures*; *Urban Food Expenditures*, a study based on the continuous sample conducted by the Labour and Prices Division; *Teacher Training Institutions, 1953*; and a special report on *Canada's International Investment Position, 1926-1954*. Revised editions of the following Reference Papers were authorized: *Distribution of Non-Farm Incomes in Canada by Size*; *Canadian Institutions of Higher Education*; *Undergraduate Scholarships and Bursaries Open to Canadian*

Students; Chronological Record of Canadian Mining Events and Historical Tables of Mineral Production; also the following Memoranda: Field Crops—Longtime Average Fields per Acre; Survey of Advertising Expenditures; and Motor Vehicle Registrations (Preliminary). Also authorized was the printing of three working documents: *List of Establishments Registered with the Unemployment Insurance Commission; Manual of Instructions for the Use of Central Electrical Stations in Completing Capital Expenditures Questionnaires; and the Third Draft of the Standard Commodity Classification Manual.* The *Annual Fisheries Report* was expanded to include details of landings by areas. These data, discontinued in 1947 as an economy measure, were reinstated at the request of the Department of Fisheries.

Also considered by the Board were Treasury Board directives with respect to the distribution of government publications and a proposed Agreement with the Queen's Printer regarding Sale and Distribution of DBS publications; improvements in format and in timeliness; and problems relating to pricing, advance release of information, and requests for free copies of publications.

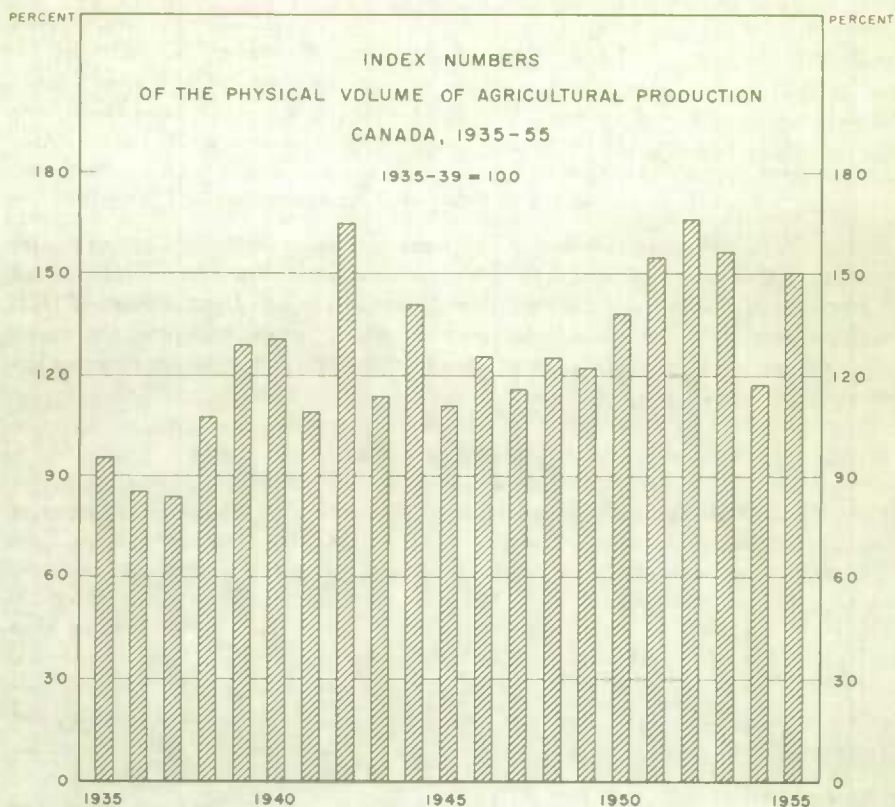
AGRICULTURE

The Agriculture Division is responsible for providing estimates of the production of crops, livestock and livestock products, and other farm produce, farm utilization of such products, prices received by farmers, stocks of commodities in cold storage, and farm cash and net income. Much of the data is collected at the farm level but information is also collected on the manufacture of dairy products, flour millings, oilseed crushings, and sales of nursery stocks. Certain marketing data are provided through agencies such as the Board of Grain Commissioners, the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture and the other divisions of the Bureau. All such data are used by the Agriculture Division to provide information on utilization of Canadian farm products at home and abroad.

Current agricultural statistics at the farm level are nearly all collected through the mail questionnaire method. Specific instances are the June and December crop and livestock surveys from which estimates of crop acreages and numbers of livestock are made, seasonal crop surveys (field crops, fruit and vegetables), monthly prices, poultry and dairy surveys, and quarterly hog surveys. Most of the surveys are non-random in character and provide information only on the amount of change which has taken place from a previous period. Surveys of agricultural manufacturing plants, such as dairy factories and flour mills, are conducted monthly on a full coverage basis. For the dairy factory surveys and some of the farm surveys, the provinces co-operate with the Bureau in the collection and tabulation of data.

Preparations were made during the year to conduct a new survey of greenhouse operators. Information on sales is being obtained for cut flowers, potted plants, cuttings, and vegetables and mushrooms grown under glass. Changes in existing schedules were made to secure additional information as requested by users of statistics.

INDEX OF FARM PRODUCTION 1955



A Dominion-Provincial Conference on Agricultural Statistics was held in December 1955 to study the uses of and the methods of collection and presentation of farm income statistics. The Conference recommended, in general, the continuation of present methods, suggested that existing data should be improved in certain instances, and requested additional alternative tabular presentation of the accounts.

Several meetings of the sub-committees of the Interdepartmental Committee on Agricultural Statistics were held during the year. Reviews of commodity statistics were undertaken and are continuing with respect to use made of statistics, methods of collection, tabulation, and publication. Attention centred principally on collection of prices data for which the Department of Agriculture has increased need.

The intercensal revision projects for the period 1941-51 were completed for all commodity groups except poultry. Work is still continuing on revision of the farm cash and net income series, physical volume of

production, and consumption per capita. The field crop revisions were published in a 69-page historical Handbook series while livestock and milk and wool production data were released with regular reports.

Officers of the Division served on several committees during the year, the chief of which were the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Production Conference, Sub-committees of the Interdepartmental Committee on Agricultural Statistics, the Bureau's Census Committee and Agricultural Sample Committee, the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Services, and the Interdepartmental Food and Agriculture Committee.

The regular publications were issued during the year. Those prepared in the Crops Section included: *The Wheat Review* (monthly); *Coarse Grains* (quarterly); *Grain Statistics* (weekly); *Grain Milling Statistics* (monthly); *The Sugar Situation* (monthly); *The Grain Trade of Canada* (annual); 22 reports in the *Crop Reporting* series; 9 reports in the *Fruit and Vegetable Production* series; 2 reports on Honey; one Maple Products report, one memorandum on *Nursery Stock Sales* and one compilation showing per capita supplies of food available for consumption. Prepared for publication in the *Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics* were: Estimates of Production and Value of Forage, Field Root and Vegetable Seeds; Acreage, Production and Value of Hops, and Acreage of Fibre Flax and Production of Fibre Flax Products.

Prepared in the Livestock Section were annual reports on *Livestock and Animal Products Statistics*, *Production of Poultry and Eggs*, *Dairy Statistics*, *Production and Consumption of Meats*, *Wool Production and Supply*, *Fur Production*, *Fur Farms*; monthly reports on *Production of Eggs*, *Dairy Factory Production*, *Fluid Milk Sales*, *The Dairy Review and Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables*, *Dairy and Poultry Products*, *Meat and Lard*; semi-annual reports on livestock numbers; and quarterly report of hog estimates.

Also published were reports on *Farm Cash and Net Income from Farming Operations*, *Farm Wage Rates*, *Index of Farm Production*, prepared in the Research Section, and the *Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics*.

The Director of the Agriculture Division attended the Biennial Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization held in Rome.

CENSUS

The main activities of the Census Division during the year under review were concerned with the detailed planning operations for the 1956 Census of Population and Agriculture. Maps and descriptions for some 17,000 enumeration areas across Canada were prepared for the field work; training and instruction manuals, forms, schedules, and other supplies were prepared and packed for shipment to the field; staff and machine requirements were planned, and tabulation procedures worked out; details

of the publication program were planned and draft tables prepared; a group of 28 master trainers underwent a training course in preparation for their being sent to the field to instruct census commissioners and field supervisors in their duties. These and many other related planning requirements occupied the majority of the Census Division staff during the year.

The following annual reports were issued: *Canadian Citizenship Statistics, 1954*; *Estimates of Population by Marital Status, Age and Sex for Canada and the Provinces, 1954*; *Estimates of Households and Families in Canada, 1955*. A memorandum entitled *A Reconstruction of Canada's Population Record, 1851-1955* was prepared and published. The Administrative Report of the 1951 Census (Volume XI) was issued, and the printing of the Summary Volume (X) was well advanced by March 31, 1956.

The Director of the Census Division attended a meeting of the Committee of the 1960 Census of the Americas in Washington, and a meeting of the Census Tract Committee in Montreal. The Assistant Director observed operations of the 1954 United States Census of Agriculture, in Washington. The Chief of the Population Section and some of the senior officers attended meetings, in Washington, of a sub-committee on Concepts and Definitions of a Population Census in connection with the joint Canada-United States Census Study Organization.

Approximately 1,800 letters concerning population, agriculture, and other subjects were written. Some 21,500 applications for proof of age were received, and 28,000 letters furnishing proof of age for old age pensions, birth certificates, etc., were sent out. Proof of age from National Registration Records was furnished in reply to an additional 27,683 requests for information.

Census Executive Committee

Thirty-two meetings of the Census Executive Committee were held throughout the year ending March 31, 1956, during which plans for the 1956 Census were finalized. These meetings were supplemented by numerous sub-committee meetings where plans were formulated and recommendations to the main Committee made, regarding such detailed aspects of the Census as concepts, definitions, designation of geographic areas, appointment of staff, rates of pay, training procedures, tabulation and publication programming, and quality control.

The Executive Committee reviewed all sub-committee reports, giving final approval to the various procedures, as amended. This involved detailed study and discussion of the Instruction Manuals, as well as all Census forms and documents approved for print. Estimates for machine requirements were approved and arrangements made for procuring necessary field and head office staff. Plans were completed for training of commissioners, field supervisors and enumerators, and a training program for master trainers was formulated and carried out.

From time to time, meetings were held with officials from co-operating government departments and views exchanged on the various aspects of census-taking with officials from other countries. In connection

with the latter, members of the Executive Committee have represented Canada on the various sub-committees of the Canada-United States Census Study Organization. Arrangements were made also for interchange of observers of census operations in Canada and the United States.

Good morning... I'm your **Census Taker**

When I call at your home during the month of June, the questions I ask will take only a few moments of your time—the name, age and marital status of those living at your address. In addition, this Census is particularly concerned with agriculture, so we are gathering facts about acreage, crops, poultry and livestock, milk and egg production, machinery and your operating expenses.

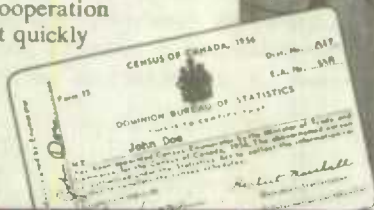
The information you give me will be kept in strict confidence. Every Census worker has taken an oath of secrecy. By Act of Parliament, the personal information gathered by the Census about individual Canadians can be used only for general overall statistics. It cannot be disclosed to any government agency or private organization.

Canada is taking count to keep up with her rapid growth. Census facts are required to meet and plan overall national needs—schools, public utilities, welfare services, farm and industrial production, employment.

The 1956 Census is
the equal of any other
in Canada's
growth.

It's a big job—cooperation
will help us do it quickly
and accurately.

Every census taker carries this official
identification card to show that he or she has
been appointed by the Government of
Canada to help take the Census. Ask to see it.



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Department of Trade and Commerce—Ottawa

DBS-1-56F

EDUCATION

The Education Division collects, compiles, and publishes statistics of public and private elementary and secondary schools, business schools, colleges and universities, and libraries, and makes occasional surveys of adult education, museums, and art galleries. Principal types of data reported are those on numbers of establishments, staff, participants, and revenue and expenditure.

The statistics of schools under public control are obtained from the administering authorities, chief of which are the Provincial Departments of Education, the Superintendent of Education in the Yukon Territory, and the Federal Departments of Northern Affairs and National Resources (schools in the Northwest Territories and for Eskimos in Quebec and Labrador), Citizenship and Immigration (Indian schools) and National Defence (servicemen's dependants' schools in Canada and Europe). In most cases, statistics of colleges and universities and of private schools are obtained by the Bureau directly from the institutions concerned.

Co-operative relations are maintained with such national education associations as the Canadian Education Association, l'Association Canadienne des Édicateurs de Langue Française, the Canadian Teachers' Federation, the National Conference of Canadian Universities, the Canadian Library Association, and the Canadian Association for Adult Education.

Data are published in (a) a three-part biennial *Survey of Education* (I - Elementary and Secondary Education, II - Higher Education, III - Libraries), (b) annual reports on *Preliminary Statistics of Education; Teachers' Salaries, Qualifications and Experience; and University and College Enrolment*; (c) biennial catalogues of *Post-graduate Scholarships and Fellowships and Undergraduate Scholarships and Bursaries*, and a biennial memorandum on statistics of *Free Urban and Regional Public Libraries*; and (d) occasional memoranda and reference papers, including, in 1955-56, a survey of *Museums and Art Galleries, 1951-52*.

In addition, special studies are prepared from time to time, on request. Examples during 1955-56 were an annual compilation of potential university graduates in various fields, for the Unemployment Insurance Commission; a projection of public elementary and secondary school enrolment prepared at the request of the National Advisory Committee on Educational Research; a projection of university and college enrolment for the National Conference of Canadian Universities; studies of enrolment, staff requirements, and school costs for the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects; provision of data related to manpower supply to the Department of Labour and to other federal departments and agencies; a study of Canadian Government contributions to higher education for the Department of External Affairs; an article on the financing of adult education for *Food for Thought* (Canadian Association for Adult Education); a memorandum on special education in Canada for the Canadian Exhibition Commission; assistance to Carleton College in a study of its students' costs and sources of income; preparation of education data for the *Atlas*

of Canada; and a special study of vocational education in Canada for UNESCO.

During the year new statistical series were begun for schools of the Yukon Territory, and for servicemen's dependants' schools operated by the Department of National Defence in Canada and Europe.

In the field of higher education the pattern of financial statistics was reviewed in consultation with the Canadian Association of University Business Officers, and during the three days November 29 to December 1, 1955, there was held at the Bureau the first national conference on statistics of higher education. It was attended by 73 participants, representing most of the degree-granting universities and colleges of Canada and also national associations concerned with higher education and a number of federal and provincial government departments. Statistics of enrolment in technical institute courses of at least junior college level were included for the first time in the report on potential graduates prepared for the Unemployment Insurance Commission.

The biennial bilingual publication, *Free Urban and Regional Public Libraries*, giving information for 1954 on free public libraries in cities of over 10,000 population, and on regional libraries, was prepared for the first time during the year. The survey of *Museums and Art Galleries, 1951-52*, released early in the year, was the first such survey published by the Bureau since 1938.

In June 1955 a research section was re-established in the Division, responsible for special studies and surveys in the field of education statistics, and the first of what is planned as a series of appointments of summer research assistants was made for the months of July to September.

GENERAL ASSIGNMENTS

The principal function of the General Assignments Division is to provide statistical data related to current and intended capital expenditures and construction for the Canadian economy and to make available estimates of profits and related financial information for Canadian corporations on a current basis. In addition to these main operations the Division supplies data to interested departments of seven provincial governments on new firms entering the manufacturing field and provides statistical material required for study of current economic problems to the Economics Branch, Department of Trade and Commerce and other government departments and agencies both on a regular basis and to meet specific requirements.

The new series of quarterly reports, *Corporation Profits*, which sets out estimates of profits and other related data of incorporated Canadian companies, continued throughout the year with reports for the fourth quarter of 1954 and the first three quarters of 1955 published. Work on the fourth quarter, 1955, survey was completed and all data prepared for publication. As a result of efforts to improve the sample, three of the

industry groups appearing in the initial publication were expanded sufficiently to warrant sub-dividing each into two separate groups. At the end of the year data were shown for each of eighteen industrial groups. The program of emphasis on the improvement of basic material and the making available of more detail is continuing.

As a result of the program of planning and work co-ordination mentioned in the last annual report and continued since, the report *Construction in Canada, 1953-55* was available early in July, three months earlier than previously and the report covering the years 1954-56 was compiled and ready for printing by mid-March, a further improvement of nearly three months. Since this series of reports which sets out, in considerable detail, estimates of construction expenditures by type of structures, by industry, by levels of government, and by province, is intended to be a forward-looking indicator of economic activity as well as a record of past activity in the construction industry, it is important that the data be available early in the year.

The White Paper *Private and Public Investment in Canada, Outlook 1956* was tabled in Parliament on February 23, 1956, and the supplement setting out estimates of capital and repair expenditures by province and metropolitan areas for the same period was released in March. Earlier in the year, in April, the regional estimates of intentions for 1955 were issued and, in July, the revised estimates of the intended capital expenditure program for 1955 were released. Additional work co-ordination was carried out in connection with the collection of basic data for this series of reports which improved both the relationship with respondents in the construction industry and the data received from them.

The search for new firms to maintain Bureau indexes on an up-to-date basis continued with nearly 8,000 "Nature of Business" schedules mailed to prospective new firms during the year. As a result of agreements reached at the Dominion-Provincial Conference on Economic Statistics held in April, a scheme was put into effect with seven of the provincial departments concerned with statistics whereby the Bureau would act as the central organization thus eliminating duplication of effort in connection with the assembly of preliminary data on new firms coming into operation.

Tabulations of proposed construction as indicated by building permits issued in Canada were prepared each month for distribution to interested government agencies and to meet a number of specific requests from industry.

During the year a number of special tabulations of capital expenditures and other economic statistics data were prepared for various government departments and agencies and for other users of statistics. Included in these special projects was a survey of mortgages and agreements of sale, held in estates and trust and agency funds, administered by trust companies for Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Health and Welfare statistics serve many uses in the administration and evaluation of public health programs. Health administrators use these statistical data to (a) identify and appraise current public health problems; (b) plan and conduct public health programs; (c) allocate health facilities and resources; and (d) provide benchmark information needed in epidemiology and in many types of medical research.

In Canada, vital statistics consist of data derived from the legal records of live birth, foetal death, death, marriage, and divorce. Legal authority and responsibility for registration rests with the individual provinces but uniformity of basic items and co-ordination of registration and statistical activities are achieved through joint planning at the annual meetings of the Vital Statistics Council. The Division is equally concerned with the need to measure the social, economic, and other ecological aspects of ill health. On a national basis, data are brought together on general illness, health services, the Canadian Sickness Survey, hospitals, mental, and tuberculosis institutions, notifiable disease, illness among federal civil servants, and home nursing services. Increasing emphasis is also being placed on the various aspects of criminal and judicial statistics, with new tabulations of statistics relating to murder and sexual offences and a special study comparing criminal statistics in England and Wales and in Canada.

In general there has been a shift of emphasis in health statistics from infective and contagious diseases to the chronic and degenerative illness in later life. Morbidity and institutional statistics have achieved new significance because of prolonged life expectancy and the emergence of crippling and disabling conditions which have posed new problems in medical care, preventive medicine, and hospital administration. In addition to supplying routine vital statistics the death certificate is issued as a starting point in the study of special diseases and accidents. Vital statistics form a vast reservoir of information and are used for special analytical studies now underway covering tuberculosis, cancer, cardiovascular-renal diseases, motor vehicle and home accidents, and the relationship of birth weight to other problems such as complications of pregnancy and prematurity. In the past year the timeliness of Health and Welfare publications has been improved through the promotion of better reporting, streamlining of tabulation and compilation procedures, and changes in the contents of published reports.

Public Health

The nature of health and morbidity among Canadians continues to change and still more so the pattern of health services. Health statistics have to keep pace with these developments if they are to measure effectively what they are designed to reflect. Where the subject matter of the statistics is in a state of flux, it becomes a major problem not only to design new ways of measuring new phenomena but also to continue established statistical series in a manner flexible enough to preserve, on the one hand, basic continuity and, on the other, to be adaptable to

new conditions and new requirements. The increasing need for measuring the social, economic, and other ecological aspects of ill health is one of these new requirements. Accordingly, while the routine statistical series maintained in the Section were continued, much effort has been devoted to research into these various implications of health and health services. The latter have, of course, received new prominence with the resumption of federal-provincial health insurance talks emphasizing the administrative and economic problems involved. This has led to giving preference to health services data over the sickness aspects of the Canadian Sickness Survey in recent reports. Apart from the general volume of various health services received by Canadians, the Survey has revealed differentials in the amount of health care received by persons in various income groups. By measuring the care received by those without any insurance against the known experience of those with some prepayment or insurance coverage, some measure will be obtained of the prospective demand for services under a health insurance scheme.

A federal-provincial Conference of Communicable Disease Control Directors was held, in May 1955, under the auspices of the Department of National Health and Welfare. In connection with that Conference, a thorough reappraisal of the present system of notifiable disease reporting was undertaken. While it was not possible to discuss details of reporting procedures at the Conference, it became clear that procedures designed at a time when the common childhood diseases were the main problem were no longer adequate after the public health interest has shifted to such communicable diseases as poliomyelitis and tuberculosis, and into the new field of chronic diseases. More flexible alternatives to the present reporting system are under study while efforts continue to improve completeness and uniformity of reporting.

The growing interest in Canada's northland and the increasing settlement in areas not hitherto covered by most statistical series, has resulted in a demand for more information on health conditions in the Territories. Some progress has been made towards obtaining that information. By arrangement with the public health nurse in Whitehorse, notifiable disease reports have been received for the Yukon. Notifiable disease reporting in the areas under the jurisdiction of Indian and Northern Health Services is being established and a pilot study of morbidity among Indians has been commenced.

Research into new developments had also to be carried out in connection with the continuing study of Illness in the Civil Service. The possibility of operational research in the area of absenteeism was demonstrated. In addition to the medical aspects of sickness absenteeism, increasing attention is given by government departments as well as by industry to the administrative and economic problems of absenteeism. Studies in this direction have led to a revision of the basic record form, in consultation with the Civil Service Health Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare. Further changes may result from a continued study of the problems involved.

The statistical study of home nursing services, carried out in collaboration with the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada, has revealed

some basic patterns in respect to broad types of services provided and their volume, emphasizing the need for care of the aged and chronically ill, as well as of young mothers. In connection with the general reorganization and reorientation of health services, attention has been given to the search for ways and means of appraising more adequately the role of home nursing in the general scheme of health services, particularly in relation to hospital services and also to other social services existing in the community.

In summary then, efforts have been made, to the extent possible, to adjust existing statistical series to meeting new demands, and to discard those that have outlived their usefulness. The possibilities of meeting new demands for information have been explored. With the assistance of the Forms Control Section it has been possible to improve various types of forms and records.

Vital Statistics

The release date for the regular *Monthly Report of Vital Statistics* was further advanced during the year. The report makes possible an evaluation of current birth, marriage, and death rates against the background of the previous month, the corresponding month of the previous year, and the five-year median.

Further progress was made in the release dates of tabular information due to the acceptance by the Vital Statistics Council of a uniform tabulation program based on the following principles. There was agreement that priority be given to a uniform series of tables which would meet the administrative and public health needs of each province. Any other tabulations would be prepared only after the priority tables were completed. In order to maintain a rigid DBS time schedule all provinces agreed to submit copies of their records on a time schedule and to draw firm cut-off dates for each type of event. The responsibility of the Bureau concerned primary data and the provinces were to rearrange the material to suit their individual needs.

The content of the annual report followed the changes resulting from the new tabulation program. There was a reduction in some previously published tables on causes of death that were considered too finely detailed or of local interest. There was rearrangement, consolidation, and condensation of some existing tables. There were additions of international comparisons of vital statistics rates and more provision was made for historical and long-term summary data.

A number of new photographic and reproductive methods applicable to vital records were investigated during the year and the results reported to the Vital Statistics Council.

The current monthly indexes of births, marriages, and deaths were routinely supplied to the Family Allowances Administration and the appropriate provincial offices. In collaboration with the Mechanical Tabulation Division, consolidation and retabulation of the birth indexes for Ontario was completed and for Quebec was nearing completion.

Collaboration with the provincial vital statistics offices was continued in connection with the revision of the geographical codes and program of provincial pre-coding introduced to short-cut arduous coding procedures within the Bureau.

Difficult problems of medical coding were studied during the year in collaboration with the United Kingdom, the United States, and the World Health Organization.

A new program of research and the production of key analytical reports was begun. A first report on vital statistics trends since 1921 was completed.

Institutions

The central aim of work of the Institutions Section during the past year has been to maintain the currency and to improve the quality of the statistics of health institutions. Of primary concern has been the improvement of the degree of comparability and uniformity between the various publications of the Section. Five annual publications and three financial handbooks were released, and one special analytical report was released for study during the period.

In the field of hospital statistics, *Hospital Statistics 1953, Volume II*, *Hospital Statistics 1954, Volume I*, and the *List of Hospitals 1955* were released. Continuing steps were taken to increase the currency of the report *Hospital Statistics* by further streamlining compilation procedures and by attempting to get more prompt returns. At the same time, an attempt was made to provide for more studied and comprehensive analytical treatment of these reports.

In the field of mental health statistics, *Mental Health Statistics 1954* and the financial supplements to the above and to *Mental Health Statistics 1953* were released. The separation of the financial data from the main body of the mental health report and its inclusion in a separate eight-page supplement enables the main report to appear considerably earlier than otherwise would have been possible. A preliminary age-sex census of patients in mental institutions, covering all provinces except Ontario and Quebec was prepared and was awaiting approval at the end of the period.

Tuberculosis Statistics 1954 and its financial supplement were released. Here again the separate publication of the financial data permitted earlier release. A special analytical report of Indian and Eskimo tuberculosis morbidity in the 1950-1952 period was prepared for publication, its release date being delayed until after the close of the current year in order to coincide with the annual meeting of the Canadian Tuberculosis Association.

Judicial

The statistical tables and narrative material for inclusion in the 1955 report of the Commissioner of Penitentiaries were completed and forwarded to the Commissioner's office.

The 1953 and 1954 issues of *Police Statistics* were published. The 1953 report of *Statistics of Criminal and other Offences* was vari-typed. Compilation of the 1954 report of *Statistics of Criminal and Other Offences* and of the 1954 *Juvenile Delinquents Report* was completed.

Intensive work was undertaken at the request of various commissions, committees, and other government departments. Statistical data relating to sexual offences and to murder were prepared. A comparative study of statistics relating to crime in England and Wales and in Canada was conducted.

INDUSTRY AND MERCHANDISING

The basic compilations for the 1954 Census of Industry were completed for mining, fisheries, forestry, and for 14 of the 17 major groups into which manufacturing is divided. A *Preliminary Statement of Manufactures 1954* was published in October 1955.

Questionnaires for the 1955 Census of Industry were mailed in January and February, and about 60 per cent of the completed reports were received by the end of the fiscal year.

The *General Review of the Manufacturing Industries 1953* was partly printed as the year closed, and the *Regional Distribution, Manufacturing Industries of Canada* was being processed by the Composing Unit. These are the final reports in the 1953 series.

Coverage for the monthly sample survey on manufacturers' inventories and shipments was extended in 1955, and, beginning with the December issue of the published report, the results were shown in values instead of index numbers.

In the monthly surveys on retail trade and wholesale trade an effort was made to improve the efficiency of the samples by endeavouring to overcome some of the difficulties of non-response and incomplete reports.

Publications in the fiscal year ended March 31 included 230 annual reports, 63 monthlies, and 8 quarterlies. The total number of pages in these reports was 7,356. Some progress was made in improving the timeliness of publications.

Considerable time was given to the preparation of special statements for the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects. Work on general inquiries continued to take up considerable time of senior officials.

The Director of the Division was a member of the Canadian delegation to the IASI and ISI Conferences in Brazil in June-July.

Animal Products

The monthly survey of margarine production was expanded to include the "Spreads" that are now legal in the province of Quebec. Improvements were made in the presentation of the monthly statistics on hides, skins and leather. In the annual statistics for the slaughtering and meat packing

industry, it was decided to discontinue the practice of estimating a value for the meat resulting from the custom slaughtering of animals at public abattoirs and to include only the value received for doing this work.

Nine annual industry reports, and 4 monthly commodity reports were published.

Fisheries

A special survey of cold storage facilities for storing frozen fish was undertaken in the latter part of the year. This was followed by a benchmark survey designed to ascertain the extent to which the present compilations represent the total stock of frozen fish in warehouses other than those operated by fish retailers and locker plants.

At the request of the Department of Fisheries, information relating to production, catch, men, gear and equipment was prepared by fisheries districts for 1952 and 1953. This greatly expanded annual report is now in the composing room, and a similar report for 1954 is being prepared. The *Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics* and the monthly report on *Cold Storage Holdings of Fish* were issued regularly.

Foods and Beverages

Revisions to the annual schedule for the carbonated beverages industry will permit publication of production statistics by size of container for the first time. At the request of the Department of Agriculture, a survey on the pack of potato products in 1955 was undertaken; this will be a regular annual survey in future.

Publications released during the year included 19 annual industry reports, 18 annual reports covering the packs of the principal fruits and vegetables, the 3 quarterly reports on stocks and consumption of manufactured tobacco, production of processed foods, and stocks of canned fruits and vegetables, and the monthly reports on shipments of prepared stock and poultry feeds, and on carbonated beverages.

Forestry

Considerable attention was given to the revision of statistics for the period 1940-1953 on forest products cut on farms, and to the improvement of the annual estimates of primary forest production.

Twenty-nine annual industry reports and 7 monthly commodity reports were published.

Inventories

A major revision of the monthly report *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* was implemented, beginning with the issue for December 1955. Major changes included substitution of values for index numbers, a new method of estimating components, a complete revision of the economic-use classification of industries, the arrangement of data on a standard industrial classification basis, and a revision of

the estimates on new orders to a basis comparable to the shipments' estimates.

Coverage for the monthly sample survey on inventories and shipments was extended by an additional 360 establishments, bringing the total number now reporting to 2,650. The more comprehensive annual survey which formerly included all plants with a gross value of shipments of more than \$50,000 annually was reduced to a coverage of 7,600. Preliminary work was done on the development of quarterly surveys of inventories held by the mining and logging industries.

Merchandising and Services

Special attention was given to the difficulties of non-response, incomplete returns, etc., in the new samples of monthly statistics of retail sales and inventories, and wholesale sales and inventories, and for the quarterly statistics on retail consumer credit. A new annual survey to measure the entry of new firms in the retail and wholesale fields was started; this is based on unemployment insurance records, and, if successful, will replace the annual field study now carried out by area sample methods. In the consumer credit unit a monthly survey was started for accounts outstanding on the books of selected retail trades, money lenders, and sales finance companies.

A special survey on advertising expenditures in 1954 was completed and a preliminary report was released.

Twenty-five annual or biennial reports were published during the year, as well as the quarterly report on consumer credit, 6 monthly reports, and 1 weekly report.

Metal and Chemical Products

To meet an insistent demand the monthly survey on production and shipments of stoves and furnaces was resumed after a lapse of two years. Major changes were made in the monthly survey on refined petroleum products. To save time in the preparation and printing of the larger monthly reports, the use of pre-printed skeleton tables was introduced.

Sixty-two annual industry reports and 9 special commodity reports were forwarded to the Composing Unit during the year. The usual 25 monthly reports were issued on schedule.

Mineral Statistics

There were no major changes in the work of the Section but a decided improvement in timeliness of annual reports was achieved. All compilations for 1954 were completed and all annual reports - 24 in number - were forwarded for printing before the year end. The 12 monthly reports were issued regularly.

A preliminary estimate of Canada's mineral production in 1955 was released on January 3, 1956.

Textiles and Miscellaneous Products

A major effort was made to speed up the annual compilations and gains of as much as 6 months were made for some industries. Practically all the annual reports—25 in all—were published or were near publication at the year-end.

The quarterly report *Production of Garments* and the monthly reports on raw rubber and on phonograph records were issued on schedule.

Central Assembly and Special Projects

Good progress has been made with the summary compilations for 1954 and the work is about a month ahead of last year's schedule. The *Preliminary Statement of Manufactures, 1954* was released in October 1955.

The six sections of the *Manufacturing Industries of Canada 1953* were published during the period July to September 1955, also the report on *Type of Ownership 1953*. The *General Review of the Manufacturing Industries 1953* was in the printing room at the year end, and the report on *Regional Distribution, Manufacturing Industries of Canada 1953* was being processed in the Composing Unit.

The new method of punching cards on a weekly basis for mechanical tabulation has shown many advantages over the former procedure and is being adopted permanently.

Considerable time was spent in preparing or in supervising the preparation of special statements for the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects.

In the Special Projects Unit the estimates for the 16,000 firms which receive special short forms were completed for 1954. An intensive check on the reliability of these estimates was carried out. Considerable time was given to a study of methods to produce early estimates of principal statistics for manufacturing, by provinces and by major groups.

Central Index and Files

About 4,950 names of new manufacturing firms were obtained from the continuing search of directories, industrial magazines, etc. These were indexed and forwarded to the General Assignments Division for further investigation. In maintaining the alphabetical and geographical indexes, about 7,086 new plates were made, 10,330 were corrected for changes in address, etc., and 6,550 were withdrawn as being out of business, etc.

In the filing unit, about 6,149 new files were set up, 12,953 corrections were made to file labels, 38,494 letters and schedules were filed and 5,415 files were withdrawn for discarding.

INFORMATION SERVICES

The functions of this Division include the planning, editing and production of *The Canada Year Book*, the official annual compendium of

information on the institutions and the economic and social development of Canada; the Official Handbook *Canada*, the profusely illustrated concise annual portrayal of present conditions and recent progress of the nation; the DBS *Daily Bulletin* and *Weekly Bulletin* which carry annotations of all publications of the Bureau on date of release and constitute the principal media of communication with the Press respecting the Bureau's statistical releases; and the catalogue of *Current Publications* for the promotion of general distribution. In addition to the storing, handling, and public distribution of a wide variety of statistical publications, the Division provides the focal centre for general inquiries, the channel for the dissemination of Bureau information and attendant public relations, and the library facilities for statistical research and study.

Canada Year Book

The Canada Year Book 1955, with many new features in text, diagrams and maps, was released for distribution on October 7, 1955. Planning of the 1956 edition was undertaken during the early summer and by the end of the fiscal year a majority of the chapters had been set in type. *The Canada Year Book 1956* is being set more tightly in slightly wider measure to accomodate added text and tabular material including new special feature articles and diversified charts and maps. Certain production changes were introduced in an endeavour to close the publication time-lag between the English-language and the French-language editions.

The Official Handbook *Canada 1955*, released on June 17, with a new cover design produced by the silk screen process, contained a number of new features in layout, text, and illustrations. *Canada 1956*, at an advanced stage in publication by March 31, will have a new four-colour Canadian wildlife design cover and its text and illustrations will again portray the Canadian social and cultural scene and the highlights of present-day economic progress and natural resource development. The English text for a Spanish-language edition of the Official Handbook *Canada* was prepared and translation was virtually completed and preparations made for printing during the summer of 1956. This special edition is being distributed in Latin America and Spain by the Departments of Trade and Commerce and External Affairs.

The Economic Mapping Unit prepared 35 maps and charts during the period under review, for inclusion in the 1955 and 1956 editions of the *Canada Year Book*. The Unit likewise prepared mapping data and layouts for 68 maps and 20 charts in connection with the Atlas of Canada project, and it revised the preliminary proofs of the initial four maps received from the Atlas Committee.

Press and Publicity

This Section comprises three units with distinct but closely co-ordinated duties: bulletins and publicity; general inquiries, publications information and revenue; and distribution and storage. This organization was established in the year 1954-55 and remained unchanged during the year under review except for detailed measures to tighten its co-ordination.

The regular work of the Section showed an increase in the year. This was most apparent in the number of letters received by the General Inquiries, Publications Information, and Revenue Unit, which handles orders and subscriptions for publications. These increased to 30,913 from 21,492 the previous year and the amount of money received to \$52,685 from \$47,113. The Distribution and Storage Unit dispatched over 65,000 copies of publications from stocks as against 60,000 in 1954-55, while mailing the same total of approximately 1,500,000 copies of publications to addresses on the regular mailing lists.

During the second half of the year the Bulletins and Publicity Unit was engaged in preparing plans and material for publicity for the first nation-wide five-year census of June 1, 1956. Designed to prepare the public for the visit of the enumerator, this work included production of informative articles about the census for supply to the press, radio and television, arrangements for advertising and posters, etc.

The Unit maintained its long-standing record of publishing the *Daily Bulletin* each working day and the *Weekly Bulletin* every week. These bulletins contain news summaries of each day's and week's issues of reports, together with other information not available in printed reports, thus providing an overall coverage of the current information issued by the Bureau and, in addition, many other statistical news items. The list of *Current Publications* was also revised, and some displays arranged to publicize Bureau publications at conferences.

Besides handling numerous inquiries, the Section made revisions of material relative to Canada appearing in some 20 national and international annuals, almanacs and year books, with the object of supplying accurate statistical information on Canada through these channels.

Library

The substantial increase in loans from the Library reported in the last Annual Report was further augmented during the period under review. Total recorded circulation from the main charging desk rose from 6,918 to 7,297. An impressive increase in inter-library loans occurred, indicating that the Library is a major source of material for other government departments and outside organizations. Items loaned to outside libraries and others outside the Bureau rose from 627 to 1,009, due mainly to loans to the research staff of the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects.

The study tables and carrels were constantly in use by Bureau personnel, while the staff of the Royal Commission made continuous use of the library to consult Bureau reports and other statistical series. The knowledge of the Head Librarian and Reference Librarian of the history of Bureau reports and statistical series proved invaluable in guiding research workers to the desired publications.

Periodical circulation during the period under review kept at an even flow. In this connection, a thorough revision of the Kardex record is being carried out and a holdings record of all our periodicals is being listed on

cards. The history of some 1,380 titles was established and listed on cards and with the revision of some 100 more titles this work will shortly be completed.

Effective April 1, 1955, purchasing of books was transferred from the Department of Public Printing and Stationery to government departments direct, and the Library organized a system of direct purchase of book and documents. A purchase order system and account records were set up which have expedited the purchase of books and provided a control of expenditures. The total amount spent for the fiscal year 1955-56 on Library account, including new books, annuals, directories and periodical subscriptions was \$5,252.03. The number of books acquired by purchase and gift was 501 as compared with 418 the previous year.

The number of items catalogued was 2,629 and the number of cards made and filed in the catalogue was 7,328, as compared with 1,168 and 3,066, respectively in the previous year. The cataloguing routine was overhauled, resulting in new items being catalogued within a week after receipt, except where difficulties in entry form were involved. A considerable portion of the backlog which resulted from staff shortages during the past five years was liquidated and a start made on reclassifying and recataloguing older items and transferring the entries from the old catalogue to the new.

Interesting acquisitions during the year were purchase of the first of five volumes of the *New Times Atlas of the World* (Volume 3 - Europe) and of the 1860 Census volume of the United States, filling a gap in our census holdings which extend from 1850 to the present, and the receipt from the General Register Office in London, England, of all available volumes of the Census of England and Wales and of Scotland from 1801, thus completing our set of all volumes available on the censuses of Great Britain.

Miscellaneous operations included the binding of 697 volumes, the recording of 57 new exchange agreements, and the distribution of 534 duplicate volumes to other libraries.

It is worthy of note that the professional and clerical staff assumed the additional burdens caused by the taking over of book purchasing orders and the increase in loans, cataloguing, and reference work without additions to the staff.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The International Trade Division is concerned with the preparation and presentation of statistics of Canada's international commodity trade, balance of payments, international financial position, and international travel expenditures. Besides the compilation of basic series there is the preparation of studies and analytical comment and aids to analyses assisting in the interpretation of data. The program of development is directed towards extension of these services by improvements in basic presentations of statistics and the publication of more frequent series when information is in demand.

In covering this field of information the nature of activities in the Division ranges from large production operations to highly specialized analysis and research into international transactions. Some of these responsibilities require, individual research and constant initiative in devising new sources of information on Canada's international transactions. Other operations involve the organization of large staffs in routine procedures in handling the flow of documents. The processing of a growing volume of statistical data each month continues to be one of the leading functions of the Division.

External Trade

Sharply rising levels of foreign commodity trade have been an outstanding development during the year affecting the work of this Section by the much larger volume of documents which have had to be processed. Besides the provision of statistics on Canada's foreign trade in regular bulletins and reports the External Trade Section continued to provide extensive services to the business community and to other government departments through many special requests for information on Canadian trade. An example of how these services were extended is provided by a new special statement which was introduced showing Canada's export trade with overseas countries in selected commodities via United States and Canadian ocean ports.

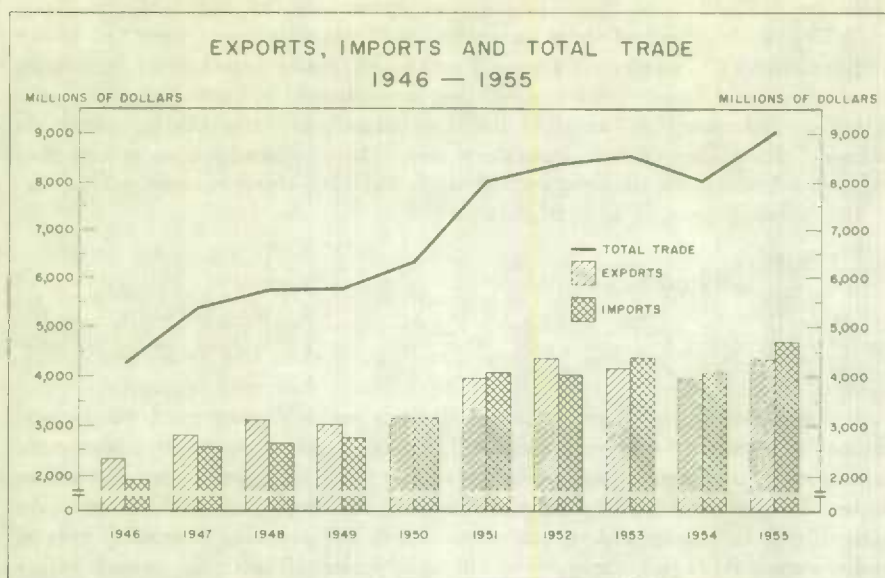
Among new analytical studies has been one covering the changing structure of Canada's export trade and an analysis of the designation of trade by countries in the case of imports originating in Central and South America.

The Unit continued to participate in the Bureau's work on the Standard Commodity Classification and the final editing of the work on the Third Draft of the Classification was completed.

In November the Chief and Assistant Chief of the External Trade Section visited Washington to discuss mutual problems and organization with the officers in charge of United States foreign trade statistics. The topics discussed included staff organization and training, the use of sampling in foreign trade statistics, the adaptation of foreign trade statistics to electronic calculators, the treatment of special defence items in trade statistics, and the treatment of goods exported or imported for use in the St. Lawrence Seaway project. Comparison was also made of Canadian and United States techniques in calculating price indexes for exports and imports, and discussions were held with officials of the International Monetary Fund with regard to the presentation of Canadian statistics in IMF publications, and problems in the use of Canadian material in international comparisons.

Balance of Payments and International Investments

The preparation of quarterly statements on the balance of payments continued to be a major regular product of the Balance of Payments Section requiring the continual observation and measurement of all types of commercial and financial transactions between Canada and other countries.



Chief among special undertakings has been the preparation of a report on *Canada's International Investment Position 1926-1954*. This has given rise to a number of studies with the object of assisting in the evaluation of the place of foreign investments in Canada. Among the studies were the share of recent financing of Canadian development, the distribution of ownership and control, and the ratios of income remitted abroad. For this purpose it was necessary to make special estimates of total investments in the various branches of Canadian industry. Another extensive special study was made of the proportions of Canadian manufacturing in the larger establishments controlled in the United States.

Travel Statistics

New administrative arrangements with the Department of National Revenue were worked out for recording the international movement of Canadian automobiles returning from the United States and United States automobiles on short-term visits to Canada, and the sampling of the expenditures for these forms of traffic.

Further extensions of sampling procedures in the gathering of information on international travel were introduced. Among these was the question of information by mail from a selection of United States visitors to Canada, providing new data on such subjects as the patterns of expenditures, the routes followed, destinations in Canada, types of lodging used, and purpose of travel.

Requests from international organizations for information again gave rise to many special undertakings on the part of various staffs in the Division.

LABOUR AND PRICES

The main effort of the Labour and Prices Division is directed to the maintenance of current statistics of employment and earnings of industrial workers, price movements, and the operations of the Unemployment Insurance Commission. Most of these records are produced on a monthly basis. During the year it has been possible to introduce sampling procedures for the more timely production of monthly labour income estimates.

Employment

With the continued growth of Canadian industry, the number of monthly reports on employment, payrolls, and man-hours processed in the year ending March 31, 1956, rose by 7 per cent, a rate that maintained the record of the earlier post-war period.

For some years, monthly tabulations of regional employment and payroll statistics have been prepared for the Ontario Bureau of Statistics and Research. Rearrangement of the regions during 1955 required extensive re-coding of firms on the Employment Section's mailing list. To carry back the record on the new basis for a period of some length, a revised series was built up for June 1 in the years 1949-1955, with monthly figures from January 1, 1955.

To satisfy demand for more detailed area and industry statistics, arrangements were made during the year to publish hours and earnings figures for the City of Brantford, and for major components of the electrical apparatus and supplies industry. Material for many smaller centres and for numerous industries was furnished in response to special inquiries.

Requests for unpublished statistics and special groupings of data continued in large volume, notably as background material in wage negotiations, for firms planning new establishments, for escalation clauses in contracts, and for numerous other purposes.

Unemployment Insurance

A series of meetings was held during the summer months with officials of the Unemployment Insurance Commission regarding statistics required under the revised Unemployment Insurance Act effective October 2, 1955. Further to these meetings, co-operation was extended to the Commission in the design of new reporting forms and the drafting of instructions for their completion.

A review was undertaken of all statistical reports compiled in the Section and changes made as required to reflect the provisions of the revised Unemployment Insurance Act. In consultation with the Chief Actuary, Department of Insurance, statistics required for actuarial purposes were also reviewed and appropriate revisions instituted.

In December the Acting Chief of the Section visited the United States Department of Labour, Bureau of Employment Security in Washington, D.C., and the Old Age and Survivors Insurance Bureau, United States Department of Health Education and Welfare, in Baltimore. The purpose of this trip

was to discuss certain specific problems regarding the handling of benefit statistics and to exchange ideas regarding recent developments in the field of employment security statistics.

A reference paper (No. 61) entitled *Employment Under the Unemployment Insurance Act* was published.

The monthly *Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act* was issued regularly. Weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, and annual reports on the operations of the National Employment Service were released. The semi-annual report *Hiring and Separation Rates in Certain Industries* for the period March 1953 to February 1955 was published, also the *Annual Report on Current Benefit Years Under the Unemployment Insurance Act* for the calendar year 1954.

Prices

A reorganization of the Prices Section into four research and production units, and a services and supplies unit, became fully operative during 1955-56. Each of the four units has a price collection, tabulation, and publication program, and, in addition, has undertaken research into a variety of aspects of their work. In the main, research has been concentrated on improving price collection and upon the revision of major price series.

Urban Retail Unit.—A conference of field personnel engaged in price collection, the first in over three years, was held in Ottawa in November 1955. During the conference many aspects of price collection, concepts, and practices were discussed. Proposals made during the conference have since been subject to rigorous examination and a number of changes have been instituted. As a result of the conference, the collection of "sale" prices, which had previously been restricted to durable consumer goods, has been extended to the full range of commodities and services included in the Consumer Price Index budget.

Work has been proceeded in the design of price schedules with particular reference to the possibility of using shuttle schedules; periodicity of price collection, specification pricing, and the design of the food store sample have also received considerable attention. A spatial price index for St. John's, Newfoundland, and Halifax, Nova Scotia was calculated for administrative purposes.

Wholesale Prices Unit.—This unit has been primarily concerned with the elaboration of a conceptual framework for wholesale price indexes and the extension of price coverage. A basic memorandum outlining proposals for wholesale index number construction, for circulation to index number users, is in final stages of preparation. Price coverage has been expanded in a number of fields, particularly in the pulp and paper and electrical apparatus industries.

Special Purpose Index Unit.—Analysis of indexes of Canadian farm products, Canadian industrial materials, and prices paid by farmers was undertaken with a view to a revision of these series. Collaboration with

the Department of Agriculture resulted in a program of collecting retail prices of an extensive list of commercial feeds. Experimental shuttle schedules were introduced in the collection of these prices.

International Prices Unit.— In connection with a proposed review of allowances of Canadian Government personnel posted abroad, methods of calculating the required indexes and adjusting foreign allowances on the basis of these indexes were analysed with a view to clarifying the aspects of the present scheme which require modification.

The Unit collaborated with members of other government departments in a pilot study of comparative prices and living costs in Southern Canada and locations in Northern Canada.

Central Staff

The application of sampling techniques to industrial payroll data has resulted in speeding up the publication of monthly estimates of labour income. Publication of seasonally adjusted figures in this series was also instituted. In 1955-56, publication of 1953 urban family living expenditure survey results was completed and family expenditure records for a 1955 survey were collected. This field work marks the successful beginning of the second phase of a continuing small sample family expenditure program.

The Assistant Director of the Division attended a meeting of experts on the Standard International Classification of Occupations at Geneva in September and October. He was on loan to the International Labour Office for the greater part of the year.

MECHANICAL TABULATION

In addition to the regularly scheduled monthly and annual tabulation programs several new tabulation programs were undertaken during the year. These included monthly and annual tabulations of canal statistics, manufacturing inventories, manufacturing shipments, government employment statistics, and deportation statistics. A series of annual tabulations relating to forest growth was undertaken for the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Annual tabulations of the census of mental institutions, tabulations of a special survey of components of rent, and computational work in developing seasonally adjusted indices were also undertaken. In addition to the above, 150 special tabulating requests were received from different divisions of the Bureau and certain government departments. The Division was authorized to carry out a program of calculations and tabulations relating to the permanent services pension account for the Department of Insurance.

A number of changes in the program for tabulating unemployment insurance statistics was necessitated by recent revisions to the Unemployment Insurance Act. Plans were made to assist in certain aspects of the 1956 Census program, particularly the punching of cards to provide an up-to-date mailing list of farm operators.

The very extensive job of sorting and listing approximately nine million 1921 Census cards in order to provide an alphabetical index to assist in the proof of age searches was started. A new high speed alphabetic sorter (1,000 cards per minute) and a tabulator were ordered for delivery early in the new fiscal year to speed up this work.

The program to convert all key punching and verifying machines to the latest models was recently completed. Experience has shown the new machines to be decidedly superior to the older models. Accuracy has improved and operator production has increased considerably. This has enabled the Division to reduce the number of such machines from 80 to 70 and still handle a sizeable increase in work volume.

A few additional comptometers and operators were required to handle the conversion of many schedules to the peg-board method of compilation. This work is now completely in hand and the Division is lending increasing assistance to other divisions of the Bureau by carrying out computational work for them.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TRANSPORTATION

The main functions of the Public Finance and Transportation Division are to provide basic statistics of public finance for the three levels of government, federal, provincial and municipal, and for the several forms of transport. Closely allied thereto are the statistics of employment and payrolls of governments and various public utilities, the details of which have an important relationship to either the government or the transport sector of the economy.

In the public finance fields, interest centres mainly on the volume and extent of government expenditure programs in light of their constitutional or statutory responsibility to provide services to the public and the source from which the public revenues are derived to enable these services to be provided. In addition, data on public debt and related aspects of government finance and financial transactions are prepared.

In the transport and public utilities fields, the basic statistical series comprehend corporate financial data as well as pertinent traffic and other operational statistics. Current or interim statistics are prepared, such as for railways, on a weekly and monthly basis because of their economic significance and general sensitivity to business conditions.

Federal and Provincial Finance

All of the reports prepared in this Section were completed on schedule and in some cases the situation with respect to currentness of the data was improved.

The annual report *Control and Sale of Alcoholic Beverages in Canada* was the subject of considerable discussion with provincial liquor control authorities and a conference was held in Toronto to discuss improvements

in this series. Representatives were present from the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, and each of the Provincial Government Liquor Control Boards. At this meeting, the first of its kind, the questionnaire form was considerably improved and revised procedures were put into effect respecting the statistics for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1955.

Problems surrounding the recently introduced survey of securities held as investments by provincial governments were discussed with officials of the Bank of Canada. The concepts applied in this project were somewhat modified and a better understanding was reached with respect to the funds to be reported.

Further improvement was made in the quality and timeliness of the quarterly data received from provincial governments for purposes of national income analysis. The problem of timely and complete reporting has not yet, however, been completely solved.

Detailed discussion with the Director and staff of the General Assignments Division resulted in improvement in the provincial and municipal government data processed in this Division for use by the General Assignments Division in connection with the annual report of the Department entitled *Private and Public Investment in Canada*. The reporting forms in both provincial and municipal government fields were revised and considerably extended to include a forecast of expenditures by nature of structure.

Parts of the *Reference Book—Dominion-Provincial Conference on Provincial Financial Statistics* dealing with fund classifications were revised and distributed. A Reference Manual, primarily for office use in the processing of provincial finance statistics was prepared in three volumes dealing with (a) analytical procedures, (b) decisions concerning the treatment of a large number of transactions, and (c) terminology, was completed. These documents are in considerable detail and present a work pattern which has been developed over a period of years in a form which permits ready reference by the staff and others interested in this series.

As a result of a request by the Department of Finance, a special series was prepared for submission to the Dominion-Provincial Fiscal Conference held in Ottawa during October 1955. This special assignment embraced statistics dealing with revenue, expenditure, and debt of all three levels of government in Canada for the years 1945 and 1951-1955 inclusive. As the basis of presentation differed from the regular annual series produced in this Section it was necessary to re-analyze the data for the year 1945 and make considerable revision to provincial finance statistics for the years 1951-52. The data dealing with the Government of Canada were prepared on a new basis. This project occupied the major portion of the time of the staff during a period of approximately six months. In order to produce the statistics required for the aforementioned conference, it was necessary to improve the work schedule, particularly in connection with the two financial reports on provincial finance.

Steps are now being taken to introduce, commencing with the fiscal year ended March 31, 1955, a series of finance statistics dealing with the Government of Canada, as well as a series dealing with combined government finance.

The Acting Director attended the meeting of the Continuing Committee on Provincial Finance Statistics and the Preparatory Committee of the Federal-Provincial Conference, both of which were held in Halifax. He also attended a conference of provincial liquor control authorities in Toronto in October for the purpose of reviewing differences in accounting concepts at present in use by the various boards and to study ways and means of developing a more uniform standard for purposes of statistics.

The Acting Director and the Chief of the Municipal Finance Section visited Quebec, Halifax, Fredericton and Charlottetown for the purpose of discussing statistical deficiencies and gaps, particularly in connection with national income, public investment and statistics dealing with the control and sale of alcoholic beverages. While in Quebec detailed discussions took place with the Provincial Auditor concerning the presentation of a functional classification of expenditures in the Public Accounts, using these concepts applied in the annual report *Financial Statistics of Provincial Governments*. A considerable measure of agreement was reached in these discussions which will be put into effect in the statements for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1956.

Municipal Finance

The routine compilation of reports on municipal finance statistics was continued, 1953 being published, 1954 brought near to completion, and 1955 commenced.

In an attempt to make available more current preliminary statistics of municipal finance, a procedure of sampling municipal financial returns and budgets was put into effect, arrangement being completed in all provinces during the year. Returns for 1954 and 1955 were not of sufficient coverage to permit their use in preparing a report, but served as a check on the method which indicated that it will perhaps be quite satisfactory if sufficient response can be obtained and maintained.

The Section co-operated in the preparation of statistics for the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Conference in October 1955.

The annual survey of municipal investment in capital and capital repair was conducted, and the sample basis was used in eight provinces with satisfactory results.

On instructions of the Dominion-Provincial Conference on Municipal Statistics, provincial aid to municipalities was surveyed and a draft summary sent out to provincial officials.

Municipal tax rates, salaries and wages, and sinking fund earnings were surveyed and compilations were prepared.

Government Employment and Payrolls

Analysis of Federal Government employment data has continued on a monthly basis for publication and two special analyses were made for the Civil Service Commission.

Suggestive of an extended interest of this survey is the considerable variety of the sources and the increased number of special requests received relevant to Federal Government employment during the period. Plans are now in progress to commence regular functional (based on the nature of the activity) and industrial (according to Standard Industrial Classification) analyses using April 1956 data.

Regular monthly administrative and functional analyses of provincial government employment data were continued to meet Bureau requirements. A proposed plan of publication, based on the functional classification of governmental services, is approaching completion. Application of the Standard Industrial Classification to the services of these governments has been completed and the first analysis is contemplated in connection with the April 1956 data.

Transportation and Public Utilities

The Motor Transport Sample Survey was extended during the year under review to include Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, and Ontario. This survey, designed to obtain detailed truck traffic statistics and comprising approximately a ten per cent sample of motor trucks, is now on a quarterly basis. Arrangements are being completed to extend the survey to Quebec in the near future, and preliminary discussions have been held with an official of the Province of Newfoundland regarding the extension of the survey to that province.

In the field of electric power statistics, the second annual forecast survey of capability and load is now in progress, the first having been completed in April, 1955. Further progress was made toward the establishment of a new statistical series on electric meter installations. A working committee consisting of members of the Canadian Electrical Association, the electric power industry and officials of this Section met several times throughout the year to discuss the problems involved in a comprehensive review of statistics of the electric power industry. As a result of these discussions, it will be possible to produce more useful monthly and annual reports on an increasingly current basis.

As a result of discussions with officials of the Department of Transport concerning methods of improving monthly canal reports it has been possible to effect some considerable saving in time and staff.

Agreement has been reached with the Department of Transport and the Air Transport Board to produce a preliminary annual report on civil aviation to be utilized by the Air Transport Board in place of the annual Department of Transport report *Transportation Trends* which is being discontinued.

Meetings were held with the Canadian Transit Association to revise the annual electric railway report with a view to replacing it with an annual urban transit statistics report.

Annual Pipeline (oil) reporting forms were expanded to include information concerning the financial aspects of pipeline operations. Exploratory studies were initiated to determine the practicability and feasibility of a statistical series on pipelines (gas). There have been numerous inquiries for data concerning various aspects of the gas utility industry, including gathering and truck line systems for transporting gas, distribution or utility systems for marketing gas, and rates charges or typical domestic gas bills.

Further progress toward the adoption of a uniform system of accounts for railways in Canada resulted in a comprehensive review and revision of railway statistics. Meetings were held with the Board of Transport Commissioners, officials of the Department of Transport, representatives of the railways, and the Railway Association of Canada resulting in the revision of annual and monthly reporting schedules. A new classification of railways in Canada was adopted as a result of discussions and it was agreed that class I and class II railways should report weekly, monthly, and annually.

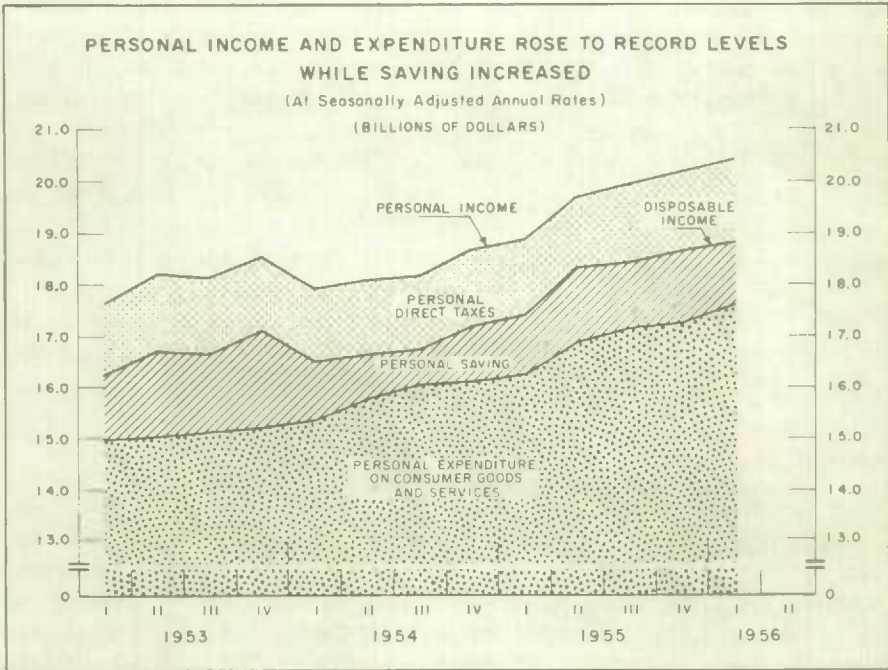
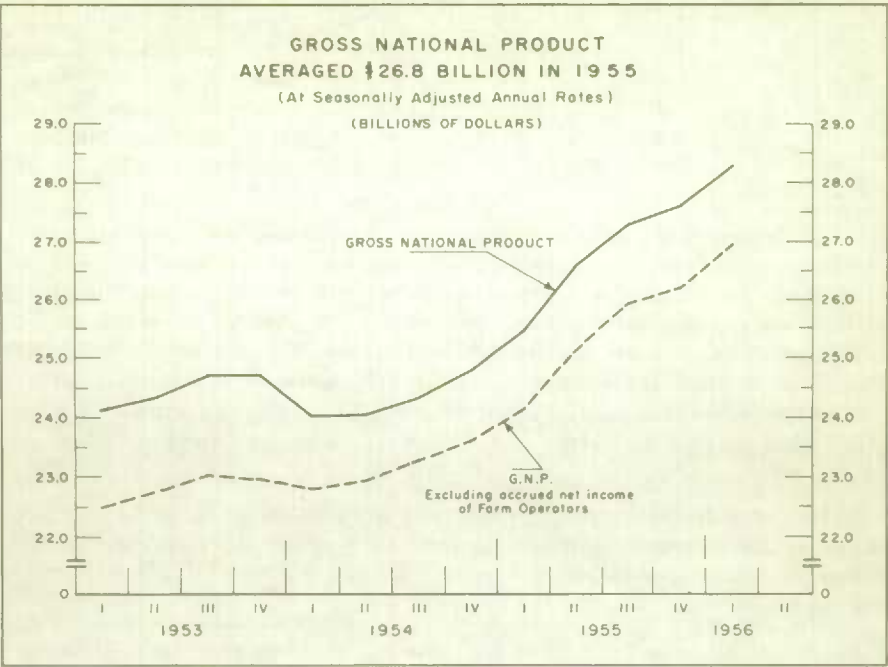
The weekly *Carloadings* report was also taken under review during the year with a view to obtaining uniform practice in reporting by the various railways concerned.

Discussions were held with the Quebec Transportation Board leading to the adoption of a joint form for reporting monthly and annual Quebec motor carrier statistics. New Motor Vehicle Traffic Accident monthly, quarterly, and annual reporting forms have been designed and arrangements have been completed for the tabulation of quarterly and annual statistics. Exploratory studies have been commenced with a view to obtaining statistics on the taxicab industry. Considerable progress by the Canadian Good Roads Association Committee on Economics, Finance and Administration was made toward the recommendation of a uniform classification of roads and streets for Canada. This Section provided interested participation in the committee deliberations because of its interest in the subject of uniformity, the lack of which, with regard to street and road data, impedes the production of satisfactory highway statistics.

Initial discussions with officials of the Board of Transport Commissioners were held to investigate the possibility of obtaining freight traffic statistics for road, rail, and water shipments direct from industrial establishments. Progress was made toward the adoption of a suitable reporting form.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The regular work of the Research and Development Division includes major publications such as the *National Accounts* and the *Canadian Statistical Review*, together with a comprehensive program of research and development directed toward the improvement of a variety of economic indicators and other overall measures produced by the Division. During



the past year, the Division carried forward its regular publication program and continued to provide current analytical comment in the National Accounts and in special articles. Work was carried forward on a number of important research and development projects, including the development of real output estimates for all industrial categories, the winding up of the basic work on the input-output table for the year 1949, the collection and processing of a survey on 'income size distribution' for non-farm families, work on production and employment interrelationships, the inauguration of a pilot study to extend the present framework of the National Accounts to include purely financial transactions, and a program aimed at improving the quality and quantity of seasonally adjusted economic indicators. In addition, the Division continued to maintain close liaison with other government departments on matters relating to the statistical background of the Budget White Paper and special compilations bearing on the current economic situation.

Business Statistics

During the year the section continued to issue the regular monthly index of industrial production. Research continued on the project of extending the index of industrial production to cover all industrial groups in the Canadian economy. In the latter connection four quarterly estimates and a preliminary annual 1955 estimate were prepared for circulation within the government and for use in connection with the analysis of the quarterly National Accounts.

The work of revising and converting the monthly index of industrial production to a new 1949 base was carried a stage further. The construction of annual benchmark indexes was largely completed, and work was begun on the task of bringing the monthly series into line with the new annual levels.

During the year research was carried forward on the relationship between labour input and output and pilot studies of a few manufacturing industries were organized to test the feasibility of various theoretical concepts and data processing techniques. In the course of this work considerable attention has been given to the problem of integrating the various series on labour statistics collected by the Bureau.

The regular publications of the Section (*Canadian Statistical Review*, *Survey of Production*, *Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres*, and *Commercial Failures*) were continued during the year. In addition the 1955 supplement to the *Canadian Statistical Review* was published early in 1956.

National Income

During the year ended March 31, 1956, the National Income Section adhered to its regular publication program. Four quarterly reports, and preliminary and revised annual data were prepared and published. The annual report *National Accounts, Income and Expenditure, 1951-1954*, containing revised annual data and additional detail for the years 1952-1954, was published in May, 1955. The preliminary annual report for 1955, published in March 1956, furnished the basis for material included

in the Budget White Paper. Members of the Section gave assistance in checking the analysis of this material on questions of fact and interpretation. The Bank of Canada was assisted in the preparation of an advance fourth quarter estimate of Gross National Product prior to the publication of its Annual Report.

The most significant new development during the year was the release in the February issue of the *Canadian Statistical Review* of selected seasonally adjusted economic indicators. This represented the culmination of a long period of research in this field of statistics. A number of graphs depicting the movement of these indicators as well as a short explanation of the method of constructing the series were also published. Work is now in progress to extend these seasonally adjusted indicators further back into the past and it is planned to publish them, together with a detailed explanation of the methods of deseasonalization, in a forthcoming reference paper.

The Gross National Product per capita and provincial population ratios used in the calculation of the federal tax rental payments to the provinces were prepared for the fiscal year 1955-56. The annual certificates to the provinces and to the Minister of Finance were issued by the Dominion Statistician in June, 1955, as required under the terms of the 1952 Tax Rental Agreement.

Articles on current economic conditions were prepared for the *Handbook Canada* and the *Canada Yearbook*. Charts of current statistical indicators were also prepared for each monthly issue of the *Canadian Statistical Review*.

During the summer, assistance was rendered to the Department of Finance in the preparatory work for the Dominion-Provincial Conference in the fall. Short papers outlining the content and objectives of certain national and regional aggregate statistics were transmitted to the Department.

As in other years, the National Accounts were recast in line with the requirements of the Organization for European Economic Co-Operation and transmitted to that organization. For the first time, the accounts were also prepared according to the standard system of accounts requested by the statistical office of the United Nations and transmitted on a preliminary basis in that form to this agency.

A substantial improvement in the accuracy and detail of the inventory statistics included in the National Accounts was brought about by the incorporation of the results of the new monthly surveys of inventory holdings of retail (independent) and wholesale stores, carried out by the Industry and Merchandising Division. Further work is required in this area.

The Director of the Division and four members of the professional staff of the National Income Section, including the Chief, attended the Conference on Research in Income and Wealth held in New York City in November, 1955.

Special Projects

A sampling survey designed to collect 1954 income data for families and individuals was conducted in March and April, 1955. Complete data were collected from 6,500 families and partial data from another 800. Processing of these statistics has been completed and a report is now in preparation. These income estimates will be released later this year in Reference Paper No. 66 *Distribution of Non-Farm Incomes in Canada by Size, 1954*. They bring up-to-date the estimates for 1951 published in Reference Paper No. 52.

In March, 1956, approximately 5,000 households were sampled for financial information on incomes, liquid asset holdings, and certain types of debts. This survey is the first of its nature to be undertaken by the Bureau.

In co-operation with the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects and the Bank of Canada, a pilot study is under way to extend the present framework of the National Accounts to include financial transactions relating to the Accounts. This Section has assumed the responsibility for modifying the information in the National Accounts to fit the required format, and for investigating the financial transactions of provincial and municipal governments. The work is being carried on for the year 1952 and, if it proves successful, will be extended to other years.

To further the analysis of imports entering the Canadian economy, statistics are being compiled on the relationship between imports into Canada and the production of various Canadian industries. Some parts of this study have been completed for the years 1947-53 and consideration is being given to the publication of the results.

The study of the inter-industry flow of goods and services for the year 1949 is being analysed and the results of this study are contributing to discussions to improve the integration of statistics prepared in various Bureau divisions and to remove some of the gaps in the data. The work on the Standard Commodity Classification Manual was completed during the period with the assistance of members of this Section and its implementation will further improve the comparability of commodity statistics.

SPECIAL SURVEYS

The main functions of the Special Surveys Division are to obtain current information on the population and housing characteristics of the Canadian people and, through its regional offices, to carry out field work for other divisions of the Bureau.

The Division obtains on a continuing basis, by direct sample survey, data on labour force characteristics, interprovincial migration, family structure, housing characteristics, expenditure patterns, and other population fields. While estimates for small areas cannot be obtained from such surveys, the sampling method allows current statistics to be produced with a much greater degree of timeliness than a full count and at an

economically feasible cost. The field work requirements by the different divisions of the Bureau are co-ordinated by the Division and channelled to the regional offices located in eight centres from coast to coast.

During the year ended March 31, 1956, the monthly survey of the labour force was continued and results of each survey were made available not more than 30 days after beginning of interviews. Well over 30,000 households across the country were enumerated each month; close programming and the use of mark-sensing techniques made possible the speedy processing of the material. The annual survey of interprovincial migration was carried out in conjunction with the May, 1955, labour force survey. As a supplement to the September 1955 survey, the Division collected data for the annual report on household facilities and equipment.

The Division continued to conduct investigations to improve the quality of the statistical material in both the field of sampling and statistical methods and the field of enumerator-respondent interaction. The sample design forming the basis for most of the survey work of the Division is under constant review. In particular, new methods of counting and listing in urban areas were investigated to reduce the chance of underrepresentation of any particular group of the population.

The 1955 series of monthly surveys on family expenditures was completed. This is similar to the series carried out in 1953. Certain commodity groups are the subjects of separate interviews. In January, 1956, a summary survey was carried out covering the entire family budget to integrate the results of the monthly surveys. The processing and analysis of the results of these surveys were undertaken by the Labour and Prices Division.

A considerable amount of the field organizational work for the 1956 Census was done in the last few months of the year by the staff in the regional offices. Areas of high population growth were surveyed to enable the Census Division to delineate enumeration areas of proper size and a large proportion of the candidates for the positions of census commissioners and field supervisors were interviewed.

The field work on a comprehensive survey of personal incomes, assets, and liabilities was carried out in March, 1956. Processing and analysis of the data obtained in this survey will be done in the Research and Development Division.

The regional offices supervised the selection of the quarterly samples of the Survey of Motor Transport conducted by the Public Finance and Transportation Division. During the year this survey was extended to include Ontario and the four western provinces. The regional offices were also responsible for local follow-up of non-response in this survey.

Through the regional offices, the Division continued to collect monthly, quarterly, and annual reports on behalf of other divisions of the Bureau, from business establishments which had failed to mail them to the Bureau within a reasonable time. Almost 11,000 collection dockets were sent to the regional offices for 1954 annual reports and, at the end of

1955, only 58 remained for collection. During the same period, nearly 5,000 collection docketts were forwarded for other than 1954 annual reports.

The Division provided technical assistance for other divisions of the Bureau and for other government departments. Two surveys were designed for the Research and Development Division; a special sample was selected for a study of consumer finances, and a supplementary survey, taken in conjunction with a Canadian Labour Force Survey, provided data on those facilities and services included in the rent of rented dwellings. Additional tabulations of the data obtained in the Height and Weight Survey were prepared for the Department of National Health and Welfare. These tabulations provided decile values of the height and weight distributions. For the Department of Labour the Division designed a sample of households in each of eight major cities. The samples were used to collect information on the environmental conditions of married women who were working.

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