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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS

JUNE, 1950

By Provinces

Department store sales in Canada during June 1950 totalled $69,295,000, 3% higher than the June 1949 total of $67,279,000. British Columbia reported the largest gain (8%) while Alberta and Manitoba sales were both up 5%. Saskatchewan sales were down 5%, the largest of two declines recorded. Cumulative sales for the first half of 1950 were 1% lower than in the same period of 1949. Cumulative results, by regions, are shown in the table immediately following this commentary, and these results, by departments, are shown on page 4.

Mail order sales are attributed to the province in which offices receiving the orders are located.

Department Store Sales in June 1949 and 1950

Province	Sales 1949	Sales 1950	% Change, 1950/1949
	(000)	(000)	%
CANADA	67,279	69,295	+3.0
Maritime Provinces	5,346	5,154	-3.6
Quebec	11,101	11,357	+2.3
Ontario	25,466	26,204	+2.9
Manitoba	9,593	10,054	+4.8
Saskatchewan	3,357	3,202	-4.6
Alberta	4,206	4,424	+5.2
British Columbia	8,210	8,900	+8.4

By Selected Departments

Fourteen of the eighteen departments showed higher sales in June 1950 compared with the same month a year ago. Household appliance

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sales were up 19%. Food departments reported the only other substantial gain, with sales up 11%. The apparel group showed increased sales volume, with shoe sales reporting the largest gain (8%). The 7% decrease in radio and music department sales was the largest of the few declines recorded.

Retail stocks were virtually unchanged at the beginning of June 1950 compared with those held on the same date in 1949. Eight departments reported increased stocks, the two largest being a 13% increase in lingerie and an 11% increase in food. The 12% decline in household appliance stocks was the only large decrease.

Department Store Sales - January-to-June 1949-1950

Province	Sales		% Change 1950/1949
	1949	1950	
	(000)	(000)	%
Canada	382,220	377,727	-1.2
Maritime Provinces	28,353	27,688	-2.3
Quebec	61,530	62,145	+1.0
Ontario	144,381	142,408	-1.4
Manitoba	55,288	53,955	-2.4
Saskatchewan	19,594	18,178	-7.2
Alberta	24,768	25,058	+1.2
British Columbia	48,306	48,295	(a)

(a) Change of less than 0.5 per cent

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS

June 1949 and June 1950

These figures are estimates of total department store sales and stocks. Stocks are at selling value.

Department	SALES			STOCKS *		
	June 1949	June 1950	% Change, 1950/1949	May 31 1949	May 31 1950	% Change, 1950/1949
	($000)	($000)	%	($000)	($000)	%
TOTAL, ALL DEPARTMENTS ...	67,279	69,295	+3.0	189,126	189,030	-0.1
1. Women's dresses, coats, and suits	8,288	7,878	-4.9	17,900	16,843	-5.9
2. Girls' and infants' wear..	2,326	2,476	+6.4	6,897	7,214	+4.6
3. Hosiery and gloves	1,851	1,972	+6.5	4,986	4,688	-6.0
4. Lingerie and corsets	2,953	3,015	+2.1	7,215	8,173	+13.3
5. Millinery	598	613	+2.5	911	996	+9.3
6. Women's and children's apparel (Total, 1-5) ...	16,016	15,954	-0.4	37,909	37,914	(a)
7. Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings	7,582	7,923	+4.5	23,036	22,889	-0.6
8. Drugs, toilet articles, and preparations	1,489	1,554	+4.4	4,310	4,660	+8.1
9. Piece goods	4,616	4,345	-5.9	18,642	17,494	-6.2
10. Smallwares	1,791	1,837	+2.6	7,349	6,848	-6.8
11. Food and kindred products..	4,304	4,787	+11.2	3,608	3,996	+10.8
12. Furniture (including mattresses and springs)	4,643	4,714	+1.5	12,364	11,827	-4.3
13. Home furnishings	5,197	5,413	+4.2	22,124	22,873	+3.4
14. Household appliances and electrical supplies	2,980	3,540	+18.8	8,033	7,076	-11.9
15. Hardware and kitchen utensils	3,702	3,943	+6.5	9,892	9,156	-7.4
16. Radios, musical instruments and supplies	736	684	-7.1	4,077	3,835	-5.9
17. Shoes and other footwear..	5,005	5,396	+7.8	15,629	16,273	+4.1
18. Stationery, books, and magazines	752	763	+1.5	3,171	3,297	+4.0
19. All other departments, total	8,466	8,442	-0.3	18,982	20,892	+10.1

* Comparisons are based on stocks at the beginning of June in the two years. Canada totals do not include Newfoundland figures.

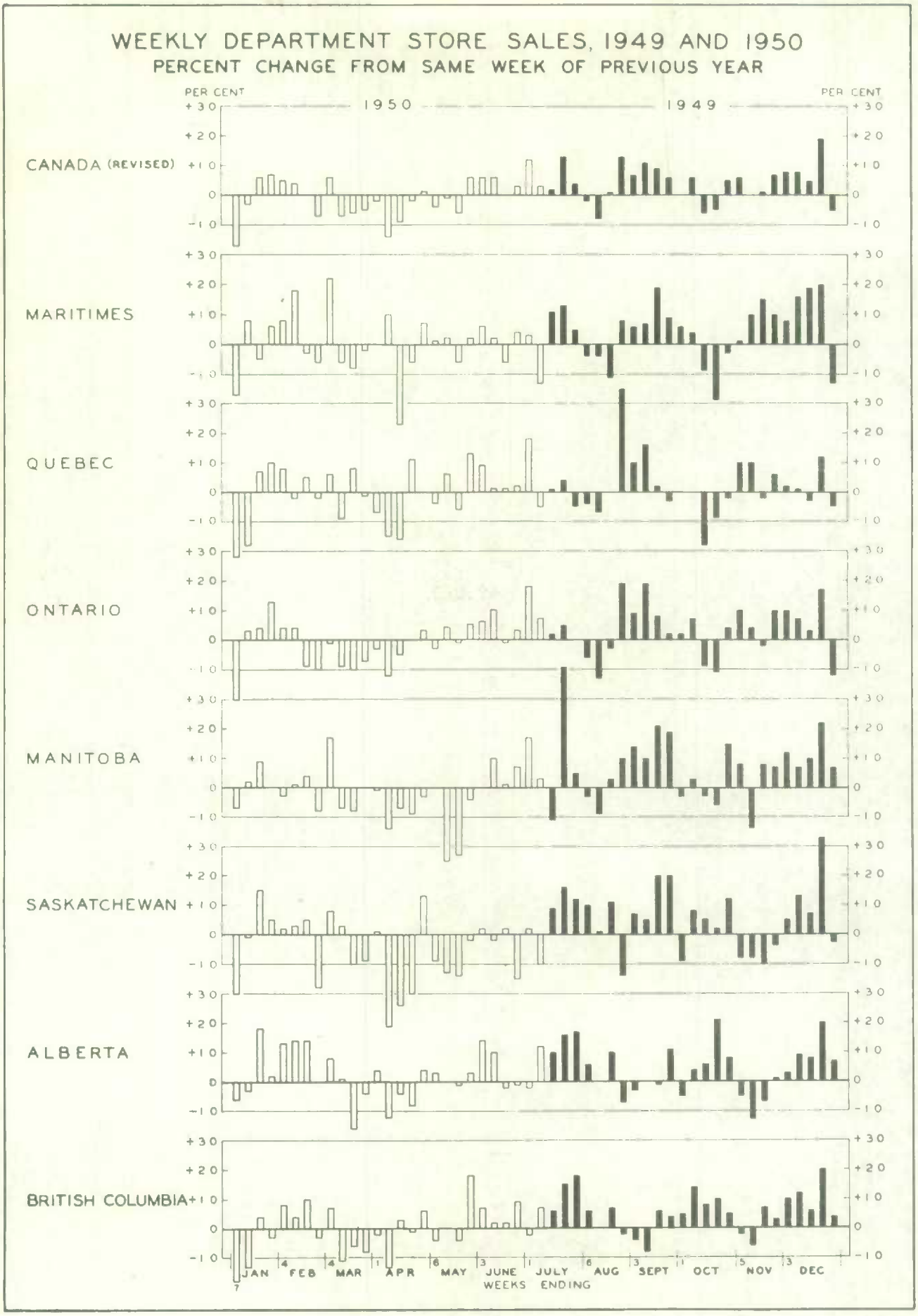
(a) Change of less than 0.5 per cent.

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES BY SELECTED DEPARTMENTS

January-to-June 1949 and January-to-June 1950

Department	SALES		
	Jan.-to-June 1949	Jan.-to-June 1950	% Change, 1950/1949
	($000)	($000)	%
TOTAL, ALL DEPARTMENTS	382,220	377,727	-1.2
1. Women's dresses, coats, and suits	49,182	45,470	-7.5
2. Girls' and infants' wear	14,565	15,247	+4.7
3. Hosiery and gloves	11,323	11,409	+0.8
4. Lingerie and corsets	15,235	15,334	+0.6
5. Millinery	4,292	4,144	-3.4
6. Women's and children's apparel - (Total, 1-5)	94,597	91,604	-3.2
7. Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings	40,040	40,036	(a)
8. Drugs, toilet articles and preparations	8,487	8,705	+2.6
9. Piece goods	29,487	27,517	-6.7
10. Smallwares	11,214	11,382	+1.5
11. Food and kindred products ...	27,562	27,655	+0.3
12. Furniture (including mattresses and springs)	25,918	25,645	-1.1
13. Home furnishings	30,632	30,279	-1.2
14. Household appliances and electrical supplies	16,185	19,053	+17.7
15. Hardware and kitchen utensils	19,483	19,057	-2.2
16. Radios, musical instruments and supplies	5,466	5,142	-5.9
17. Shoes and other footwear	25,914	26,196	+1.1
18. Stationery, books, and magazines	5,112	5,200	+1.7
19. All other departments, total	42,123	40,256	-4.4

(a) Change of less than 0.5 per cent


WEEKLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES, 1949 AND 1950
PERCENT CHANGE FROM SAME WEEK OF PREVIOUS YEAR
PER CENT
PER CENT
1950
1949
CANADA (REVISED)
MARITIMES
QUEBEC
ONTARIO
MANITOBA
SASKATCHEWAN
ALBERTA
BRITISH COLUMBIA
+30
+20
+10
0
-10
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUG
SEPT
OCT
NOV
DEC
WEEKS ENDING