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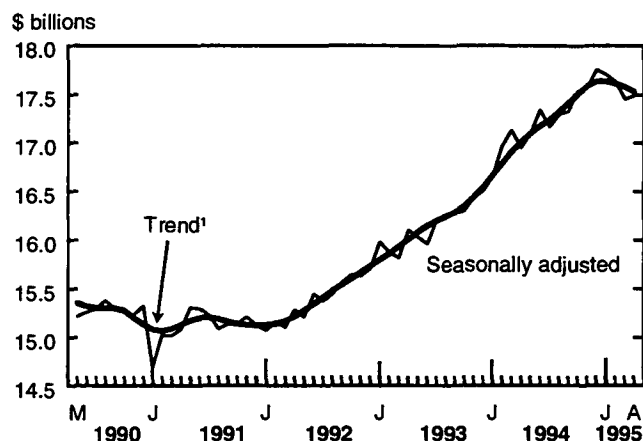
MAJOR RELEASES

Retail trade

April 1995 (preliminary)

Consumers increased their purchases slightly (+0.2%) in April after three months of retail declines. If sales from motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers are excluded, the increase was stronger (+0.4%). However, Ontario consumers continued to hold back, causing sales in the province to fall for a third consecutive month.

Retail sales posted marginal growth in April



Data prior to 1991 have been adjusted to remove the Federal Sales Tax to be comparable to January 1991 and subsequent data.
¹ Trend represents smoothed seasonally adjusted data.

Retail sales increased 0.2% to \$17.5 billion after receding 1.0% in March. Little change in employment, a slow housing market and low consumer confidence in recent months may have led consumers to continue to be cautious in their spending.

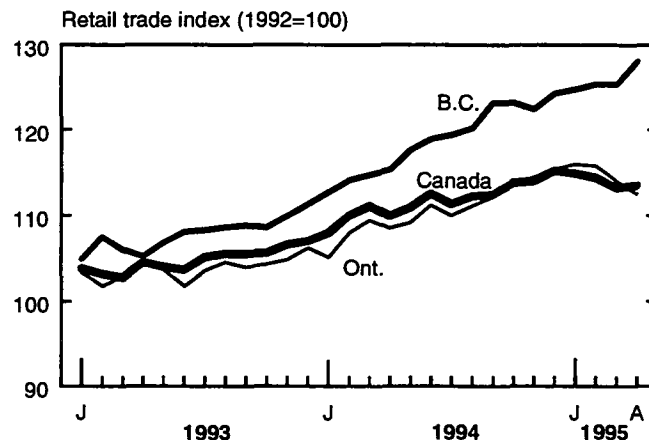
So far in 1995, sales contrast with the general growth observed from early 1992 to November 1994.

Sales in Ontario continued to sag

Among the provinces and territories, Ontario experienced the largest drop in sales in April, down 1.3% (\$86 million). It was the province's third consecutive monthly decline. Industry analysts associate this recent weakness to slow employment growth, a high level of household debt and a squeeze on incomes. With this latest decline, sales growth since

1992 in Ontario fell below the Canada index for the first time in eight months.

Ontario retail sales are slowing down



The largest increase in dollar terms was in British Columbia (+2.2%). This was the highest rise since the 2.5% gain in September 1994. British Columbia leads sales growth in Canada. April's sales were 28.1% higher than the 1992 average, while sales in all of Canada were only 13.5% above the 1992 average.

Food sales led the gain in April

In April retail sales increased in four of the seven sectors, accounting for 48.5% of total sales. The food, drug and furniture sectors increased the most in dollars terms. Decreases were recorded in the automotive, clothing and general merchandise sectors.

Sales in food stores increased 1.8% in April, offsetting the 1.2% drop in March. This was partly attributable to the price increases for fresh vegetables due to crop damage in California. Food retailers' sales have been volatile since the start of the year.

Drug store sales advanced 1.2% after two consecutive monthly declines. Despite this increase, monthly sales for the latest six months have been below levels seen during the same period last year. April sales were 1.3% below the April 1994 level. Elements affecting the recent slowdown in this sector include changes in the legislation to prevent drug stores from selling tobacco products, declines in provincial subsidies on prescription drugs, and

competition among food and drug retailers on various pharmaceutical products.

Weaker sales by automotive, clothing and general merchandise sectors partly offset these increases. Sales in the clothing sector slipped again in April, down 2.3% after a 1.2% drop in March. Lower sales since January 1995 in men's and women's clothing stores were compensated by higher spending in other clothing stores, suggesting a movement by consumers toward unisex and family clothing stores.

Early indications of May sales

Early indications of May sales are more encouraging. Estimates indicate a rise in department stores sales and in the number of new motor vehicles sold. These two categories account for about one-third

of total retail sales. On the other hand, employment in trade declined 0.3% from April 1995. Retail sales in the United States increased 0.2% in May after a 0.4% decline in April 1995.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2299, 2398-2417 and 2420.

The April 1995 issue of *Retail trade* (63-005, \$20/\$200) will be available the second week of July. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact John Svab (613-951-3549). For analytical information, contact Pierre Desjardins (613-951-9682), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division. □

Retail sales

Trade group	April 1994	January 1995 ^r	February 1995 ^r	March 1995 ^r	April 1995 ^p	March 1995 to April 1995	April 1994 to April 1995
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions					% change	
Food	4,403	4,521	4,542	4,489	4,569	1.8	3.8
Supermarkets and grocery stores	4,117	4,166	4,192	4,134	4,209	1.8	2.2
All other food stores	286	355	350	355	360	1.3	25.9
Drug and patent medicine stores	1,002	995	986	978	989	1.2	-1.3
Clothing	990	1,079	1,094	1,080	1,056	-2.3	6.6
Shoe stores	145	143	147	155	142	-8.3	-2.3
Men's clothing stores	150	140	146	135	131	-2.6	-12.6
Women's clothing stores	324	357	351	348	335	-3.7	3.3
Other clothing stores	370	439	449	443	448	1.1	20.8
Furniture	894	964	960	947	952	0.5	6.4
Household furniture and appliance stores	709	771	766	753	758	0.7	7.0
Household furnishings stores	186	194	194	194	194	0.0	4.4
Automotive	5,984	6,258	6,216	6,157	6,111	-0.7	2.1
Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	3,828	4,111	4,056	4,005	3,981	-0.6	4.0
Gasoline service stations	1,170	1,137	1,182	1,187	1,207	1.6	3.1
Automotive parts, accessories and services	986	1,010	978	965	923	-4.3	-6.4
General merchandise stores	1,760	1,854	1,852	1,842	1,837	-0.2	4.4
Retail stores not elsewhere classified (n.e.c.)	1,916	2,042	1,992	1,971	1,983	0.6	3.5
Other semi-durable goods stores	593	596	589	595	597	0.4	0.7
Other durable goods stores	467	489	476	482	483	0.1	3.3
All other retail stores n.e.c.	856	956	927	894	904	1.0	5.5
Total, retail sales	16,950	17,713	17,641	17,464	17,498	0.2	3.2
Total excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	13,123	13,602	13,586	13,459	13,516	0.4	3.0
Department store type merchandise	5,707	5,979	5,957	5,923	5,914	-0.2	3.6
Newfoundland	283	285	288	288	301	4.4	6.6
Prince Edward Island	71	73	74	73	72	-0.3	1.2
Nova Scotia	533	543	541	527	546	3.6	2.5
New Brunswick	403	409	411	407	409	0.6	1.6
Quebec	4,123	4,231	4,142	4,123	4,129	0.1	0.1
Ontario	6,212	6,640	6,628	6,529	6,443	-1.3	3.7
Manitoba	573	586	596	596	601	0.9	5.0
Saskatchewan	521	532	531	511	524	2.6	0.7
Alberta	1,829	1,814	1,819	1,797	1,803	0.3	-1.4
British Columbia	2,347	2,542	2,553	2,554	2,608	2.2	11.1
Yukon	18	17	18	18	18	0.6	1.0
Northwest Territories	38	41	41	41	42	2.2	9.5

^p Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

Retail sales

Trade group	April 1994	March 1995 ^r	April 1995 ^p	April 1994 to April 1995
	unadjusted			
	\$ millions			% change
Food	4,435	4,480	4,487	1.2
Supermarkets and grocery stores	4,155	4,144	4,124	-0.7
All other food stores	280	335	363	29.6
Drug and patent medicine stores	974	977	938	-3.7
Clothing	946	891	980	3.6
Shoe stores	151	123	144	-4.7
Men's clothing stores	144	103	122	-14.9
Women's clothing stores	317	296	319	0.8
Other clothing stores	334	369	394	18.0
Furniture	830	863	852	2.7
Household furniture and appliance stores	655	685	679	3.6
Household furnishings stores	174	178	173	-0.7
Automotive	6,471	6,392	6,303	-2.6
Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	4,385	4,358	4,292	-2.1
Gasoline service stations	1,083	1,141	1,108	2.3
Automotive parts, accessories and services	1,003	893	903	-9.9
General merchandise stores	1,634	1,594	1,689	3.4
Retail stores not elsewhere classified (n.e.c.)	1,743	1,640	1,787	2.5
Other semi-durable goods stores	536	471	540	0.9
Other durable goods stores	415	386	426	2.6
All other retail stores n.e.c.	792	782	820	3.5
Total, retail sales	17,033	16,837	17,036	0.0
Total excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	12,648	12,478	12,744	0.8
Department store type merchandise	5,334	5,183	5,426	1.7
Newfoundland	279	272	288	3.2
Prince Edward Island	68	64	67	-1.8
Nova Scotia	533	505	525	-1.5
New Brunswick	402	383	395	-1.6
Quebec	4,356	4,015	4,200	-3.6
Ontario	6,141	6,249	6,163	0.4
Manitoba	571	571	593	3.8
Saskatchewan	525	494	511	-2.8
Alberta	1,837	1,736	1,768	-3.8
British Columbia	2,267	2,492	2,470	8.9
Yukon	17	16	16	-2.7
Northwest Territories	37	40	41	9.8

^p Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

Estimates of labour income

March 1995

Wages and salaries paid to workers grew only 0.7% in the first quarter of 1995, the slowest quarterly growth in more than a year. Total labour income grew 0.6%.

Few businesses expanded their workforces as exports of manufactured goods weakened and consumers reduced spending. As a result, growth in wages and salaries slowed in January and February, and a decline (-0.4%) was posted in March, the first since August 1994.

Note to readers

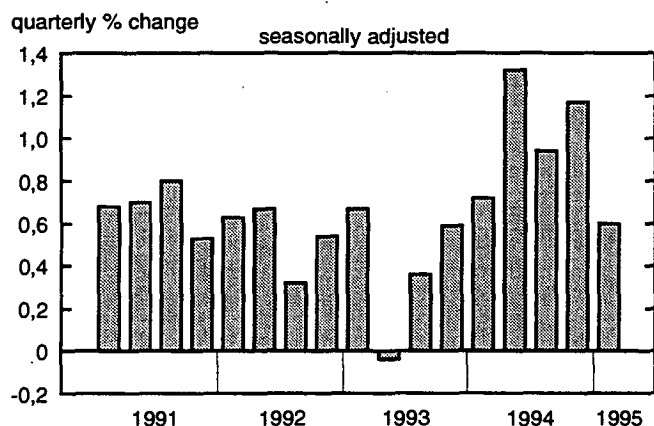
Labour income consists of wages and salaries (87%), plus supplementary labour income (13%). Wages and salaries include items such as bonuses, gratuities, taxable allowances and retroactive wage payments. Supplementary labour income is employer contributions to employee welfare, pension, workers' compensation, and unemployment insurance plans. Labour income accounts for 57% of gross domestic product.

the motor vehicle assembly, electronic equipment, and office machinery industries—coupled with declines in shipments in both February and March, affected other industries such as transportation and forestry.

Companies in the transportation, communication and utilities industry paid less wages and salaries in the first quarter of 1995 (-0.7%), following three quarterly increases of at least 1.0% in 1994. As well as reflecting the manufacturing slowdown, this decline was partly due to the rail strike in March.

With the declining demand for wood products, and poor housing starts in the United States and Canada, wages and salaries in the forestry industry remained flat (-0.1%) in the first quarter of 1995. This is in contrast to the third and fourth quarters of 1994 when substantial increases were recorded (+6.4% and +3.5% respectively). The increased demand for manufactured paper and allied products may have offset the declining demand for wood products, as employment in forestry companies remained stable although average weekly earnings declined.

Labour income



Manufacturing slowdown had widespread effect

Manufacturers held wages and salaries to a minimal growth of 0.6% in the first quarter of 1995, substantially lower than the 2.5% increase posted the previous quarter. Employment growth was sluggish and weekly hours of employees paid by the hour were reduced slightly, mostly as a result of less overtime.

In more than half of all manufacturing industries, companies cut production in February and March. This widespread slowdown in production—particularly in

Second decline in construction

Construction companies paid 2.9% less in wages and salaries in the first quarter of 1995, following the previous quarter's decline of 0.9%. Slow consumer demand for new housing has led to fewer housing starts in 1995. Construction companies have reduced not only their work forces, but also the hours worked of employees paid by the hour.

Unusually strong first quarter growth in Atlantic provinces

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick posted strong growth in wages and salaries in the first quarter— twice the national average— reversing the weakness recorded in these provinces in the last quarter of 1994.

Prince Edward Island recorded the strongest growth (+2.9%) as businesses in construction, manufacturing and commercial services benefited from the building of the causeway linking the island to the mainland. The last time Prince Edward Island posted a quarterly growth of 2.0% or more was in 1990.

In contrast, Ontario registered the slowest first quarter growth (+0.04%), its lowest in five quarters.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1791-1792.

Note on revisions

Wages and salaries

Upon receipt of the 1993 Revenue Canada annual benchmark, wages and salaries were revised downward by \$3.9 billion to \$344.4 billion in 1993. In turn, a \$4.1 billion downward revision was made to the 1994 projected estimate of wages and salaries. As a result, the growth in wages and salaries in 1993 has been revised to 1.2% compared to the projected 2.1%. The projected wages and salaries growth in 1994 remains at 2.9%.

The largest downward revisions in wages and salaries in 1993 occurred in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia.

Supplementary labour income

Supplementary labour income estimates were revised upward by \$1.5 billion in 1993 to \$49.5 billion. In turn, the 1994 estimate was revised upward by \$1.2 billion to \$51.7 billion. Revisions to the pensions contributions and the inclusion of severance pay contributed most to the increase in both 1993 and 1994.

For further information on this release, contact Jean Lambert (613-951-4090, fax: 613-951-4087), Labour Division.

Wages and salaries and supplementary labour income

	March 1994	February 1995 ^r	March 1995 ^p	February 1995 to March 1995
seasonally adjusted				
	\$ millions			% change
Agriculture, fishing and trapping	248.6	239.6	247.2	3.2
Logging and forestry	239.5	249.1	258.8	3.9
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	594.0	630.6	617.3	-2.1
Manufacturing	5,199.3	5,465.2	5,455.9	-0.2
Construction	1,592.6	1,629.0	1,631.5	0.2
Transportation, storage, communications and other utilities	2,754.4	2,842.5	2,782.8	-2.1
Trade	4,069.8	4,283.0	4,268.0	-0.4
Finance, insurance and real estate	2,496.3	2,558.5	2,519.1	-1.5
Commercial and personal services	3,984.4	4,259.9	4,241.4	-0.4
Educational and related services	2,769.4	2,785.1	2,782.1	-0.1
Health and social services	2,756.3	2,829.5	2,835.1	0.2
Federal administration and other government services	992.3	992.5	991.3	-0.1
Provincial administration	732.3	732.9	728.4	-0.6
Local administration	700.2	702.1	702.0	-0.0
Total wages and salaries	29,179.9	30,260.0	30,129.9	-0.4
Supplementary labour income	4,233.5	4,411.5	4,405.3	-0.1
Labour income	33,413.3	34,671.5	34,535.2	-0.4
	March 1994	February 1995 ^r	March 1995 ^p	March 1994 to March 1995
unadjusted				
	\$ millions			% change
Agriculture, fishing and trapping	161.2	132.1	160.8	-0.2
Logging and forestry	199.3	224.1	215.8	8.3
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	595.8	624.4	619.7	4.0
Manufacturing	5,078.3	5,332.3	5,329.6	4.9
Construction	1,355.3	1,345.8	1,388.1	2.4
Transportation, storage, communications and other utilities	2,715.0	2,792.6	2,731.6	0.6
Trade	3,989.5	4,125.9	4,160.2	4.3
Finance, insurance and real estate	2,465.1	2,495.9	2,477.4	0.5
Commercial and personal services	3,857.6	4,077.2	4,088.8	6.0
Educational and related services	2,889.7	2,887.4	2,896.2	0.2
Health and social services	2,746.5	2,768.8	2,811.9	2.4
Federal administration and other government services	987.8	979.1	986.5	-0.1
Provincial administration	720.7	709.3	716.7	-0.6
Local administration	685.1	694.3	687.1	0.3
Total wages and salaries	28,447.0	29,189.2	29,270.4	2.9
Supplementary labour income	4,174.3	4,228.0	4,332.7	3.8
Labour income	32,621.3	33,477.2	33,603.0	3.0

^p Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

OTHER RELEASES

Police personnel 1994

In 1994 there were 55,946 sworn police officers in Canada, a decrease of 955 (1.7%) officers from the previous year—the largest annual decline since data collection began in 1962. The RCMP headquarters and training academy accounted for half the decrease in police strength. This reflects the budget reductions and re-structuring which have taken place in many public sector areas.

As a result of this decline, the national population per officer ratio rose to 523 Canadians for each officer, the highest ratio since 1973. Among the provinces, Quebec continued to have the lowest population-to-officer ratio at 494:1. Newfoundland (662:1) and Prince Edward Island (697:1) continued to have the highest.

Although the total number of police officers declined in 1994, the number of female police officers actually increased by 501. After remaining constant during the 1960s at less than 1%, the proportion of female police officers rose to 2% in 1980, 4% in 1985, 8% in 1993 and 9% in 1994. The appointment of the first female chief of police was announced during the fall of 1994.

In addition to fewer police officers, the number of civilian personnel also showed a large decrease (-2.3%), from 19,508 in 1993 to 19,050 in 1994. It was the second largest drop since 1962.

Police personnel ¹

	Total police officers			Population per police officer 1994
	1994	1993	1993 to 1994 % change	
Newfoundland	880	874	0.7	662
Prince Edward Island	193	193	0.0	697
Nova Scotia	1,611	1,603	0.5	581
New Brunswick	1,297	1,292	0.4	585
Quebec	14,744	14,755	-0.1	494
Ontario	20,742	21,087	-1.6	527
Manitoba	2,130	2,158	-1.3	531
Saskatchewan	1,896	1,927	-1.6	536
Alberta	4,472	4,571	-2.2	607
British Columbia	6,383	6,311	1.1	575
Yukon	113	122	-7.4	266
Northwest Territories	234	238	-1.7	275
RCMP HQ and Training Academy	1,251	1,770	-29.3	...
Canada	55,946	56,901	-1.7	523

¹. Actual strength as of 30 September 1994.

... Figure not appropriate or not applicable.

Available on CANSIM: table 00130101.

For further information on this release, telephone the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (613-951-9023) or call toll-free (1-800-387-2231). ■

Industrial monitor April 1995

The April 1995 edition of *Industrial monitor* is now available. Its tables present up-to-date statistics on 165 manufacturing industries in 22 sectors.

Industrial monitor can be purchased as a full package (22 sectors) or by industrial sector. The annual subscription is \$200 per individual sector. The annual subscription for total manufacturing (15F0017XPE) costs \$50. The full 22-sector package (15F0015XPE) costs \$3,000, a saving of \$650. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact the client services representative (613-951-9060), Industry Measures and Analysis Division. ■

Construction type plywood April 1995

Canadian firms produced 147 175 cubic metres of construction type plywood during April 1995, a decrease of 3.1% from the 151 895 cubic metres (revised) produced during April 1994.

January to April 1995 production totalled 605 765 cubic metres, a decrease of 0.9% from the 611 609 cubic metres (revised) produced during the same period in 1994.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (level 1).

The April 1995 issue of the *Construction type plywood* (35-001, \$6/\$60) will be available at a later date. See "How to order publications".

For more information on this release, contact Ted Brown (604-666-3694), Pacific Region, Statistics Canada, Sinclair Centre, 757 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6C 3C9. ■

Production, shipments and stocks on hand of sawmills in British Columbia

April 1995

Sawmills in British Columbia produced 2 671 333 cubic metres of lumber and ties in April 1995, a decrease of 8.3% from the 2 911 993 cubic metres produced in April 1994.

January to April 1995 production was 11 394 066 cubic metres, a decrease of 5.2% from 12 024 752 cubic metres produced during the same period in 1994.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 53 (level 1.2, series 2.2 and 3.2).

The April 1995 issue of *Production, shipments and stocks on hand of sawmills in British Columbia* (35-003, \$8/\$80) will be available at a later date. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Ted Brown (604) 666-3694, Pacific Region, Statistics Canada, Sinclair Centre, 757 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6C 3C9. ■

Production, shipments and stocks of sawmills east of the Rockies

April 1995

Lumber production in sawmills east of the Rockies decreased to 2 407 896 cubic metres in April 1995, down 0.1% from 2 410 784 cubic metres (revised) in April 1994.

Stocks on hand at the end of April 1995 totalled 3 779 069 cubic metres, up 7.1% from 3 529 021 cubic metres in April 1994.

At the end of April 1995, year-to-date production totalled 9 808 208 cubic metres, up 6.1% from 9 245 006 cubic metres (revised) for the same period in 1994.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 53 (except level 1.2, series 2.2 and 3.2).

The April 1995 issue of *Production, shipments and stocks on hand of sawmills east of the Rockies* (35-002, \$11/\$110) will be available later. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Bruno Pepin (613-951-3516), Industry Division. ■

Electric lamps

May 1995

Light bulb and tube manufacturers sold 19,037,000 light bulbs and tubes in May 1995, a decrease of 8.1% from the 20,706,000 sold in May 1994.

Year-to-date sales at the end of May totalled 111,142,000 light bulbs and tubes, a decrease of 9.5% from 122,801,000 a year earlier.

The May 1995 issue of *Electric lamps* (43-009, \$6/\$60) will be available at a later date. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Laurie Vincent (613-951-3523), Industry Division. ■

Stocks of frozen poultry meat

June 1, 1995

Preliminary estimates as of June 1, 1995 on stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5675-5677.

For further information on this release contact Conrad Ogrodnik (613-951-2860), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Fabricated metal products industries, 1993

Catalogue number 41-251

(Canada: \$38; United States: US\$46; other countries: US\$54).

Employment, earnings and hours, March 1995

Catalogue number 72-002

(Canada: \$31/\$310; United States: US\$38/US\$372; other countries: US\$44/US\$434).

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences - Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 - 1984.



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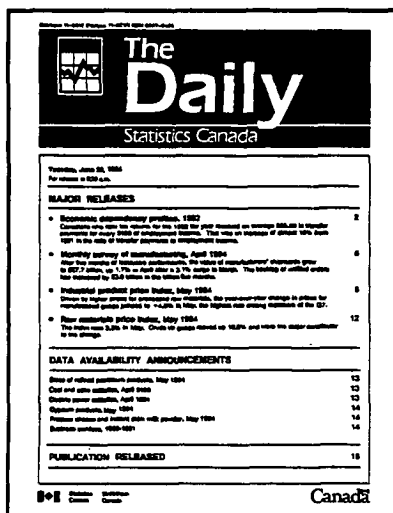
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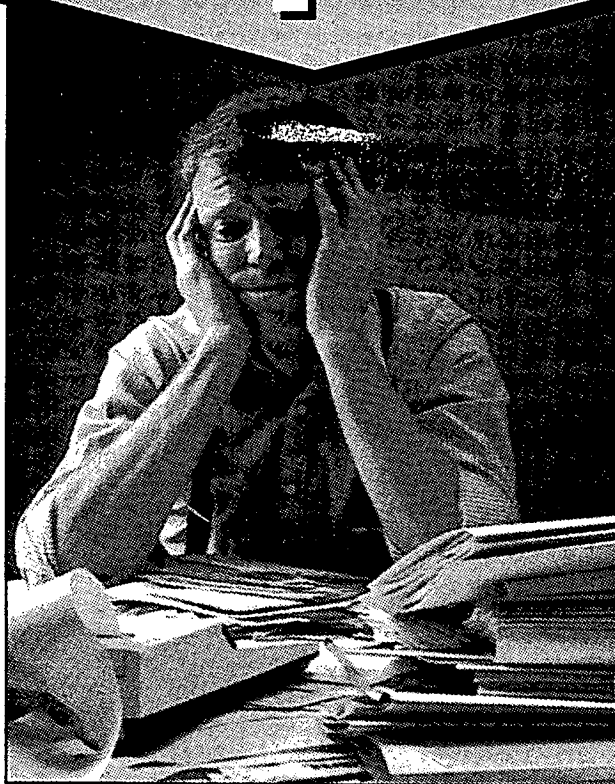
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