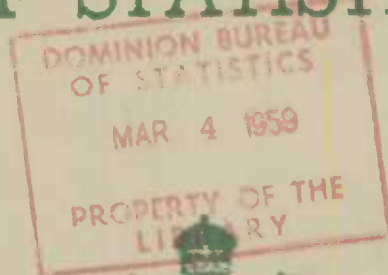


GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

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*Annual*

Report of the  
**DOMINION BUREAU  
OF STATISTICS**



For the Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1958



DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CATALOGUE No.

11-201

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
ENDED MARCH 31, 1958



CANADA

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY  
OTTAWA, 1959



*To His Excellency the Right Honourable Vincent Massey, C.H., 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, 1958.

Respectfully submitted,

*Gordon Churchill*

*Minister of Trade and Commerce*

Ottawa, Canada  
December, 1958

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## REPORT OF THE DOMINION STATISTICIAN

*THE HONOURABLE GORDON CHURCHILL,  
MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE,  
OTTAWA.*

Sir, — The fiscal year ending March 31, 1958 was notable among other things, for the compilation and publication of the material gathered in the 1956 Census of Population and Agriculture. A number of statistical series covering economic or social factors in Canada's life were expanded while some were published for the first time. Special studies or investigations were undertaken by the Bureau at the request of various government, international and private groups.

The factual data obtained from the 1956 Census were published while a series of analytical studies was started dealing with special aspects of the Canadian economy including an examination of the methods used for taking the census. These will be released as they are completed. Planning for the 1961 Census began and liaison continued with the United States Bureau of the Census yielding ideas useful in planning future census operations.

Aside from maintaining its regular statistical services the Bureau met the problems created by the increasing demand for factual material made by industry, labour, business and private individuals. In order to meet pressure for additional, timely and comprehensive data of high quality, several new statistical series were introduced, others expanded and re-organized, and a number of special studies published.

Among the special documents released was a paper dealing with the seasonal adjustment of economic series. This paper summarized the problems and the methods used in seasonally adjusting data as well as setting out approximately seventy seasonally adjusted series regarded as critical economic indicators. For those interested in employing statistical series in the interpretation of business conditions the provision of seasonally adjusted data permits ready comparison of current monthly material with any other month in the series. Other special documents dealt with such topics as education, influenza, and phases of agricultural output.

Certain statistics were re-organized or expanded to give wider coverage thus making them more valuable to users while a number of other series were published for the first time. Among the material being released for the first time are publications concerning the greenhouse industry, broadcasting stations, motor vehicle traffic accidents and a listing of New Manufacturing establishments in Canada.

Timeliness has always been a problem especially if the quality of the data is to remain high, and during the year the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reduced the release date on reports in a number of fields among which were



vital and mineral statistics. A contributing factor in getting important material out more quickly was the co-operation of respondents in reducing reporting times, while in certain other fields alterations in processing techniques reduced the time previously taken in printing.

In order to more effectively cater to the demand for additional statistics some re-organization was made in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A Vocational Training Section was established in the Education Division. That section will concern itself with collecting and analysing data on vocational education and training. Within the Industry and Merchandising Division changes in the distribution of responsibility between two sections opened the way for readier development of merchandising statistics.

Co-operative service continued with departments of the federal government, international statistical agencies, provincial and municipal governments and non-government groups. Canada occupies seats on both the Statistical Commission and the Population Commission of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. The Assistant Dominion Statistician, Administration, served as chairman of the latter organization.

Contributions in the field of international technical assistance were continued. The Senior Research Statistician was on loan for the early part of the year to the Bureau for Technical Co-operation with headquarters in Colombo, Ceylon, where he occupied the post of Director. Fellows under Colombo Plan and United Nations' Fellowships received training in specific aspects of the work of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The detailed review of the operations of the Bureau which follows indicates achievements in the various fields of statistical collection and processing with which this organization is concerned, and efforts which are being exerted to collect and process data as quickly as possible within the limits of the physical resources. The accomplishments during the past year reflect the effectiveness with which the individual members of the staff performed their day-to-day duties.

*Walter E. Duffett,  
Dominion Statistician.*

Ottawa, Canada  
December 5, 1958

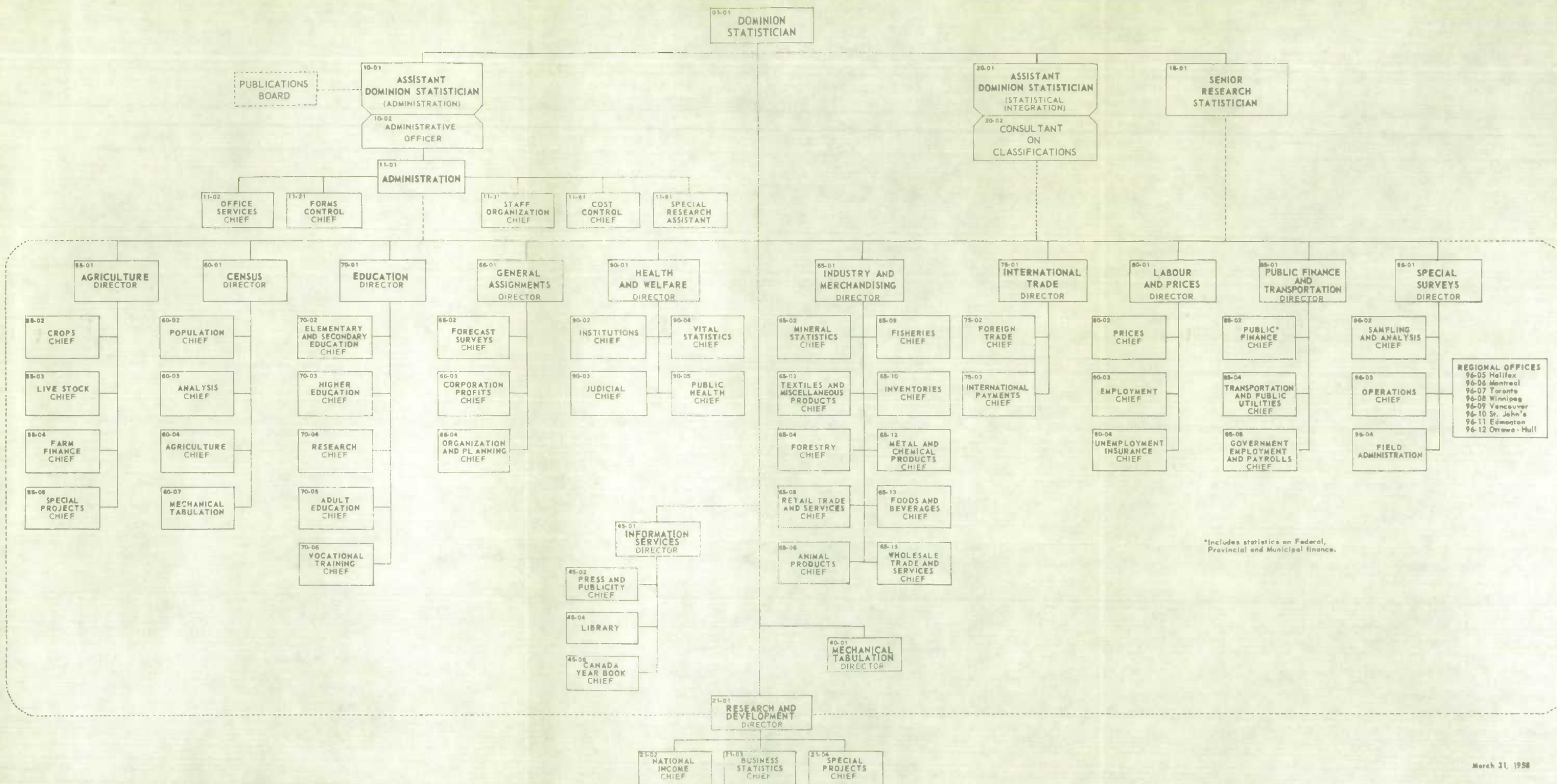


DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Chart showing organization

March 31, 1958

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
GENERAL ORGANIZATION



## ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

### Staff Organization

The Personnel Section is concerned with problems relating to establishment of positions, recruitment, pay, promotions and reassignments of staff and related matters. In carrying out the work of this Section close liaison is maintained with the Civil Service Commission.

The regular staff on strength at March 31, 1958 was 1,560, an increase of 111 over the 1957 total for the same date. During the year there were 335 additions to staff and 224 separations. For the 1956 Census staff there were 11 assignments and 76 separations. At the close of the year the total 1956 Census temporary staff numbered 24. During the year 124 promotional competitions were conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The Suggestion Award Committee received 47 suggestions during the year. The distribution of suggestions processed during the same period was: 5 approved; 35 rejected; and 7 under consideration.

### Health Unit No. 12

The Civil Service Health Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare operates a local Health Unit in the D.B.S. which is responsible for servicing all government buildings in the Tunney's Pasture area. This unit maintains close liaison with the Personnel Office.

Visits by D.B.S. employees to the Health Unit during the year numbered 14,369 as compared with 16,197 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

The work of the Addressograph Sub Unit increased over the previous year. The number of forms addressed numbered 8,341,360; plates embossed numbered 474,053, a total of 309,664 plates were deleted and corrections were made on 76,251 plates.

During the period under review a total of 1,540 plans, maps and charts were completed by the Drafting Unit.

The Composing Unit planned, vari-typed and prepared for printing some 13,000 pages of tabular and textual material. In addition, 2,581 hours were devoted to miscellaneous vari-typing on forms. These 2,581 hours represent a theoretical production of 1,518 pages of publication (based on the current average of 1.7 hours per page) bringing the Unit's total production to some 14,600 pages.

A total of 16,008 bags containing approximately 5,723,735 pieces of mail were deposited with the Post Office for a total cost of \$7,576. Internal and indepartmental messenger service was also provided by the staff of the Mail and Messengers Sub Unit.



Requisitions were handled by the Office Services Unit and during the fiscal year 1957-58, 221 requisitions were raised on the Department of Public Works for goods and services for which they are responsible. During the same period 231 requisitions were reported as completed.

The Supplies Sub Unit submitted a total of 615 printing and stationery requisitions to the Department of Public Printing and Stationery for a value of \$343,238. Issues of postage stamps during the year amounted to \$13,438.

The Stenographic Pool provided stenographic service for the various Divisions including transcription of letters from dictation and typing of plastiplates, statements, lists, etc.

During the year letters transcribed from dictation numbered 2,475 and 25,586 pages of miscellaneous typing were done. In addition numerous form letters were completed and envelopes addressed.

Members of the staff of the Pool were on loan to several offices throughout D.B.S. for a total of 70½ days for which no stated amount of work could be recorded for them.

### **Cost Control**

The Cost Control Section prepares the annual estimates of funds required for the operation of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In addition this Section prepares accounts for submission to the Treasury Office of the Department of Trade and Commerce for payment, operates the Commitment Control of expenditures, and maintains records of operating costs by Divisions and Sections.

During the fiscal year 1957-58 funds for operations were provided through the Main Estimates, by transfers of funds from the General Salaries Vote of the Department of Finance for the general revision of salaries which became effective May 1, 1957, and through the Final Supplementary Estimates which were submitted during January 1958. Supplementary Estimates were required primarily because of increased printing costs, but also to meet salary increases and the increased rental of punched card tabulating equipment which became effective from June 1, 1957. The Supplementary Estimates applied to the Statistics Vote only. Additional funds for salaries which were required for the Administration and Census Votes were made available from the Department of Finance General Salaries Vote.

The expenditures, during 1957-58, in connection with the 1956 Census of Canada should be sufficient for the completion of work in connection with this Census, with the exception of an estimated \$7,000 to be expended during 1958-59 for the completion of the printing of reports.

Further analyses were made on field accounts for the 1951 and 1956 Censuses for reference in preparing estimates for the 1961 Decennial Census.

### **Forms Control**

Approximately 2,350 forms, constituting 5,950 pages, were submitted to the Forms Control Section during the year. Of these, 500 were reprints,

1,200 revisions and 650 new or substantially altered designs. To facilitate the procurement of reprints, a negative file covering all forms, was established in the Section.

As the result of a methods study, the punch card system of recording forms and publications costs was revised to reduce time spent in manual preparation of data for punching.

The Section conducted office payout studies in connection with the relocation of several of the Sections in D.B.S.

During the latter part of the year work began on a proposed system of indexing Bureau publications.

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

### Advisory Board of Publications

The Advisory Board of Publications held seventeen meetings during the year. The number of meetings held denotes the unusually heavy schedule with which the Board was faced. The main reasons for the increase in the work of the Board was the special considerations which arose in connection with cataloguing and indexing of publications.

Close liaison has been maintained with officials of the Department of Public Printing and Stationery in establishing a revised catalogue for Dominion Bureau of Statistics publications.

A new masthead for the *Daily Bulletin* and the *Weekly Bulletin* was approved and in conjunction with its appearance it was decided that greater use should be made of these Bulletins as promotion media in the distribution program. Prices for the Bulletins were revised, and a form for the convenience of persons wishing to order publications was added on the final page of each edition.

During the year several working documents were released which are of limited interest and are therefore not supplied as general publications. The fact that these are available is made known to persons working in the fields which they concern. The results of a number of special studies were prepared and released for general distribution. These included: *Seasonally Adjusted Economic Indicators, 1947-1955*; *Incomes, Liquid Assets and Indebtedness of Non-farm Families in Canada, 1955*; *Handbook of Agricultural Statistics - Part IV*; *Statistical Review of Canadian Education, Census, 1951*; *Influenza in Canada - Some Statistics on Its Characteristics and Trends*.

Several publications of a continuing nature were released for the first time during the year. Included in this group were: *Greenhouse Industry*; *Credit Outstanding*; *Electric and Gas Meter Registrations*; *Salaries and Qualifications of Teachers in Universities and Colleges*; *New Manufacturing Establishments in Canada*; *Radio and Television Broadcasting Statistics*;

*Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents; Production, Consumption and Inventories of Pulpwood; Specified Household Electrical Appliances; Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Equipment; Meat and Meat Preparations.*

The report on *Electric Railways* was discontinued due to the decreasing importance of this mode of transportation. Relevant statistics concerning electric railways will be incorporated into the reports on *Urban Transit* and *Railway Transport*.

The Board considered a number of suggestions which were received from subscribers regarding various phases of the publishing program. These suggestions have been implemented in cases where changes appeared feasible.

### General Committee on Classifications

Under the guidance of the Consultant on Classifications the General Committee continued work on the revision of the *Standard Industrial Classification Manual* which was published in 1948. Prior to final printing the proposed revision will be distributed to users outside D.B.S. who will be invited to present comments and suggestions.

In addition to the revision of the *Standard Industrial Classification Manual* final work on the *Standard Commodity Classification Manual*, including the preparation of a detailed alphabetical Index of products has been carried forward. The Index items have been obtained from lists such as the United States Classification of Commodities Exported (Schedule B) and the Tariff Nomenclature of the Customs Co-operation Council in Brussels as well as special trade manuals and advice and assistance from trade and industry associations and business firms. When the classification is introduced for statistics of exports and imports, the Index will be particularly useful as an aid to the coding clerks who will be using an unfamiliar classification system.

The Consultant on Classifications attended the 9th International Conference of Labour Statisticians held in Geneva from April 24 to May 4, 1957. He was Chairman of the Committee on Occupational Classification and also attended the meetings of the Committee on Classification by Status.

## AGRICULTURE DIVISION

The functions of the Agriculture Division include the determination of statistical items to be collected from the agriculture industry, the collection and compilation of current data, the preparation of reports and the answering of inquiries. These reports and inquiries are concerned with production, distribution and use of agricultural products, quantities and cost of goods and services used by farmers, and the income accruing to farmers.

Statistics concerning the agriculture industry and commodities produced are not all collected by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The Board of Grain Commissioners and the Canada Department of Agriculture in the

course of their regular work provide commercial marketing data for grains, seeds and a number of livestock and livestock products. Within the Bureau, the Census Division collects data on the structure of the industry, and Divisions other than Agriculture collect data on prices and utilization of farm products. The Agriculture Division is responsible for collection of current data at the farm level. Surveys of some agricultural manufacturing plants, such as dairy factories and flour mills are conducted monthly on a full-coverage basis. The mail-questionnaire method of collection is used and most of the farm surveys are non-random in character and provide information on changes taking place. Specific instances of surveys 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, oil seeds, fruits and vegetables); monthly farm prices; poultry, dairy, fur farm and hog surveys. For the dairy factory surveys and some of the farm surveys, the provinces co-operate with the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in the collection and tabulation of data.

New developments within the past year in the Crops Section include more intensive research into methods of estimating stocks of grain on farms. New schedules were designed and tested and questions were added to the June crop survey to broaden the base of the inquiry. A new survey was introduced in Saskatchewan to ascertain the proportions of the more important crops sown on summer fallow, and also yields from summer fallow land in comparison with those from stubble land. In special crops work, a new statistical committee was formed with the Canadian Horticultural Council to aid the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the industry in further improving statistical services for fruits and vegetables.

Further progress was made in the Livestock Section in simplifying schedules used for gathering statistics on the fluid milk trade and on ice cream production. A revised schedule was introduced for collection of fur farm statistics in co-operation with the Canada Mink Breeders' Association.

A new Section, Special Projects, was established embracing the former Research Unit and the newly created Farm Survey Unit. Developmental work relating to collection of data on farm income and expenditure by interview sample surveys was carried on by the Farm Survey Unit working co-operatively with other Divisions in the Bureau and with other Departments, particularly the Canada Department of Agriculture. Field tests were completed in two areas in Manitoba in November 1957 and in two areas in Ontario in February 1958 to obtain evidence on response rates and attitudes, time and mileage costs, and the suitability of questionnaires covering detailed farm business expenses, farm-family income and farm-family living expenses.

The Research Unit participated in the above developmental work, particularly in the appraisal of sample design. Technical Assistance was given to the Crops Section in the study of the reliability of the July 31 survey of stocks and grains on farms. The processing of returns and the calculation of sampling error was completed for the newly instituted Chrysanthemum survey. Direct assistance was provided for intercensal revisions of crop acreage estimates 1952-56. The Section also provided liaison in connection



with construction of farm mailing lists based on the 1956 Census and in the conversion of Census data to a crop-district basis in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

The Farm Finance Section includes the Compilation Unit and Farm Finance Unit both formerly under the Research Section. The Compilation Unit processed some 180,000 questionnaires returned by farmers in the June and December surveys. In addition, returns from three of the Atlantic Provinces were compiled at the Agriculture Division office at Truro, Nova Scotia. In October 1957 a mail-questionnaire survey of certain crops and livestock in Newfoundland was conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Results were not completely satisfactory and further discussions with Newfoundland officials are necessary to plan an effective system for carrying out a continuous program.

Progress was made during the year in intercensal revisions of crop, livestock, dairy and farm finance statistical series. Study of the 1956 Census returns was also carried out to devise improvements in estimating procedures for current surveys.

A conference on Dominion and Provincial Agricultural Statistics was held in December 1957, the chief topic at this meeting was statistics of poultry and egg production and marketing. Officers of the Division served on several committees during the year, the chief of which were Sub-committees of the Interdepartmental Committee on Agricultural Statistics, Interdepartmental Wheat and Grain Committee, the Department of Agriculture Situation and Outlook Committee, the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Services and the Interdepartmental Food and Agriculture Organization Committee.

In addition to the regular publications, 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 were published. The regular issues of the *Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics* contained sections covering the various data collected by the Division. Annual reports on statistics of livestock and animal products were published as were reports on income from farming operations.

## CENSUS DIVISION

The main function of the Census Division is to plan, take, compile and publish the results of the Decennial and other censuses of Canada. In addition, proof of age from early census records is provided for persons who cannot otherwise furnish satisfactory proof of their age.

The activities of the Census Division during the fiscal year ending March 31, 1958 were concerned primarily with the compilation and publication of the results of the 1956 Census of Population and Agriculture. A total of 48 reports dealing with Population, Households and Families, and informa-

tion on Agriculture for the various territorial divisions of the provinces were prepared and published. This series includes a set of maps showing the boundaries of the territorial divisions and statistics for the census tracts in 15 of the major urban areas. To supplement the statistical reports which were published, a number of analytical studies on the various subjects were commenced and these are to be published as completed. Included in this series will be an analysis of the methods for taking the census, including the changes from the methods used in 1951.

Following the publication of the reports a number of studies on the methodology of enumeration, processing and classification were undertaken in order to determine the effectiveness of the newer methods and to assist in the planning for the 1961 Census.

During the year the regular series of estimates of the population (quarterly, semi-annual and annual) and the regular annual reports were prepared and published. Tabular and textual material on Canadian citizenship statistics was prepared for inclusion in the report of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration. Some 48,500 requests were received for verification of age from early census records and for information from National Registration records. The 1956 Population Census documents were microfilmed and both the positive and negative films checked and filed for future reference. The preparation of microfile cards from the 1921 Census Alphabetic Index was continued.

A meeting of the main committee of the Canada-United States Census Study Organization was held in Washington in November at which a number of the senior officers of the Division discussed the methods used in recent censuses and listed specific problems for study by the sub-committees.

Members of the staff took part in the training of 16 Colombo Plan and United Nations Fellows during the year.

Representatives of the Division observed a special census in Yonkers, New York, and, among other topics, discussed methods of estimating internal migration with officials of the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

### **Census Executive Committee**

The fiscal year ended March 31, 1958 saw the completion of the work of the 1956 Census Executive Committee with the publication of the final Census report.

In preparation for the 1961 Census, a new Committee was formed, together with a number of working sub-committees. While the central committee is concerned chiefly with matters of policy, it serves also as a clearing house for all census planning. The various working committees are responsible for details of organization and procedure, as well as for subject matter in the fields of population, agriculture, housing, field organization, distribution, fisheries, tabulation and publication. Lists of questions which were compiled by these committees have been forwarded to technical advisers in government and in business for comments and suggestions. Certain

questions which by their nature pose problems for the enumerator have been pretested in the field, and it is planned to conduct further tests in the coming months.

Various aspects of field organization have been discussed by the Committee. Plans have already been set in motion toward the delimitation and description of the 1961 Census enumeration areas and the improvement of mapping services and a number of possibilities have been explored with a view to increasing completeness of coverage and efficiency of supervision in the field.

Considerable study has been made with regard to the type of tabulating equipment to be used in 1961, but as yet no final decision has been made. On the outcome of this decision rests the pattern of planning in relation to other aspects of the census operation.

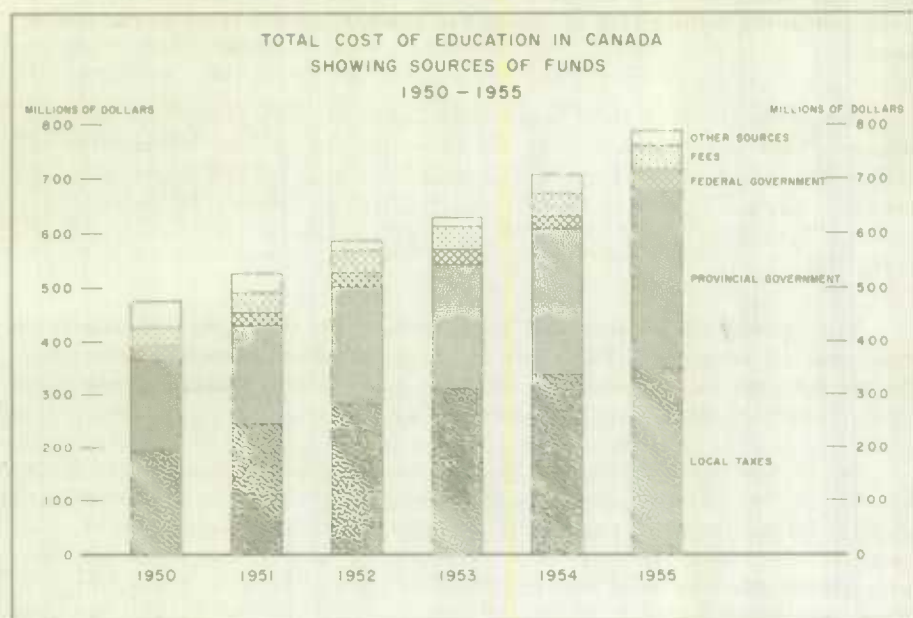
As in the past, there has been close liaison with the United States Bureau of the Census. Meetings have been held in both Washington and Ottawa during the past year which have been mutually helpful in the discussion of census problems and exchange of ideas. Committee members have participated as observers in certain of the United States pretest operations, and an exchange of technical papers and committee reports has been maintained between the two countries.

## EDUCATION DIVISION

The Education Division collects, compiles and prepares for publication statistics of public and private elementary and secondary schools, vocational training schools, colleges and universities, adult education and other cultural activities. Principal types of data reported are those on numbers and types of establishments; numbers, salaries and qualifications of staff; numbers, levels and activities of 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 D.B.S. directly from the institutions concerned.

Co-operative relations are maintained with interested departments and agencies of the Government of Canada, provincial departments of education and such national education associations as the Canadian Education Association, the Association Canadienne des Educateurs de Langue Francaise, the Canadian Teachers' Federation, the National Vocational Training Ad-



visory Council, the National Conference of Canadian Universities, the Canadian Association of University Teachers, the Canadian Association of University Business Officers, the Federation des Colleges Classiques, the Canadian Library Association, the Canadian Association for Adult Education, the Canada Foundation, the Industrial Foundation on Education, the National Advisory Committee on Educational Research, the Canada Council and the Canadian National Commission for Unesco. In the international field, the Division works closely with the U.S. office of Education and with Unesco.

In addition to preparing annual reports on activities in the various fields of education and occasional papers on specific topics the Division responds, insofar as resources permit, to requests for special compilations, articles, papers and talks.

Examples during 1957-58 included: compilation of university enrolment by faculty and graduating year at November 1, a list of private residential schools in Canada, statistics of private elementary and secondary schools, and statistics of business colleges. Articles were prepared on *"Statistics of Canadian Education"*, *"How much? How Many?—a Note on the Role of Education Statistics"*, *"Income and Expenditure of University and College Students"*, and *"All This and Figures Too"* (concerning private non profit libraries serving the public). These articles were published by various periodicals produced by education associations, etc. Preliminary data, to be published in more detail later, were released on the income and expenditure of university students, public library services, librarians' salaries and qualifications, and the schooling of handicapped and other exceptional children.



The large volume of individual inquiries which were handled during the year tended to reflect concern current regarding Canadian education. These inquiries included requests for data related to future enrolments and the needs of schools, colleges and universities for additional facilities, staff and funds; for statistics on the retention and drop-out of students; for figures on student aid; for data on the potential supply of professional manpower, especially of scientists, engineers, teachers and nurses; for technical training data, particularly at the post-secondary level; and for information about the schooling of exceptional children. Every year there are numerous requests for comprehensive information about the Canadian systems of education.

During the year a Vocational Training Section was added to the Division. This Section is concerned with statistics of vocational education and training in public and private secondary schools, trade schools, apprenticeship programs and technical institutes, and professional training outside the universities. From the time of his appointment to the end of the fiscal year the Chief of this Section worked with officials of the Department of Labour's Vocational Training Branch in the preparation of a comprehensive report on industrial and technical training in schools under provincial control.

Series of detailed statistics on Indian schools were begun during the year in co-operation with the Education Division of the Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Citizenship and Immigration. The first issue of a new series of annual reports on the *Salaries and Qualifications of Teachers in Universities and Colleges* was published. An analytical reference paper entitled *Statistical Review of Canadian Education, Census 1951* was in press at the close of the period, and progress was made on the preparation of a select bibliography on Canadian education.

### GENERAL ASSIGNMENTS DIVISION

The main function of the General Assignments Division is to provide estimates of construction activity in Canada, estimates of current and intended capital expenditures covering both the private and public sectors of the economy, and to make available estimates of profits and related financial information of Canadian corporations on a quarterly basis. The Division also, through a co-operative arrangement with seven interested provincial government departments, co-ordinates the work of providing up-to-date information on new manufacturing establishments starting operations in Canada. In addition to these continuing functions, the Division undertakes a variety of *ad hoc* assignments for other government departments and agencies and lends assistance in the preparation of data for specific jobs.

During the past year a survey of mortgages and agreements of sale held in estates, trusts and agencies was completed for Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and a survey of industrial research-development expenditures was undertaken in co-operation with the National Research Council. About 2,750 of the larger corporations were surveyed to investigate the magnitude and direction of the research-development program undertaken by

Canadian industry in 1957 and to provide an indication of the relative size of the 1958 program. The survey also sought information on expenditures made directly by the companies, purchases of research results, the number of scientists and technicians employed and the principal fields of activity. This survey was last conducted to cover the years 1955 and 1956.

The survey of new establishments continued throughout the year with about 9,500 prospective new plants contacted. Information collected on new manufacturing establishments was published in June and December 1957 in memoranda which included the names, addresses and principal products of over 3,000 new establishments.

To meet the increasing demand for information on the financial aspect of pension plans, preparation was made for a survey of almost 1,000 firms operating trustee pension plans. This survey, conducted for the first time by the Research and Development Division for the year 1953, is to be repeated annually in the General Assignments Division.

The monthly series of reports on Building Permits as issued by Canadian municipalities was continued during the year, and the first full year of publication was completed with the issue for December 1957. Further work is being conducted to make more information on building permits available. The publication of data on a similar basis for comparative purposes, covering the years 1951 to 1956, was released during the period. A number of municipalities were also surveyed to determine if building permits were required and, as a result, future publications will include data for about 125 additional areas.

The publication *Private and Public Investment in Canada, Outlook 1958* was released early in March and the supplement setting out data for the provinces and selected metropolitan areas was completed later in the same month. In July, revised estimates of intended capital expenditures for the year 1957 were published. The qualitative portion of the questionnaire was expanded to give more useful information regarding the progress of the program or difficulties encountered.

Information on types of structure for 1955 and 1956 and a forecast of outlays expected to be made during 1957, on a wide variety of buildings and engineering structures, was prepared and published.

Quarterly reports setting forth estimates of profits, depreciation, taxes and sales of Canadian incorporated companies, except government-owned corporations and incorporated co-operatives, were issued throughout the year. These reports covered twenty-one industrial groups, thirteen of which were in the manufacturing industries. During the year work continued on improving the coverage of the sample survey and in investigating the possibility of providing greater detail.

## HEALTH AND WELFARE DIVISION

The Health and Welfare Division provides an annual statistical assessment of the health of the Canadian population through the portrayal of current patterns of mortality, hospitalization and the mass behaviour of illness and of certain diseases in the general population. These data are derived from records of births, deaths, marriages, notifiable diseases, hospitals and similar sources. Since the maintenance of health services is mainly the statutory concern of the provincial governments the Division works closely with appropriate provincial departments both in the collection of source data and in the presentation of the published statistics. While much of the published data contained in the Division's publications are essentially in primary form considerable progress has been made, and is continuing, in extending and strengthening the analytical treatment of the basic series.

This development has been most evident in the field of vital statistics, where a program of analytical reports, launched the previous year, gained further momentum. In other fields stronger attention has first had to be directed toward re-evaluating and improving the quality of the existing statistics. The emergence of firm dates for the entry of the federal government into the field of hospital insurance required a complete overhaul of the statistical schedules for hospital returns, culminating in Dominion-Provincial agreement on the information to be collected in future. Negotiations were in progress at the year-end on the precise nature of the Division's future program in this field. In morbidity statistics the continuing tabulation work on the Sickness Survey produced further important new information on the incidence and prevalence of illness. Concurrently a significant contribution to statistical methodology was made with the preparation of a document outlining proposed concepts and definitions for use in morbidity statistics. Also, plans were made to obtain current bench-mark data on disabling illness through the inclusion of a brief question in the 1961 Census.

Despite progress on these several fronts, variations persist in the scope, coverage, comparability and quality of the statistics for which the Division is responsible, and in their adequacy to meet current requirements. The vast new health and social welfare programs which have come into being in such a remarkably short time in recent years have called for a dynamic expansion of accompanying statistical services which it has been impossible to implement with the available staff resources. Staff resources have accordingly had to be concentrated on the correction of imperfections in the collection and analytical aspects of existing series.

### Public Health

The Public Health Section has two main functions—to provide a broad statistical measure of the nation's health and health services, and to produce statistics concerning specific health problems. Both these types of statistics are important, but in terms of magnitude general health statistics have continued to be the Section's biggest project both with respect to the volume of work and to the technical and administrative problems involved. The *Sickness Survey*, Canada's first venture into this field of general health sta-



tistics, has reached a point where the basic results have become available for the first time in Canada, although much detailed information lies as yet untapped in the record files. In order to evaluate this Survey, to assess the continued usefulness of further work on it, and particularly to contemplate future similar assessments of Canada's health, a Dominion-Provincial Conference on Morbidity Statistics was held during the year with wide representation from government and non-government agencies. The need for a continued processing of Sickness Survey data was emphasized and the planning for future similar studies to be undertaken by the Section will be assisted by a continuing committee recommended by the Conference.

Progress has been made in adapting communicable disease reporting to present day requirements. With the development of health services in the northern areas of the country, these regions are being covered gradually by a system of statistical reporting. In the expanding field of industrial health statistics the Section has been able to contribute to the study of methodology by introducing new concepts into its study of illness in the Civil Service of Canada and by refining the resulting statistical reports. As a result of this continuing study it was possible to produce current statistics on the course of the Asian influenza epidemic and to transmit this information to the agencies concerned.

The advent of the public hospital insurance programs with its growing interest in home care facilities has prompted interest in home nursing statistics. The implications of newly developing plans for the implementation of such services, under provincial auspices, on the statistics collected are being studied.

Close collaboration has been maintained throughout the year with corresponding Divisions in the Department of National Health and Welfare.

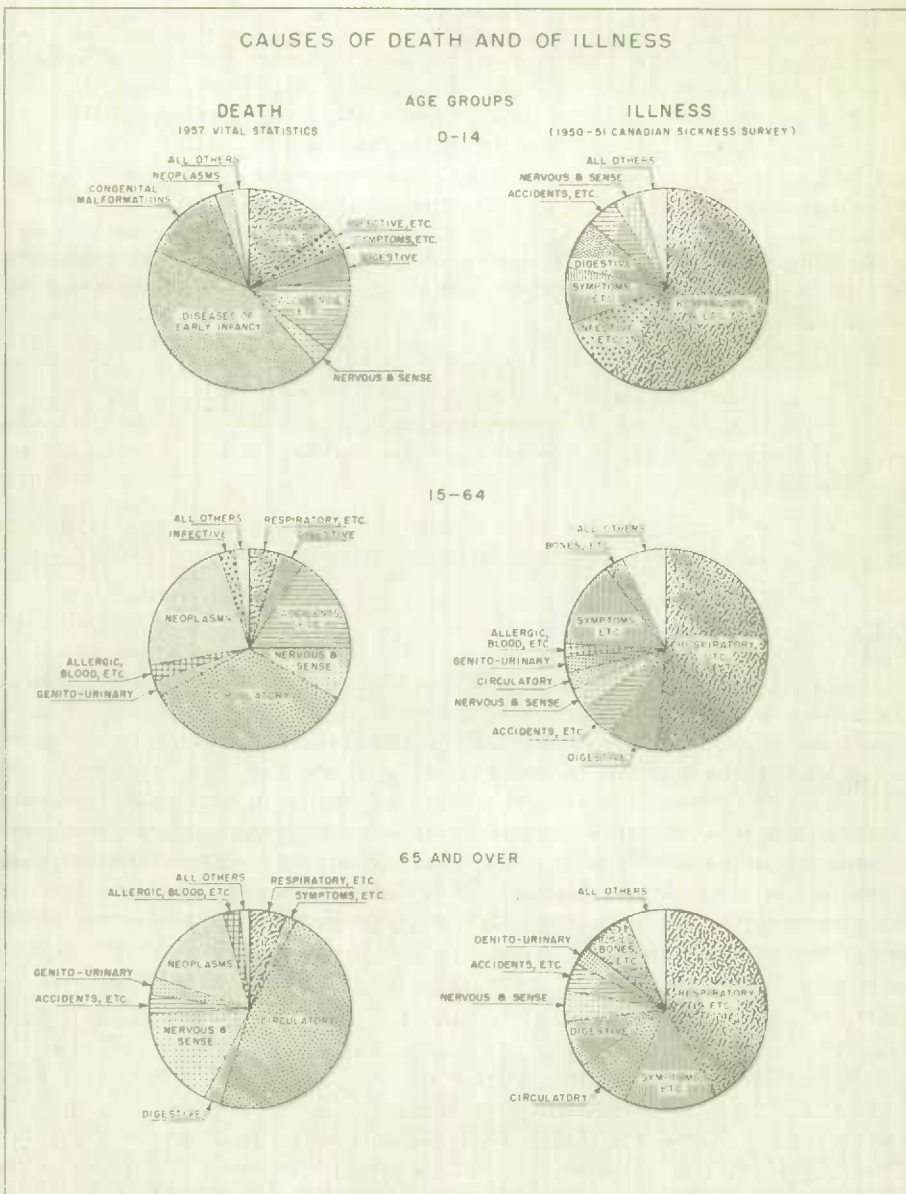
### Vital Statistics

During the year further progress was made in forwarding the 1956 vital statistics to the provinces at an earlier date, reducing by close to three weeks the time previously required. This improvement in timeliness has come about as the result of concentrated efforts over the past few years to obtain earlier returns from the provincial authorities (which in turn involves earlier returns from local registrars in the field) and the complete streamlining and scheduling of tabulation procedures in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in consultation with the Mechanical Tabulation Division. The time saved is now being utilized for the preparation of special research tabulations which previously could not be undertaken.

To meet recurring requests for information in certain fields of vital statistics the publication of special reports has been continued. These reports briefly summarize historical trends and discuss the age and sex impact of particular causes of mortality. During the year four such reports were published and two were submitted for printing. The reports covered the following topics: *Causes of Stillbirth*, *Leading Causes of Death by Major Age Groups*, *Accidental Drowning*, *Mortality from Accidental Falls*, *Mortality from Accidental Poisoning*, and *Mortality from Home Accidents*. At present,

research work is proceeding with studies on mortality from cancer, heart disease and motor vehicle accidents, and with selected aspects of fertility. Consumer reaction to this series of reports has been very encouraging and a great deal of time has been saved by having the data prepared in advance in printed form.

## CAUSES OF DEATH AND OF ILLNESS



In order to meet ever increasing demands for early release of current data on causes of death, the 1956 preliminary report was expanded from two to eight pages with the inclusion of two additional tables on deaths and death rates by cause for each province. The historical tables of the annual report were thoroughly revised to include, wherever possible, data for the Yukon and Northwest Territories and this unfortunately delayed publication. The analytical introduction to the report has created an increased demand which has led to an increase of 200 copies in the printing run.

The geographical codes relating to urban areas and to counties or census divisions, which are used for vital statistics purposes, were revised in consultation with the provincial authorities, immediately following the release of final 1956 Census results. Further progress in connection with coding was made in arranging for provincial offices to assume responsibility for geographical precoding of records on behalf of the Bureau with the object of progressively reducing Bureau coding staff. Additional simplification of coding procedures is being studied with a view to further economies.

Current monthly indexes of births, marriages and deaths were routinely supplied to the Family Allowances Administration and the appropriate provincial offices as has been the practice since 1946 when Family Allowances were initiated. A concerted effort was made, in collaboration with the Mechanical Tabulation Division, to complete some outstanding projects relating to the consolidation and retabulation of the birth indexes for certain provinces.

The meeting of the Vital Statistics Council, in June, threw some additional burdens on the staff of the Section, especially with regard to administrative and legal problems relating to registration of vital events. These involve a review of the forms used for registration, the clearing of definitions and amendment of model legislation, and other problems of a similar nature referred to D.B.S. by the Council for study and investigation. In addition, at the request of the Council, the Section continued its investigation into various reproduction methods adaptable to vital records, and into the efficiency of the present method of indexing.

### **Institutions**

The function of the Institutions Section is the statistical measurement of hospital accommodation, services, utilization, personnel and finances and the nature of hospitalized mental illness and tuberculosis. Improvements in the timeliness and quality of the data prepared by the Section were effected during the year, but these were not as extensive as had been hoped for due largely to the problem of late reporting by hospitals. However, at the end of the fiscal year there was evidence of more prompt reporting by hospitals of data for 1957 than in the previous year. A modest acceleration in publishing the two comprehensive annual volumes on hospital statistics, general and financial, was achieved although it has still not been found possible to issue either of these within the calendar year immediately following. For this reason it was necessary to make available prior to formal publication certain financial data required for hospital cost estimates in connection with hospital insurance planning.

In the field of tuberculosis statistics a dropping off in the number of admissions to sanatoria, coupled with earlier return and a speed-up in processing permitted the publication of the annual report within approximately six months after the year end. Revision of the reporting documents was made in collaboration with the Canadian Tuberculosis Association and a new edition of the *Tuberculosis Statistics Handbook* was prepared for printing. In line with changing emphases in tuberculosis control, plans were made for improving the collection of case-finding information and for fuller analytical treatment of published data.

In addition to the publication of mental health statistics for 1956, the coding of all returns for 1957 was completed before the close of the fiscal year and preparations were made for re-design of reporting documents to be introduced next year. Special tabulations on mental illness among immigrants were made in response to a request by the Department of Citizenship and Immigration. The special analytical program in mental illness statistics was carried on by preparation of basic tabulations on historical trends in the duration of hospital stay, specific for age and diagnosis, as a basis for the calculation of stay-expectancy probabilities.

### Judicial

During the year an intensive examination of the role of the Judicial Section was undertaken and a report, with recommendations, is now being prepared.

Studies were carried out in the areas of recidivism, classification of offences, and international comparability of crime statistics. The compilation of data on the census of Canadian penitentiaries on June 1, 1956 was completed. The main emphasis in the census was on age, sex, and marital status distributions of penitentiary inmates. A report of the studies from census data will be published together with the census of all other penal institutions in Canada when compilation of these data have been completed.

A study of recidivism, based on existing data, from 1950 to 1956 was undertaken at the request of the Department of Justice. Results show, by means of statistical tests of significant difference, that there has been no discernable trend or change in this area during the past seven years.

An evaluation of the various systems of classification of offences was completed, and the system used in the present reports of this Section was found to be inadequate in many ways. The effectiveness of a proposed classification has been tested on the criminal records of 2,000 cases. The criterion used in this study was the degree of homogeneity of the offences falling within the sub-groups of the system.

The results of a cross-cultural comparison of crime in Canada and in England and Wales showed that neither an increase nor a decrease in rates of persons convicted of indictable offences was evident during the period 1950 to 1955 in these countries. Difficulties were encountered in establishing comparisons, but it was found that data for persons convicted of indictable offences are roughly equivalent.



After one and one-half years of intensive work on planning, collecting, tabulating, compiling and analyzing data for the Royal Commission on Criminal Law Relating to Criminal Sexual Psychopaths, the project has reached its conclusion. The tables have been submitted to the Chairman of the Royal Commission, and will be incorporated into the report. A methodological supplement in the form of a survey-research report has been prepared in this Section. Extensive statistical analysis has been performed on the basic tables. This supplement to the main report will not be published until the report of the Royal Commission has been issued to the public.

The 1956 decision to ask police departments to report on a monthly rather than on an annual basis was implemented in January 1957 and the changeover was nearing completion at the end of the calendar year. Arising out of the experience of monthly reporting, an improved form was put into use in January 1958 and further improvements are being considered for the next year. Also arising out of the experience of monthly reporting, a standardized follow-up routine was adopted and other improvements are still to be made. Some improvements in the layout of the annual report have been agreed upon and will be reflected in the 1957 report. During the year, enlarged coverage was brought about by securing the co-operation of additional police departments in the submitting of reports and this program is being continued.

Compilation and tabulation of the data for the annual report of *Statistics of Criminal and Other Offences 1956* were completed. Parts I, II and III of this report are, for the first time, fully based on the newly revised Criminal Code of Canada. The data relating to clemency were extended and cross-classified by type of clemency, age group, place and type of release, offence, sentence, proportion of sentence served together with conditions of ticket of leave. New developments, begun with the coding of data for the 1957 report, will result in making available data on the number of appearances of accused persons before the court.

## INDUSTRY AND MERCHANDISING DIVISION

The principal responsibilities of the Industry and Merchandising Division include: taking an annual census of industry covering all establishments engaged in mining, logging and manufacturing; and providing current data, monthly or quarterly, on shipments, inventories and new orders, and on principal commodities or groups of commodities; taking a decennial census of merchandising and services, and providing current data, monthly or quarterly, on retail and wholesale sales and inventories, and annually on selected service trades; conducting special studies in the industrial and merchandising fields in answer to special requests. The Division, which is organized in 10 Sections, publishes 230 annual, 66 monthly and 8 quarterly reports, as well as preparing a large number of special statements in answer to inquiries.

Two working manuals on the Division's operations were issued during the year. These were: *Guide to the Commodity Statistics of the Industry and Merchandising Division* (other than Census of Industry), and *Guide to Pub-*

*lications of the Industry and Merchandising Division which Delimit Subgroups of the Standard Industrial Classification.* These manuals met with favourable response from business firms and librarians.

A further reference paper was published in the series on *Energy Sources in Canada*. It provides historical data, for the years 1926, 1933 and 1939, on the supply and usage of coal, gas, oil and other energy commodities.

Greater use was made of the *Daily Bulletin* in releasing significant data in advance of regular publications, and more special statements were issued on important commodities or groups of commodities. Also there was substantial improvement in the timeliness of regular reports.

A review of all surveys and all questionnaires has been started, the object being to re-assess needs, to simplify requirements where possible, and to consider priorities.

As of October 1, 1957 a reorganization of the work in Merchandising and Services took place and the Sections formerly known as the Merchandising and Services Section and the Decennial Census of Distribution Section became the Retail Trade Section and the Wholesale Trade and Services Section respectively. The principal changes in the distribution of responsibility were concerned with a division of work between the Sections according to subject matter. The purpose of this reorganization was to facilitate the development of statistics in the various fields. It was felt the previous division of work on the basis of whether the survey was a decennial bench-mark survey or a current survey hampered this development.

A change in procedure for producing the geographical breakdown of the principal statistics for manufacturing permitted the publication, for the first time, of a complete industry detail for each county or census division. The change also resulted in a gain of three months in timeliness of publication.

### **Animal Products**

It was decided to include pasteurizing plants, about 1,000 in number, in the annual Census of Industry. A survey of these establishments is now under way for the calendar year 1957, and the results will be published in the regular annual report on the *Dairy Factory Industry*. Formerly, only plants engaged in pasteurizing and bottling were classified to retail trade.

Coverage of statistics on poultry processing was extended to include all concerns licensed by the Department of Agriculture. Previously the annual statistics included only the processing done by meat-packing and food-canning plants.

### **Fisheries**

The new statistical unit at Halifax has now completed a full year's operations. It is considered that the change to the use of purchase slips in the compilation of fish landings has worked out satisfactorily for all concerned.

Starting with the September 1957 issue, the *Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics* was expanded, the tables were recast and the report was made completely bilingual.

Tables for the monthly report on cold storage holdings of fish were also recast, beginning with January 1958. Data on fish frozen are now given by province or area. Previously only the stocks figures were shown on this basis, the freezings being published only for Canada as a whole. As the amounts frozen are very close to production the breakdown by province is of considerable interest.

The annual report on *Fisheries Statistics of Canada* was expanded to include additional details for Newfoundland, bringing data for this province in line with those published for the other provinces.

The 1956 issue of the *Fish Processing Industry* segregated for the first time the statistics of fish processing proper from those for fish packing and handling.

### **Foods and Beverages**

For the past two years plans have been underway to develop monthly reporting on meat and meat preparations. Numerous difficulties in reporting were encountered because of interplant shipments at various levels of processing. These problems have now been cleared up and it is expected that publication of data on net shipments by packing plants, classified by main products, will begin shortly.

Beginning with 1958, the new monthly survey on packs and inventories of principal fruits and vegetables has been broken into three separate surveys—a monthly on production, a monthly on stocks and an annual on raw materials used.

### **Forestry**

During the year revised estimates of operations in the woods for the period 1940 to 1955 were completed and the detailed report containing the new figures is being printed.

The changeover from value of production to value of factory shipments was put into effect for the pulp and paper industry and for the veneers and plywoods industry. The changes delayed publication of the reports on these industries.

As of January 1958 the questionnaires for sawmills (east of the Rockies) and for veneers and plywoods were simplified and a monthly publication on *Pulpwood Production, Consumption and Inventories* was started. The Forestry Section participates actively in the work of the newly created Interdepartmental Advisory Committee on Forestry Statistics.



## Inventories

Coverage for the monthly sample survey of *Manufacturers' Inventories, Shipments and Orders* was increased by the addition of about 725 plants to permit estimates of shipments on a provincial basis.

A start was made on a new annual survey designed to provide a benchmark for monthly estimates of sales and inventories of manufacturers' trading outlets, an important sector of wholesale trade. Numerous definitional and conceptual problems have held up this work considerably.

## Metal and Chemical Products

Annual compilations were completed about three months earlier than for the previous year. Also, greater gains in timeliness for data on important commodities and groups of commodities were achieved by giving special attention to selected items and preparing interim statements for release as soon as totals were available. A revised procedure for compiling monthly figures on refined petroleum products, whereby import data run a month behind the other information, has made it possible to gain about five weeks in the time required to compile and publish the monthly report.

Monthly surveys have been started on the following commodities: welding electrodes; floor polishers; vacuum cleaners; specified household electrical appliances; air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment; industrial chemicals; primary plastics; compressed gases; explosives and ammunition; and fertilizers.

A semi-annual survey on the number of retail gasoline outlets was started in June 1957.

## Mineral Statistics

All compilations for 1956 were completed, and all reports forwarded for printing early in December 1957; this represents a substantial gain in timeliness over previous years.

A *Chronological Record of Canadian Mining Events Since 1604 and Mineral Statistics, 1886-1956* was published. This was one of the official documents distributed to delegates to the Commonwealth Mining and Metallurgical Congress.

## Retail Trade

New projects started during the year include: an annual survey on shopping centres in Canada; a monthly survey on sales of the principal farm implements; a study of the business done by automatic vending machine operators; an annual survey of retail trade, using an expanded sample designed particularly to provide separate estimates for each of the Maritime Provinces. It will also provide more reliable benchmark marks for the monthly surveys on retail sales, inventories and retail credit.

### Textiles and Miscellaneous Products

The most significant feature of the period under review was the volume of special work arising out of the Tariff Board's review of all major tariff items relating to textiles. This Section has worked in close co-operation with the Board and with industry representatives. Compilation of regular Census of Industry data was expedited, special surveys were undertaken as required, and many special tabulations were provided.

A survey on shipments of T-shirts, polo shirts, jerseys and similar garments by Canadian manufacturers was undertaken for 1956 at the request of the industry.

### Wholesale Trade and Services

An improved program for wholesale statistics is being developed. Using data supplied by the Unemployment Insurance Commission, a study of 'births' and 'deaths' of stores is now in progress which will make it possible to publish revised data on sales for the years from 1951 to date. It is hoped also to publish estimates on inventories for these years.

An attempt is being made to build up a complete list of wholesale establishments in Canada. This will make it possible to carry out periodic benchmark surveys in this field as well as to improve the current sample surveys.

To extend the current work in wholesale trade beyond the category of wholesalers proper, a survey of agents and brokers is under way for 1957. Concerns in the latter category account for nearly one-fifth of the wholesale trade.

Investigations were continued on certain aspects of the 1951 census of retail trade, particularly on the reliability of the estimates on commodity sales and on the adequacy of classification procedures.

Work was continued on the experimental survey on distribution of manufacturers' shipments in 1956. The results of this survey will supply essential information on the structure of merchandising in Canada. It appears, however, that manufacturers have a great deal of difficulty in supplying even a minimum of information on distribution of their shipments among various kinds of buyers.

A special survey entitled Funeral Directors, 1956 was completed.

### INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION

The functions of the 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 concise illustrated 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 D.B.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 Dominion Bureau of Statistics information and attendant public relations, and the library facilities for statistical research and study.

### Canada Year Book

The Section's principal role is the production of the *Canada Year Book* and the official handbook *Canada*. By the close of the fiscal year, the complete text of the 1957-58 edition of the Year Book was assembled, edited, set in galley proofs and, following proof-reading and final editing, about one-half of the page signatures of the volume were printed.

In order to expedite the translation of the *Canada Year Book* material and thereby reduce the time lag between release of the English and the French-language editions, the Edited English copy is now being photostated before going to the Printing Bureau so that the Translation Section may commence translation of the text into French without awaiting return of the English galley proofs.

The official handbook *Canada 1957* was released on June 14, 1957, with a larger press run than ever before — 130,000 English and 30,400 French — in an endeavour to present an up-to-date survey of the industrial, social and cultural life of Canada to an increasingly large audience. Through the period from October 1957 to March 1958, *Canada 1958* was in an advanced stage of production, with publication forecast for the month of May.

The Economic Mapping Unit prepared 68 charts and 6 maps for the *Canada Year Book*, including a distribution of population map based on 1956 Census compilations.

### Press and Publicity

This Section is concerned mainly with the supply and distribution of Bureau information and publications to the public and to government officials. Its organization for this purpose consists of three closely co-ordinated units: Bulletins and Publicity; General Inquiries, Publications Information and Revenue; and Distribution and Storage. In the aggregate, the work of these Units during 1957-58 showed continued evidence of expansion.

The Bulletins and Publicity Unit examined and listed 1,770 printed reports compared with 1,730 for the previous year, and dealt with over 250 special releases and a new weekly series of advance industry and production notes in the preparation of the *Daily Bulletin* and the *Weekly Bulletin*. These bulletins contain news summaries of each day's and each week's issues of Bureau reports and other information not available otherwise in printed form in order to provide full coverage of current information issued by the Bureau. During the year the *Daily Bulletin* averaged four pages per issue and the

*Weekly Bulletin* 18 pages. The Unit revised the list of *Current Publications* for 1958 and prepared displays to publicize publications at several large and small conferences.

Letters and orders received by the General Inquiries, Publications Information and Revenue Unit dropped off in total number to 28,198 from 34,076 in 1956-57, but the number containing money was practically unchanged at 12,280 and the net revenue from subscriptions and individual sales of publications rose by 13 per cent from \$54,210 to \$61,218. The decrease in letters and inquiries may be attributed to the fact that there was no issue of the *Canada Year Book* within the fiscal year and to a drop in referrals for over-the-counter sales from the Queen's Printer.

Copies of publications mailed by the Distribution and Storage Unit to addressees on the regular mailing lists rose from 1,602,000 to 1,897,000 while the number dispatched from stocks to meet special orders decreased from 103,000 during the previous year to 80,500. Throughout most of the year the Unit regularly supplied quantities of Bureau publications to the Queen's Printer for direct sale such sales probably accounted, as indicated above, for this decrease as well.

New and revised statistical material relative to Canada was supplied to more than twenty national and international annuals, almanacs and year books, and a great variety of statistical material was specially prepared to meet numerous requests from publishers of diaries, memoranda and special booklets.

### The Library

The library collection includes books, pamphlets, periodicals, government documents and historical reports covering a wide variety of subjects for use within and without D.B.S. While this collection is increased by new acquisitions, older works no longer required are pruned out and forwarded to other libraries or deposited with the National Library.

Circulation from the main charging desk during the year showed a drop from 9,144 to 8,166 items, attributed solely to a decline in the number of annual reports charged from this desk; an abnormal increase of circulation in the same item had, however, occurred the previous year. On the other hand, there was an increase over the previous fiscal year in the number of books and pamphlets loaned, but a light decrease in the routing statistics for periodicals. These circulation statistics are not, however, an adequate measure of the use of the library, as the record of circulation covers only material taken from the library for office use, and not the items consulted within the library.

The demand on the time of the reference staff has increased to the point where little time is available for necessary reorganization and project work. The study rooms continue to be in very heavy demand by research workers. Considerable use is being made of the library by other agencies of the government which do not possess library facilities. Items loaned to other government libraries have increased, the Tariff Board being the latest agency to commence making considerable use of D.B.S. library resources.



Project work has been concentrated on a Checklist of D.B.S. Publication—a complete historical record of all titles ever published by this organization. The basic card record together with title index have been compiled and it is now possible to answer queries about the history of any Dominion Bureau of Statistics report. Titles are now being checked with the Divisions for completeness and when all Divisions have completed checking, it is proposed that the record of titles be published as an Historical Catalogue of D.B.S. Publications.

The number of items acquired by the library increased during the year. With the resumption of publishing of statistical information by Roumania and Bulgaria, the library is now receiving statistical publications on exchange from all major foreign countries except the Chinese People's Republic. Major acquisitions included the third volume of the five-volume set of the *Times Atlas of the World* and the first two volumes of the new *Encyclopedia Canadiana*.

The number of titles catalogued exceeded the number received during the year, thereby resulting in the clearing up of some of the backlog which accumulated some years ago.

Expenditures on publications rose from \$5,500 to \$6,200 as a result of increased prices of directories and periodicals.

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE DIVISION

The field of statistical information with which the International Trade Division is concerned covers the many kinds of commercial and financial transactions which occur between Canada and other countries. The more specific areas dealt with include exports and imports in Canada's international commodity trade, the wide range of exchange of services and capital movements which are included in balance of payments statements, international investments, and other components of Canada's international financial position, and international travel movements and expenditures. The Division is responsible both for the compilation of basic series and the preparation of studies and analytical comments and aids to analysis assisting in the interpretation of data. The program of development is directed toward extension of these functions by improvements in basic presentation of statistics and the publication of more frequent series when information is in demand.

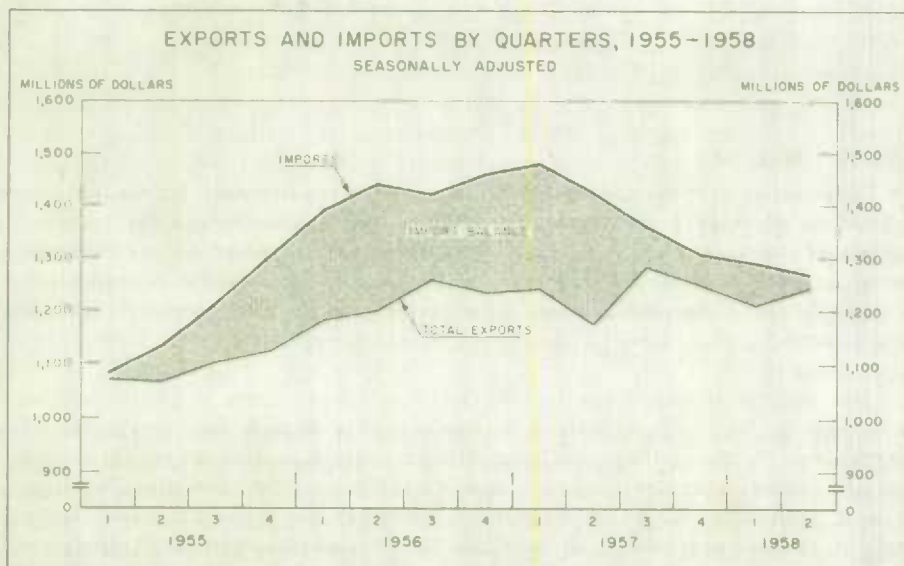
The nature of activities in the Division ranges from large production operations to highly specialized analysis and research into international transactions. Some of these responsibilities require individual research and constant initiative in devising new sources of information on Canada's international 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

Again, as in 1956-57, the greatest difficulties of the External Trade Section were in the recruiting and training of clerical staff. Operations during the year were also affected by the lower average level of experience of those holding senior positions in the Section. Overtime work by experienced clerks was again necessary to handle the near-record work load of the Section, but toward the end of the year the returns, from the overtime work, were clearly diminishing. Thirty months of almost continuous overtime work had begun to impair the amount and the quality of work performed in the Import Unit. Regular overtime work was therefore suspended in February 1958 and it is hoped that further overtime work can be avoided until the autumn without too seriously affecting the timeliness of trade statistics.

During the year, a review was made of the Section's policies regarding the provision of special statistical statements on a service-charge basis. As a result the prices of these statements were raised to cover present direct service costs and certain classes of service which could not be made generally available were discontinued. The time saved in this way was used to permit a limited resumption of occasional surveys to answer requests for information not contained in the regular publications of the Section.

The first draft of a new export classification based on the Standard Commodity Classification was completed during the year, and work was advanced on the revision of the export and import price indexes on the new basis. The study of the significance of small value shipments in export statistics was largely completed, and a similar study undertaken for imports, but no further change in existing coding practices seems desirable at present.



### Balance of Payments and International Investments

The expansion in the volume of inflows of capital to Canada in recent years has fully occupied the staff of the Balance of Payments Section in the task of maintaining records and publishing the regular quarterly and annual reports on the balance of payments and international indebtedness. The content of annual reports has been extended in scope by presenting annually some of the special analyses on foreign investment in Canada which first appeared in the special report *Canada's International Investment Position 1926-1954*, or those which were prepared for the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects.

Indicative of the effect of increases in capital inflows on operations is the growth in the number of Canadian concerns controlled abroad. These firms are now double the number existing at the beginning of the post-war period, having increased by about one-half in the last five years. The expansion in capital inflows has increased the range and number of capital transactions that have to be initially investigated and carried through into the statements, and has also enlarged the number of business concerns controlled abroad and carried into subsequent annual records of international investments in Canadian concerns. There has consequently been a rapid expansion in the work load of both the professional and clerical resources of the Section. The effects of this expansion grew progressively in the current year and the flow of statistics has been maintained up to now only by holding special detailed studies and new research in this field to a minimum and by eliminating some operations. At the same time public interest in the extent and location of foreign capital in Canada continues to grow.

Close liaison continued with other official organizations interested in balance of payments information and special presentations of data were drawn up for various international organizations.

### Travel Statistics

Improvements continued to be made in the quality of information collected on the travel of Canadians overseas. This was through the extension of sample returns from persons who have travelled abroad and the redesign of schedules used in covering overseas travel by way of the United States. From the resulting returns more information has become available on countries visited and on international transportation expenditures as well as other expenditures.

The special survey of a selected group of United States travellers to Canada was extended throughout the year to take account of seasonal variations in the pattern of travel covered by this source. This information which supplements data collected from regular sources is to be used to assist Canadian Economic Research Associates in studies being conducted on the economics of the Canadian tourist industry for a joint Federal-Provincial committee interested in extending information on this subject.



## LABOUR AND PRICES DIVISION

The Labour and Prices Division is composed of three main Sections and a small central staff. The Employment Section collects and publishes statistics of employment, aggregate payrolls, hours of work and per capita earnings. The Unemployment Insurance Section serves the Unemployment Insurance Commission's administrative needs for operational statistics, and also publishes data of general interest which emanate from the Commission's operations. The Prices Section issues a wide range of price statistics covering the fields of wholesale and retail prices, as well as security prices. It has been called upon, also, to assume rapidly increasing responsibilities for the production of statistics to facilitate the adjustment of living allowances for government personnel posted abroad, and for officers posted in less accessible areas of Canada. The central staff is primarily concerned with the preparation of labour income estimates and with urban family living expenditure surveys.

### Employment

There was further improvement in timeliness of publication of the Section's monthly reports during 1957-58, the date of release of *Employment and Payrolls* advancing in the latter months of the period by about two weeks as compared with a year earlier. Because priority in tabulation has been given to the employment statistics, the gain in release of *Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings* has been somewhat less, approximating one week. Co-operation from the Mechanical Tabulation Division contributed materially to this improvement.

During the autumn a questionnaire was sent to subscribers to the report *Employment and Payrolls* asking for information regarding the uses to which the series in this report are put, and requesting suggestions for improvement. The inquiry, which met with a gratifying response, revealed a widespread public desire for more detailed industry and area material than is now published.

Late in 1957 it was decided, in response to many requests, to publish on a monthly basis rather than quarterly, statistics of average hours and earnings in manufacturing in a group of 23 medium-sized centres, in addition to the data for the 13 larger metropolitan areas which have been published each month for many years. To avoid further delay in preparation of the report, however, the figures for the new list of communities are given for the month preceding the reference data of most of the information contained in current publications.

In compliance with a request from the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council, arrangements were made in 1957 to prepare indexes of employment and payrolls and average weekly wages and salary data for Census areas in the Atlantic Provinces. Tabulation of monthly statistics for the areas commenced with the January 1, 1958 material. This arrangement is in line with established policy to supply provinces with available area detail on employment and earnings in order to prevent duplication of effort.

### Unemployment Insurance

Considerable advancement was achieved in the direction of qualitative improvement, as senior officers of the Section visited the five regional offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission and the larger local offices located at those centres. Section officers were given every opportunity to see first-hand the administrative operations from which the statistics emanated. At the same time, UIC personnel engaged in collection of statistical data expressed satisfaction at meeting D.B.S. staff and receiving answers to questions on the background of statistics and the use made of them. The visits were timely, in that one major project was in process, viz., the annual renewal of contribution records for the year ended March 31, 1957. The collection of data covering the insured population (on a 10 per cent sample basis) is an integral part of this procedure. The operation of sampling the 1956 records for the actuarial study on insured employment and earnings was due to begin at mid-summer, so considerable time was spent with personnel assigned to complete the sample questionnaires.

In addition to the regular monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual publications issued by the Section a reference paper on *Employment Under the Unemployment Insurance Act* was released. The special report covering benefit statistics was prepared and presented at the July meeting of the Unemployment Insurance Advisory Committee.

The Section was called upon to make a number of special studies as the Unemployment Insurance Commission was confronted with particular problems during the year. These sometimes involved the study of a small sample of basic documents already available in Section files, but in certain cases the co-operation of local offices was required, as in the case of a special study on contributions and benefit for claimants in such seasonal industries as logging, sawmills, construction, and transportation by water.

As the year came to a close Section officers were engaged in a study of proposed mechanization of benefit payments, with special emphasis on its impact on statistics.

### Prices

During the year under review the resources of the Prices Section were divided between production and developmental work. The Section published on a weekly and monthly basis its regular complement of price indexes at retail and wholesale levels covering consumer, industry and farm commodities, as well as a series of international price comparisons. This production load occupied most of the resources available, but in addition the staff was involved with a number of developmental projects.

Assistance was given in the design of schedules, preparation of enumeration manuals, and a field test of schedules for a proposed survey of farm income and expenditure.

Price collection has been expanded and an improved sample design introduced in areas of farm machinery, fertilizer, and industrial machinery and equipment.

A study of feasibility and methods with regard to the development of a price index of highway construction was undertaken. In this connection, a paper entitled *A Proposed Highway Price Index* was prepared for presentation at the annual meeting of the Canadian Good Roads Association.

Subsequent to the collection of a much larger number of manufacturers' prices, preliminary price indexes relating to the output of various industries were calculated. Some analysis of these indexes was undertaken preparatory to their publication. In the area of wholesale prices, the release date of the General Wholesale Price Index was advanced, and the index is now available on the last day of the month to which it applies.

New weighting patterns reflecting the change in expenditures of Canadian government personnel stationed abroad were introduced into indexes measuring price conditions being encountered by such personnel.

In co-operation with the Special Surveys Division and the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation a new rent schedule was introduced. This schedule was designed to obtain rent information for dwelling units of differing characteristics.

A program of weekly price collection of retail prices of food was undertaken in certain cities in co-operation with the Federal and Ontario Departments of Agriculture. Spatial price comparisons were made for a number of areas in Canada including northern or isolated locations, and St. John's, Newfoundland.

Experimental work was undertaken in connection with the mechanical tabulation of retail food prices. Also in the field of retail prices, developmental work is in progress in connection with a swatch book, shuttle schedules, and a field training manual.

The monthly publication of average retail food prices for urban Canada was commenced in the October 1957 issue of *Prices and Price Indexes*. Descriptive material covering store samples, specifications, and calculation techniques was also included. An analysis of consumer price movements in 1957 was published in the January 1958 edition of the same publication.

### Central Staff

Considerable time was devoted to completing an historical revision of labour income estimates and to making changes which will permit regular publication of more complete industry detail and area sub-totals. Publication of seasonally adjusted monthly estimates was begun.

A reference paper on *City Family Expenditure 1955* containing several analytical appendices in addition to a comprehensive presentation of 1955 survey data was issued. Substantial progress was made in processing the 1957 urban family living expenditure data collected by the Special Surveys Division. A steady flow of food expenditure and family living conditions schedules resulted from monthly surveys of these data. Mechanical tabulation of family living conditions data was completed.



## MECHANICAL TABULATION DIVISION

The Mechanical Tabulation Division is a service division which processes data supplied by the subject divisions through a variety of mechanical equipment, in order to supply statistical tabulations as required.

Of the total staff some 45 per cent operate key punching and key verifying machines. By means of a key board, operators of key punching machines record data from source documents on punch cards in the form of holes. Using a similar key board, operators of key verifying machines are able to independently verify the accuracy of data recorded on punch cards in this form. Approximately 40 per cent of the staff operate a variety of other punched card equipment such as sorters, which sort or group like-cards together, and tabulators, which produce the required totals for these groups of cards in printed form.

The remainder are employed on comptometers and desk calculators producing aggregates directly from data recorded on pre-sorted groups of source documents. Most of the source documents so processed are in the form of peg-bar schedules which use an overlapping principle and are particularly adaptable to speedy adding operations.

Most of the work of the Division during the year involved monthly, quarterly and annual tabulation programs which are repetitive and for the most part routine. However, a large number of requests (190) for special tabulations were received and handled during the course of the year. Tabulating services for the Immigration Branch and the National Film Board were continued as in past years. An extensive program of tabulations was undertaken for the Department of Insurance in connection with its periodic evaluation of the Public Service Superannuation Account. Considerable tabulation work was carried out for the Department of Labour particularly in connection with a continuing survey of members of scientific and technical professions. Some work was also done for the Post Office Department.

Increasing emphasis was placed upon planning of new procedures and improvements in established procedures. As a result the annual *Shipping Report* and the annual *Geographical Distribution of Manufacturing Industries* were produced by photographing machine tabulations directly and printing by photo offset methods. This resulted in a considerable saving in clerical, vari-typing and proof-reading time.

## PUBLIC FINANCE AND TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

The work of the Division is divided among three Sections: Public Finance; Government Employment and Payrolls; and Transportation and Public Utilities.

The Public Finance Section is responsible for statistics on federal, provincial and municipal government finance and for their consolidation for the purpose of combined government finance. In addition, the Section is responsible for the collection and publication of data concerning selected



taxes and rates for all governments in Canada, the control and sale of alcoholic beverages, and special analyses used in the compilation of national income and public investment statistics.

The Government Employment and Payrolls Section is responsible for statistics on employment and payrolls for all three levels of government. Federal government payroll data is compiled to serve two basic requirements: first, that of the various government departments or branches of the service that are concerned with personnel control and administration, such as the Civil Service Commission and the Treasury Board, as well as the requirements of other Divisions of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics; and secondly, to meet the requirements of the general public.

The Transportation and Public Utilities Section covers a wide range of activities comprehending statistics for the various transport agencies and public utilities. Transport fields covered include steam and electric railways, express companies, motor carriers, international bridges, tunnel and ferry companies, canals, coastwise shipping, international seaborne shipping and water transportation. Public utilities presently covered are telephone, telegraph and cable systems, urban transit systems, oil pipe lines and central electric stations.

## Public Finance

The annual report, *Financial Statistics of Municipal Governments 1956 and 1957*, contained for the first time estimates of revenue, expenditure, assessed valuations and tax collections of municipal governments in Canada. The considerable time lag between the end of the fiscal year under review and the release of financial statistics of municipal governments has long been of concern. Dominion-Provincial conferences, realizing the need for earlier indication of trends in these statistics, approved a proposal for a survey which would permit estimation from returns obtained from a sample of municipal government operating statements and budgets.

The statistical procedure calls for a stratified sampling of certain financial information; the edited and compiled returns forming the bases for estimates. Theoretical tests indicate that this stratified sampling will permit quite accurate estimates. The success of this venture will make municipal finance statistics available in three stages: 1) Estimates—based on a sample of municipal budgets; 2) Preliminary figures—based on sample of actual figures; and 3) Actual figures—based on the published financial reports of provincial departments of municipal affairs. It should be emphasized that the above procedure was made possible by developments in uniform municipal accounting and reporting and will be facilitated in future by additional improvements. The assistance and co-operation of provincial and municipal government officials played a very important part in the production of these estimates.

Previously, statistics dealing with provincial government debt have not been published until all provincial public accounts were released. Arrangements have now been made with provincial governments for the early release

(about two months following the fiscal year under review) of both the funded and indirect debt portions of this report – a gain of about 12 months in timeliness. The remainder of the debt information will still be obtained from public accounts and published at approximately the same time as under existing arrangements.

The Provincial Finance Continuing Committee appointed at the Sixth Dominion-Provincial Conference on Provincial Finance Statistics, held its third meeting in May 1957, primarily for the purpose of reviewing progress made by the provinces toward implementation of conference recommendations on uniformity in public accounts.

The Continuing Committee appointed at the Sixth Dominion-Provincial Conference on Municipal Statistics held two meetings during the year. This committee gave extensive consideration to changes in the reporting statements recommended for use by municipalities, particularly of balance sheet and debt reporting, and considered means of reporting capital expenditure. A considerable number of changes in the classification of items and in definition were proposed.

### **Government Employment and Payrolls**

This Section released for the first time a quarterly statement covering the employment statistics of nine provincial governments. At present, distribution is restricted to provincial and federal authorities but it is hoped that arrangements may be made in the near future to issue a general report.

The general salary revision which occurred on May 1, 1957 caused some delay in the production of federal government employment statistics. This involved changing the salaries of virtually every position in the service with a consequent need to alter the basic position record cards. Substantial advances, however, were achieved in terms of the accuracy of basic records which were completely reviewed during the processing of the 1957-58 establishment review and the general salary revision.

A number of special requests were met during the year. These took the form of special tabulations involving two or more of the following groupings: a count of the number of employees by classification; by salary step-rate; the number of male and female employees and their earnings in each grade; by classification; and by geographic location.

At the present time there is insufficient comparability between the various classifications used by this Section, by the Civil Service Commission, and by other government offices in connection with employment in the federal government service. Negotiations have been begun with the Civil Service Commission to establish an inter-departmental committee to develop uniform classifications for use throughout the Service.

### **Transportation and Public Utilities**

*Communications, Water and Air Transport Unit*—The revision of monthly and annual *Central Electric Stations* reports is now complete and has resulted in a new series entitled *Electric Power Statistics*, which encom-

passes power produced by industry for own use as well as that produced by utilities for general distribution. As a result, electric power statistics are presented in terms of total production rather than only that portion marketed. An historical summary of electric power net generation was prepared on the new basis and published as an addendum to the June 1957 report. The annual index of electricity bills for domestic service was converted from a 1935-39 to a 1949 base. The revised index appeared in the 1956 *Electricity Bills* report.

The new report in the electric power series inaugurated in 1957 is entitled *Electric and Gas Meter Registrations*. Formerly compiled and distributed by the Standards Division of the Department of Trade and Commerce, this report contains statistics on electric and gas meters in use in Canada, including tabulations by county and census division.

Progress has been made in connection with a quinquennial census of electric power generating equipment. Thermal and hydraulic reporting schedules designed in co-operation with the Canadian Electrical Association and officials of other government departments, are now in their final draft. The census is expected to provide an up-to-date plant inventory of installed capacity including capacity of industrial firms which produce power for their own use.

Requirements of the Dominion Coal Board and Department of Mines and Technical Surveys for data on fuel consumption related to thermal generation is being met through a special survey.

A new uniform classification of accounts has been approved by the Board of Transport Commissioners for use by oil pipe line companies under the Board's jurisdiction commencing January 1, 1958. The new classification is expected to result in a joint DBS - Board of Transport Commissioners reporting form and an increase in the amount of data collected and published.

The results of a special pilot survey of the radio and television broadcasting industry were published under the title *Radio and Television Broadcasting Statistics 1956*. This survey was confined largely to the collection of financial data. Both the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the Canadian Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters, representing privately owned stations, have written expressing their approval of the report and stating that they would like to see the survey continue annually, preferably on an expanded basis.

*Motor Transport Traffic Unit* - Motor transport traffic surveys were carried out in all ten provinces for the first time during 1957 with the result that data are now available to compile the first annual report of *Motor Transport Traffic Statistics* for Canada.

Following a review of Ontario sample selection procedures it was found practical to eliminate a separate for-hire sample resulting in a reduction of sample selection costs in that province. In an effort to obtain a more representative cross-section of trucking operations, the feasibility of monthly surveys was studied and arrangements were subsequently made to carry them out.



The Chief of the Section visited Motor Vehicle Registrars and other provincial officials in Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia to discuss various problems pertaining to motor transport traffic sample selections. In some cases arrangements were made to replace Regional Office supervisors of sample selection with provincial government appointees. In British Columbia agreement was reached on a new procedure for obtaining samples of more current motor vehicle registrations and for more accurate estimates of the motor carrier population, at reduced costs.

A paper entitled *Canadian Road Transport Traffic Survey - Special Problems Related to the Establishment of a Sample Survey on a Continuing Basis* was prepared for presentation at the 1957 meeting in Sweden of the International Statistical Institute.

*Rail and Road Transport Unit* - During the fiscal year the work of this Unit was rearranged in order to effect economies of supervision by combining the Rail and Road Transport Unit and the Industry Freight Traffic Unit.

A committee of the Automotive Transport Association of Ontario has been organized to revise the classification of accounts for motor carriers. Joint collection of motor carrier reports were proposed for the provinces of Manitoba and Alberta and this Bureau.

The quarterly publication *Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents* was increased in size during 1957 to contain additional data available from eight provinces reporting on the basis of recommended practice adopted at the 1954 Dominion-Provincial Conference on Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents.

A uniform road and street classification manual was adopted for reporting highway statistics in 1957 and it is expected that the results will provide comparable data for all provinces and municipalities on a uniform basis in keeping with recommendations of the Canadian Good Roads Association.

Industry Freight Traffic data for 1956 were summarized and forwarded to the Board of Transport Commissioners in September 1957. Four new commodity groups were added to the survey in 1957 bringing the total to sixteen, involving some 750 plants. Response during 1957 has been satisfactory, averaging 68 per cent.

## RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

The work of the Research and Development Division is of a two-fold nature. On the one hand, the regular publications such as quarterly and annual *National Accounts* and the monthly *Canadian Statistical Review* absorb a substantial portion of available resources. On the other hand, there is a continuous process of research and developmental work, not only in connection with improvements in the above-mentioned publication, but also in connection with the general program of statistical integration. Members of the staff participate with other personnel at D.B.S. in such projects as



integration of labour statistics, changes in annual censuses of industry and merchandising, design and implementation of standard classification systems for industries and commodities, planning for specific surveys such as the new farm income and expenditure survey and development of the seasonal adjustment program.

Research work proceeds on a variety of fronts, sometimes culminating in the issuance of reference papers on the results of specific research projects, but mainly centred upon regular publications involving day-to-day work of the Division. Occasionally staff members are exchanged among projects, e.g., to expedite the completion of a large-scale project such as the historical revision of the National Accounts an inter-Section transfer of staff was implemented. Now that certain backlogs of developmental work have been overcome attention is being focussed on a long-range plan of research, within which the numerous separate research projects can be considered and implemented in a well-balanced framework.

### National Income

In addition to the regular data on National Accounts the annual report *National Accounts, Income and Expenditure, 1950-1956* contained supplementary information for the years 1950 to 1956.

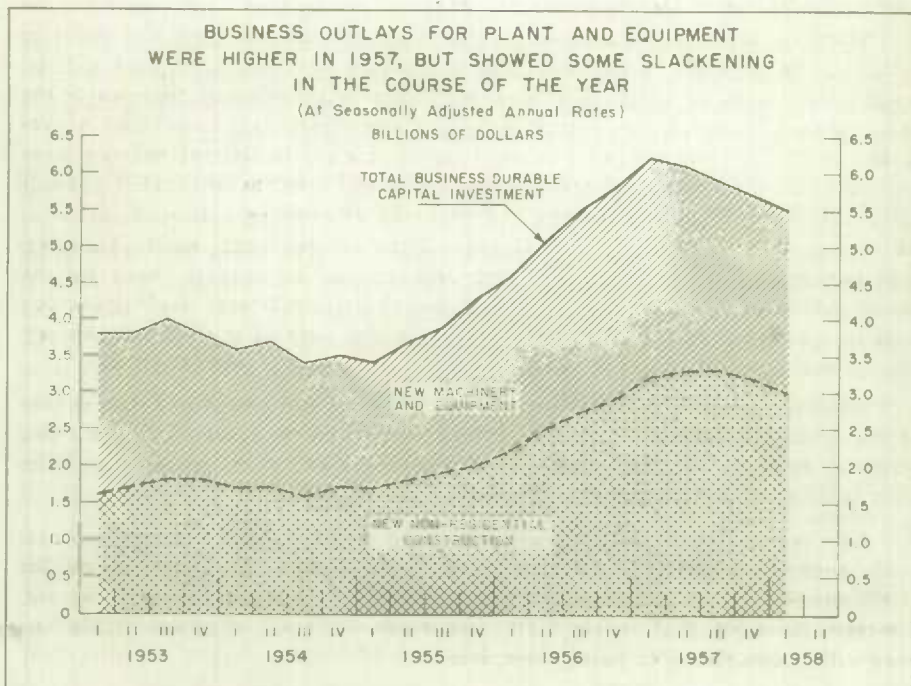
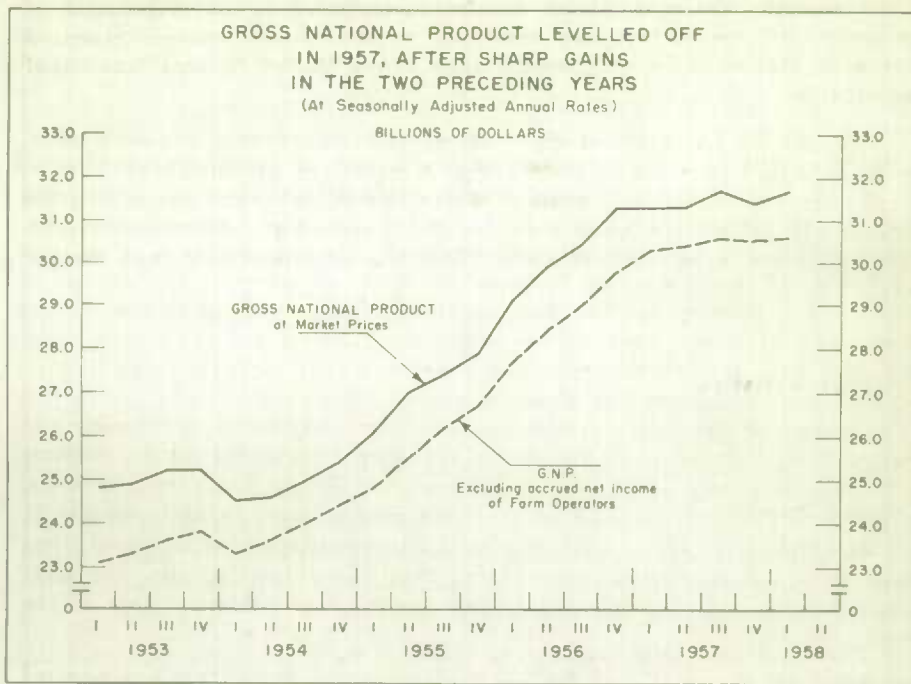
The final Certificates under the terms of the 1952 Dominion-Provincial Tax Rental Agreements were prepared and issued to the Minister of Finance and the provinces in April 1957. This set of certificates completed the obligations of D.B.S. under the five-year agreements covering the fiscal years 1952-53 to 1956-57.

Early in the fiscal year a reference paper entitled *Seasonally Adjusted Economic Indicators, 1947-1955* was published. In addition to seasonally adjusted economic indicators this reference paper contained a detailed description of problems and methods in seasonal adjustment.

Articles dealing with current economic conditions were published in the monthly issues of the *Canadian Statistical Review*.

During the year, work was completed on a major historical revision of the National Accounts from 1926-1956. This report consolidates the work in the field of National Accounts in Canada during the past five years and contains statistical revisions to the historical record as well as conceptual changes arising out of recent theoretical developments in the field of national accounting. The basic purpose of this document is to serve as a standard reference work on the Canadian National Accounts. In addition to many detailed tables, the report contains a description of sources and methods, and a broad discussion of the theoretical and conceptual framework of the Accounts.

As in other years, the National Accounts were re-cast in line with the requirements of the Organization for European Economic Cooperation and transmitted to that Organization. The Accounts were also prepared according to the Standard System of Accounts required by the Statistical Office of the



United Nations, and transmitted in that form to this agency. Toward the end of the year the National Income Section participated in the preparation of comments on certain proposed revisions to the United Nations Standard System of Accounts for the consideration of the United Nations Statistical Commission.

Members of the staff of the National Income Section assisted other Sections in the Division on a number of projects. In addition, work on projects outside the Division, such as a detailed alphabetical index of commodities in connection with the Standard Commodity Classification and planning for the sample survey of farm income and expenditure, was carried on.

### Business Statistics

During the year the Section continued its program of developing and improving monthly, quarterly and annual real output estimates via the industry production approach. Development of improved labour input statistics for purposes of productivity analysis was continued as were various projects in connection with the general integration of labour statistics. At the same time, the regular publications program of the Section was carried out. The 1957 *Supplement to the Canadian Statistical Review* was published late in the year.

Work on the revision of the Index of Industrial Production was nearing completion, and it is expected that the revised Index will be released early in the autumn.

Research and developmental work in connection with real output estimates for the other industries in the economy was suspended in order to expedite the revision of the industrial production sectors. This work will be resumed as soon as the new production index is completed. Meanwhile the experimental quarterly estimates (raw and seasonally adjusted) and a preliminary 1957 annual estimate of real output for all industrial sectors were prepared and distributed, together with analytical text, to interested government agencies. These estimates are provisional pending the application of further research and developmental work. They are presently used as analytical background for the National Accounts and as an overall check for the Gross National Product estimates. It is hoped that sufficient staff resources will be available in the near future to make the overall real output project operational, so that it can eventually be released to the general public.

Members of the staff participated actively in the study and discussion of the United Nations Statistical Office document *A System of Price and Quantity Indexes for National Accounts* which was to be reviewed at the 10th Session of the Statistical Commission in May 1958.

The productivity project was concerned mainly with the developmental work connected with improving labour input statistics. Editing and processing of the man-hours question in the 1956 census of manufacturers is continuing. To date, the editing of nearly 5,000 forms out of a total of about 20,000 has been either completed or partly completed.

The regular practice of relating the quarterly real output industry estimates to the most closely corresponding labour statistics was continued. This work is now on a routine basis and facilitates the analysis and discussions focussed on the quarterly National Accounts.

During the year work continued on various established projects in connection with the integration of labour statistics. Certain studies concerning the possibility of sampling small establishments in retail trade have been completed. Work on the annual benchmark estimates of employment has reached a point at which the industry estimates are being put together. A senior staff member has participated in the design of a circulating file of monthly labour statistics and in discussions concerning the economic characteristics questions for the 1961 Population Census.

### Special Project

The data obtained from 4,700 non-farm families as a result of a sample survey undertaken in March 1956 were tabulated, analyzed and prepared for publication. The success of this survey is due to the remarkable co-operation of the members of the Canadian population who were selected for inclusion in the sample, a high response rate of 84 per cent being obtained. The statistics computed from these data on incomes, liquid assets, and consumer indebtedness, cross-classified by the age of the head of the family, employment status, and other family characteristics, will undoubtedly be extremely useful in providing structural information on the financial position of families. The results of the survey are published in the reference paper *Incomes, Liquid Assets, and Indebtedness of Non-Farm Families in Canada, 1955*.

The third of a continuing series of surveys designed to meet the narrower objective of producing income size distribution both for non-farm families and for individuals was taken in March and April 1958 in conjunction with the Labour Force Survey. This survey of approximately 7,500 families and unattached individuals will provide information for 1957 comparable to the information for the years 1951 and 1954 which was previously published. The larger sample will enable estimates to be made by regions as well as for Canada as a whole.

In co-operation with members of the research staffs of the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects and the Bank of Canada a joint project was carried out to expand the present framework of the *National Accounts, Income and Expenditure* to include financial transactions; the Bureau's share of this undertaking was completed during the year. A set of the resulting National Transactions Accounts for the years 1946 to 1954 will be published for the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects in an appendix to a study entitled *Financing of Economic Activity in Canada*. This latter study makes use of some of the statistics from the 1956 survey of liquid assets and consumer indebtedness referred to above.



### SPECIAL SURVEYS DIVISION

The main functions of the Special Surveys Division are to obtain current information on population and on the 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, expenditure patterns and other population characteristics. 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 would be possible with a complete count or census and at a cost which makes repetitive surveys economical. The field work requirements of the different Divisions of the Bureau are co-ordinated by the Special Surveys Division and referred to the Regional Offices located in eight centres from coast to coast as an integrated program.

During the year the Division continued to conduct investigations to improve the quality of the statistical material in both the field of sampling and statistical methods and field of enumerator-respondent interaction. The sample design forming the basis for most of the survey work of the division remained under constant review and the controlled program concerning non-sampling error was actively pursued. Re-enumeration was conducted on a regular basis and has provided useful material for analytical purposes.

The 1957 series of monthly surveys on family expenditures was carried on through December 1957. In January 1958 a summary survey covering the whole of the year 1957 was conducted on a somewhat larger sample. This is a project which is carried on every second year, and the Labour and Prices Division is processing and analyzing the results during 1958.

Throughout the year, data on new residential construction were collected on a monthly basis. The field work in rural areas and small urban centres was carried out by the Regional Offices and in the larger urban areas by local representatives of the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The survey results were compiled in the Special Surveys Division and released in a series of monthly reports.

In May, the annual survey of household facilities and equipment was conducted, and in September and February special inquiries were made concerning the labour force characteristics of post-war immigrants.

The regional Offices supervised the selection of the quarterly samples in each province and for local follow-up of non-response for the survey of Motor Transport conducted by the Public Finance and Transportation Division.

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 D.B.S. within a reasonable time. Almost 12,000 collection dockets were forwarded for collection for 1956 annual reports and at the end of 1957 only 122 remained for collection. In addition nearly 5,000 collection dockets were forwarded for other than 1956 annual reports.

During the year the Regional Offices staffs were involved in an increasing number of activities, and resources for emergencies and special inquiries were very short. Some of the additional projects were: increasing the pricing activities; more detailed surveys of rents; field operations in connection with the forth-coming survey of farm incomes and expenditures; intensified field work for response research in the labour force survey area; and advance field and mapping work for the 1961 Census.

The staff of the Division continued to provide technical assistance for other Divisions of the Bureau and for other government departments. A survey for the Research and Development Division was designed was designed to provide income data on non-farm households. Technical assistance was provided for the Health and Welfare Division in establishing variance estimates for the data obtained in the Canadian Sickness Survey.



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