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Statistics Canada

Monday, October 24, 1988

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Major Releases

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, August 1988

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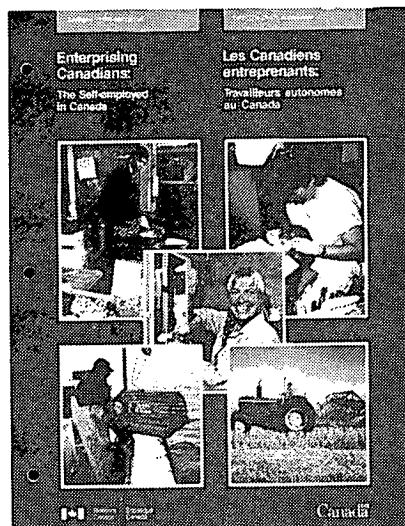
- Manufacturing shipments increased 2.8%, recovering virtually all of the July decrease, while unfilled orders continued to reach new highs.

Enterprising Canadians – The Self-employed in Canada, 1975-1986

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- The number of self-employed workers in Canada rose 54% during this period, more than double the rate recorded for paid workers.

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Enterprising Canadians: The Self-employed in Canada 1975-1986

Between 1975 and 1986, the number of self-employed workers in Canada increased by 54%, more than double the rate recorded for paid workers. By 1986, almost one out of seven workers had his/her own business.

Enterprising Canadians: The Self-employed in Canada (71-536) offers a comprehensive view of self-employment in Canada. Drawing on data from the Labour Force Survey and the Survey of Consumer Finances, the study provides a wealth of demographic and labour market facts on the self-employed. The report also highlights the dynamic role played by the self-employed in recent labour market developments.

Enterprising Canadians: The Self-employed in Canada, 1975-1986 (71-536, \$40) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information concerning the data in this release, contact Gary L. Cohen (613-951-4623), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.



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- The estimated value of building permits issued in Canada fell 12.4% from July.

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- Wholesale merchants' sales rose 11.7% over August 1987.

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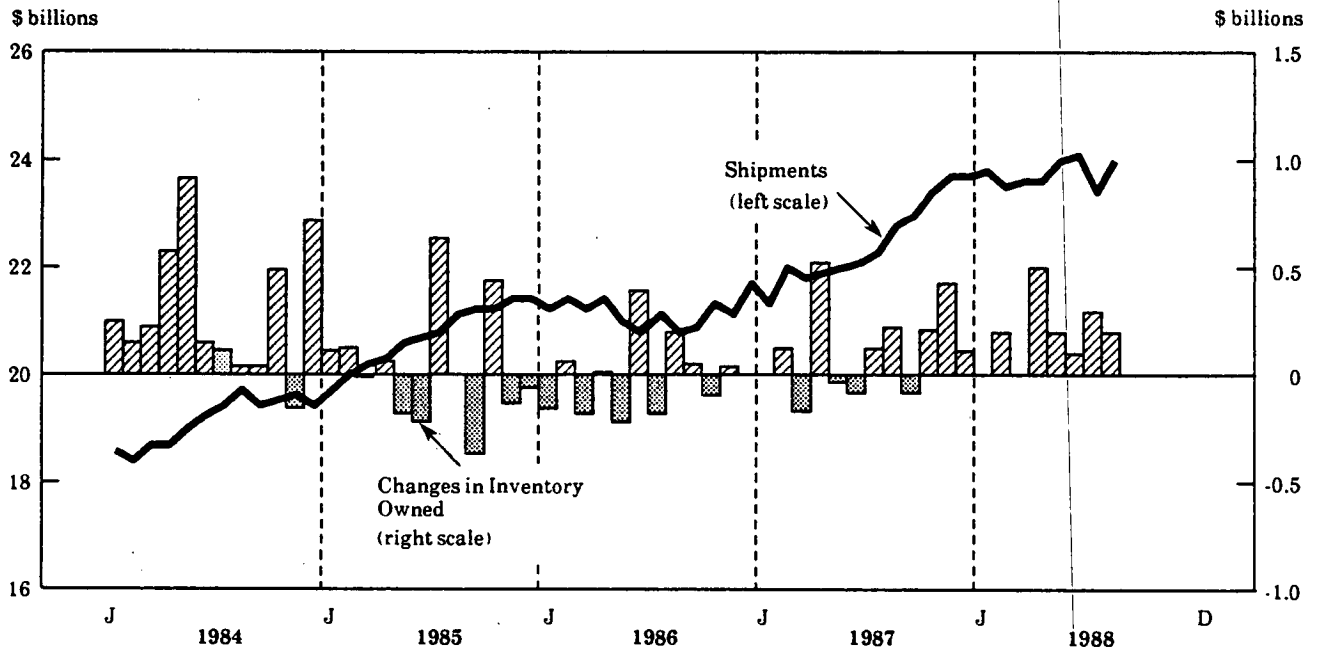
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Major Releases

Manufacturers' Shipments and Changes in Inventory Owned, 1984-1988

(Seasonally adjusted)



Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

August 1988

Seasonally Adjusted

The August 1988 inventory to shipments ratio declined because shipments, in recovering most of the July drop, increased more than inventories. Unfilled orders continued to reach new highs.

Highlights

- Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian manufacturers' August 1988 **shipments** increased 2.8% to \$24.0 billion, thus recovering most of the July decrease. Following strong growth in the last half of 1987, shipments growth had halted at the beginning of 1988 before picking up in the March through May period.
- **August inventories** of \$37.4 billion were up 0.5% from July. Increases averaging 0.5% a month during the last year have continued to push inventories to new highs. Transportation equipment and wood industries were the major contributors to the August increase.
- The **inventories to shipments ratio** was down to 1.56:1 in August from 1.59:1 in July. Despite the strong increase for shipments in August, the ratio remains higher than the low of 1.52:1 recorded from October 1987 to January 1988.
- **Unfilled orders** increased 0.5% in August to a level of \$27.7 billion. This follows increases averaging 0.7% a month in the two previous months.
- Following decreases in the previous two months, **new orders** increased 2.7% to \$24.2 billion in August.

(continued on next page)

Unadjusted

- Manufacturers' shipments in August 1988 were estimated at \$23.8 billion, 8.9% higher than the August 1987 level.
- Cumulative shipments for the first eight months of 1988 were estimated at \$190.0 billion, 8.6% higher than the value for the corresponding period in 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9580.

Note: Inventories referred to in the text above are inventories owned, which exclude inventories for which manufacturers have received payment, but which they are still holding. This occurs for industries where long-term projects are arranged and progress payments are received according to the work done. In these cases, shipments data reflect progress payments rather than deliveries. At the all-industry level, inventory owned accounts for the largest part of inventory held.

For more detailed information, consult the August 1988 issue of *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* (31-001, \$16.50/\$165). See "How to Order Publications".

Data for shipments by province in greater detail than normally published may be available on request. For more detailed information on this release, contact Donald Dubreuil (613-951-9497) or the Shipments, Inventories and Orders Section (613-951-9832), Industry Division.

Estimated Value of Shipments, Inventories and Orders in all Manufacturing Industries (millions of dollars)

	July 1987	August 1987	May 1988 ^r	June 1988 ^r	July 1988 ^r	August 1988 ^p
Adjusted for Seasonal Variation						
Shipments	22,350	22,803	24,036	24,055	23,383	24,029
New orders	22,579	22,882	24,750	24,291	23,532	24,175
Unfilled orders	22,799	22,879	27,178	27,414	27,563	27,709
Inventories	35,229	35,456	37,013	36,933	37,268	37,448
Ratio of inventories to shipments	1.58	1.55	1.54	1.54	1.59	1.56
Unadjusted						
Shipments	21,089	21,858	25,346	25,945	21,274	23,805
New orders	21,189	22,010	26,226	26,070	21,289	24,024
Unfilled orders	22,913	23,065	27,530	27,654	27,669	27,888
Inventories	34,960	33,340	37,333	36,878	36,938	37,308

^p Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

Enterprising Canadians: The Self-employed in Canada

1975-1986

Between 1975 and 1986, the number of self-employed workers in Canada rose 54%, more than double the rate recorded for paid workers.

Other highlights from *Enterprising Canadians: The Self-employed in Canada* (71-536), now available, include:

- In 1986, 1.6 million workers or almost one out of seven workers in Canada were working for themselves.
- Self-employment is more common among men than women: in 1986, 17% of all male workers were self-employed compared with 8% for women. But self-employment is growing more rapidly among women. Between 1975 and 1986, the number of self-employed women increased by 118%, while among men self-employment grew by 39%.
- The incidence of self-employment increases with age. In 1986, only 6% of workers aged 15-24 were self-employed compared with almost half (47%) of all workers aged 65 years and over.
- Self-employment is most prevalent in Saskatchewan (24% of total employment in 1986) and Prince Edward Island (18%).
- Between 1975 and 1986, the number of self-employed workers with paid help (employers) increased by 67% compared with 44% for those who did not employ paid help (own-account workers).
- Between 1975 and 1986, the largest percentage gains in self-employment by industry were in business services, fishing and trapping, logging and forestry, personal and household services, real estate operator and insurance agent industries, and wholesale trade.
- The self-employed work longer hours than paid workers. In 1986, 45% of self-employed men usually worked 50 or more hours per week as did 20% of self-employed women. Among paid workers, only 10% of males and 3% of females worked such long hours.
- Over one in five employers earned at least \$40,000 in 1985, compared with only 10% of paid workers and 6% of own-account workers.
- Average 1985 earnings among the self-employed were highest in health and social service industries (\$50,000), followed by finance and insurance (\$43,600) and business services (\$39,600).

Enterprising Canadians: The Self-employed in Canada, 1975-1986 (71-536, \$40) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information concerning the data in this release, contact Gary L. Cohen (613-951-4623), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

Chart 1
Value of Building Permits Issued in Canada

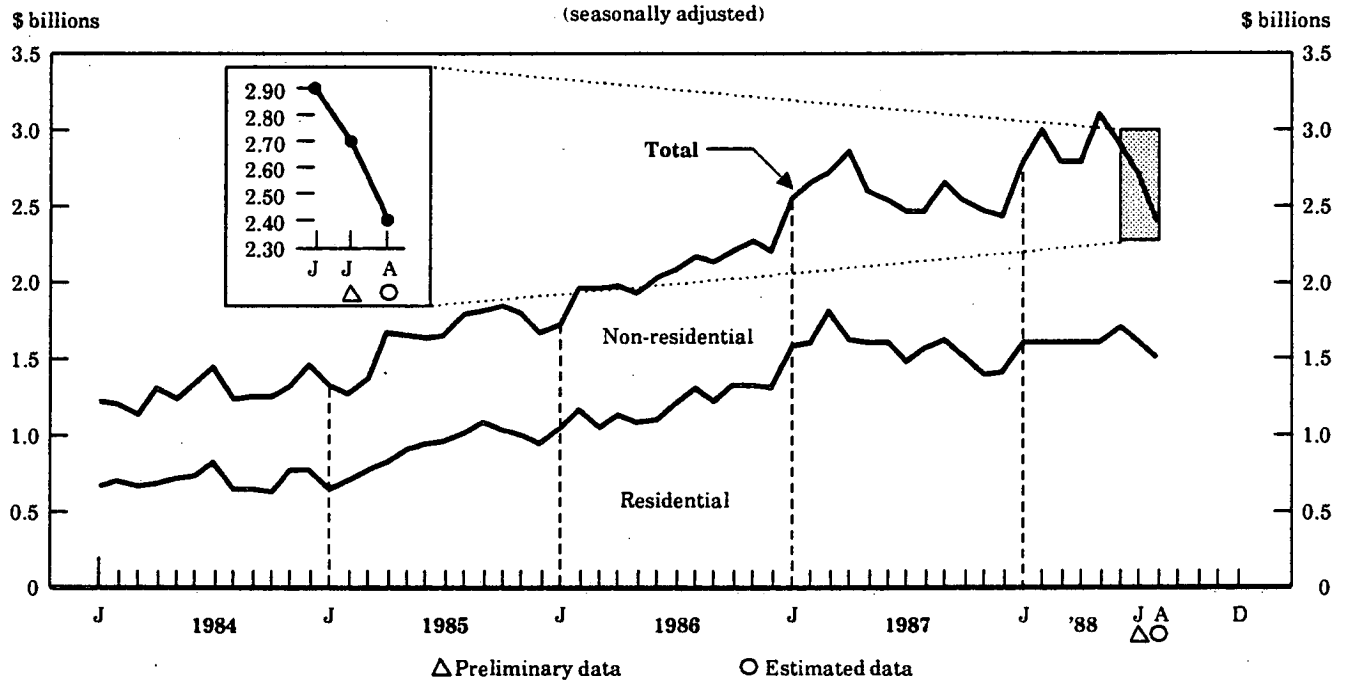


Chart 2
Dwelling Units Authorized in Canada

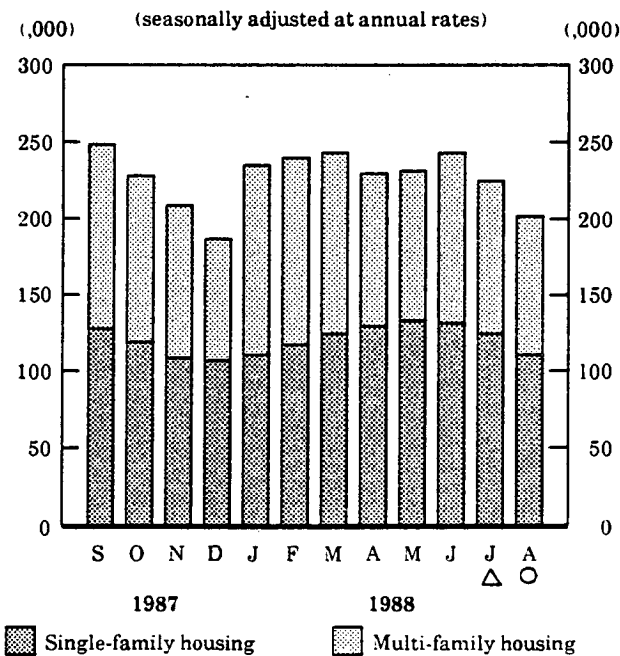
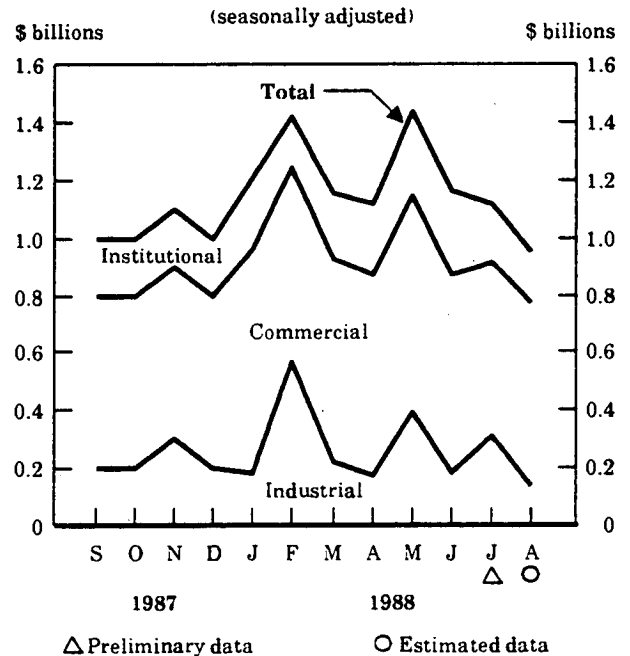


Chart 3
Value of Non-residential Permits Issued in Canada



Building Permits

August 1988

(Seasonally adjusted data and construction filtered index)

Summary

The estimated value of building permits issued in Canada in August was \$2,405.8 million, down 12.4% from \$2,745.0 million in July. This drop, the third consecutive one, was attributable to both the residential and the non-residential sectors.

Residential sector

- The estimated value of residential building permits decreased 10.4% in August to \$1,451.4 million from \$1,620.2 million in July.
- This slackening of residential construction intentions was attributable to decreases observed in both the single-family sector (-11.4% to \$1,036.6 million) and the multi-family sector (-8.0% to \$414.8 million).
- The number of dwelling units authorized totalled 205,500 at an annual rate in August (112,800 single detached and 92,700 multiple dwellings), a 9.6% drop.
- Only the Prairie region registered a gain in the number of dwelling units authorized in August.

Non-residential Sector

- Down 15.1% in August, non-residential building permits fell to \$954.4 million compared to \$1,124.8 million in July.
- The commercial component was the only one to register a gain, up 4.7% to \$627.0 million in August. Sharp decreases were noted in the industrial sector (-54.0% to \$143.5 million) and the institutional sector (-14.4% to \$183.9 million).

- Ontario and British Columbia registered gains in the value of non-residential building permits while all other regions recorded decreases in August.

Short-term Trend

- The short-term trend of construction (excluding engineering projects), as reflected by the filtered index of building permits, remained stable in June at 130.4.
- The filtered index of residential permits gained 0.3% to 149.1 in June while the non-residential index dropped 0.4% to 110.8.

Note to Users

The short-term trend as shown by the filtered index is an investment anticipator in the construction sector for the forthcoming months. It is based on the value of the building permits issued and comprises the following stages: deflating (1981=100), seasonal adjustment and filtering (using the 23-month Henderson moving average method) to produce a trend-cycle.

In order to reduce the number of false signals in the construction activity series, the leading indicator is lagged two months in relation to the month of reference.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 80 (levels 3-7, 9-15), 129, 137, 443, 989-991, 994, 995 and 4073.

The July 1988 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, \$20/\$200) is scheduled for release the third week of November.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Francine Monette (613-951-2583), Science, Technology and Capital Stock Division.

Wholesale Trade

August 1987

Sales

- Preliminary estimates indicate that wholesale merchants' sales for August 1988 were 11.7% above those of August 1987. In the first eight months of 1988, cumulative sales were up 10.8% compared to the corresponding period in 1987.
- In August 1988, all major trade groups within wholesale trade registered increased sales over a year earlier, except wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies (-19.3%). The three largest trade groups recorded increases over August 1987: wholesalers of electrical and non-electrical machinery, equipment and supplies (+19.3%), wholesalers of food (+14.5%) and other wholesalers (+13.3%).
- Wholesale trade increases between August 1987 and August 1988 were posted in all regions, ranging from 13.7% in British Columbia, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories to 3.0% in the Prairie provinces.

Inventories

- Inventory levels in August 1988 were 10.9% higher than those reported in August 1987. The ratio of inventories to sales at the end of August 1988 stood at 1.45:1, down slightly from 1.46:1 in the corresponding month of 1987.

(see table on next page)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 44 and 50.

The August 1988 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, \$5.50/\$55) will be available the third week of November. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gilles Simard (613-951-3541), Wholesale Trade Section, Industry Division.

Wholesale Trade

Percentage Change in Sales and Inventories for August 1988/1987

Major Trade Groups - Regions	Sales			Inventories		Stocks/Sales Ratio	
	July 1988/87 ^r	Aug. 1988/87 ^p	Jan.-Aug. 1988/87 ^p	July 1988/87 ^r	Aug. 1988/87 ^p	Aug. 1987	Aug. 1988 ^p
Total all trades	2.1	11.7	10.8	11.2	10.9	1.46	1.45
Food	1.0	14.5	4.6	1.4	0.7	0.72	0.63
Tobacco, drugs and toilet preparations	-12.9	4.7	3.0	-12.0	-11.9	0.95	0.80
Apparel, dry goods, furniture and general merchandise	4.7	14.4	5.6	12.9	11.6	1.81	1.76
Motor vehicles and accessories	-13.5	1.5	1.9	3.1	-0.4	1.99	1.95
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	-16.8	-19.3	-3.4	-4.5	-4.6	2.62	3.10
Other machinery, equipment and supplies ¹	9.7	19.3	19.5	13.5	13.5	1.63	1.55
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment	3.3	19.2	17.5	25.5	26.7	1.49	1.59
Lumber and building materials	0.9	7.1	8.2	27.8	26.9	1.21	1.43
Other wholesalers ²	12.2	13.3	15.8	15.2	17.3	1.45	1.50
Regions							
Atlantic provinces	-0.1	10.4	10.4	12.2	11.9	1.30	1.32
Quebec	5.9	13.6	13.0	18.6	17.5	1.34	1.39
Ontario	1.9	13.3	10.1	11.2	10.9	1.47	1.44
Prairie provinces	-4.0	3.0	10.2	6.2	6.4	1.80	1.86
B.C., Yukon and Northwest Territories	3.9	13.7	9.8	4.2	3.9	1.27	1.16

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.

-- Amount too small to be expressed.

¹ Includes: electrical machinery, equipment and supplies; and machinery and equipment, n.e.s.

² Includes: farm products (excluding grain); paper and paper products; scrap and waste materials; and wholesalers, n.e.s.

Data Availability Announcements

Major Appliances

September 1988

Domestic sales of major appliances by Canadian manufacturers increased to 254,557 units in September 1988, up 38.1% from 184,284 units in August 1988 and up 16.0% from the 219,524 units sold in the same month of 1987.

Year-to-date domestic sales to September 1988 amounted to 1,818,061 units, a 5.0% increase from 1,730,864 units for the same period of 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 65, 66 and 122 (series 30).

The September 1988 issue of *Production, Sales and Stocks of Major Appliances* (43-010, \$4.50/\$45) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications"

For more detailed information on this release, contact J.P. Beauparlant (613-951-3526), Industry Division.

Chain Store Stocks

August 1988

Highlights

- Retail chain store stocks totalled \$4,528 million at the end of August 1988, an increase of 3.0% over the level reached in August 1987.
- The inventories to sales ratio stood at 0.95:1 in August 1988, down significantly compared to the ratio of 1.09:1 observed a year earlier but up compared to the average ratio of 0.91:1 observed in the three previous months.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 194.

The August 1988 issue of *Merchandising Inventories* (63-014, \$13/\$130) will be available the third week of December. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Maurice Massaad (613-951-9682), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers

September 1988

Canadian domestic shipments of corrugated boxes and wrappers totalled 203 328 thousand square metres in September 1988, a decrease of 4.8% from the 213 501 thousand square metres shipped a year earlier.

January to September 1988 domestic shipments totalled 1 722 696^r (r: revised figure) thousand square metres, up 4.1% from the 1 655 064 thousand square metres for the same period in 1987.

The September 1988 issue of *Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers* (36-004, \$4.50/\$45) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Sandra Bohatyretz (613-951-3531), Industry Division.

Population Projections for Canada, the Provinces and Territories

1986-2011

Projections of population for Canada, the provinces and territories for the years 1987-2011, based on population June 1, 1986, are now available on CANSIM: matrices 6900 to 6912.

These projections will appear in *Population Projections for Canada, the Provinces and Territories, 1986-2011* (91-520, \$40), available in the next few months. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Jeanine Perreault (613-951-2346), Demography Division.

Publications Released

Oil Pipe Line Transport, July 1988.

Catalogue number 55-001

(Canada: \$9/\$90; Other Countries: \$10/\$100).

Electric Power Statistics, July 1988.

Catalogue number 57-001

(Canada: \$9/\$90; Other Countries: \$10/\$100).

Department Store Sales and

Stocks, February 1988.

Catalogue number 63-002

(Canada: \$13/\$130; Other Countries: \$14/\$140).

Merchandising Inventories, May 1988.

Catalogue number 63-014

(Canada: \$13/\$130; Other Countries: \$14/\$140).

Enterprising Canadians - The Self-employed
in Canada, 1975-1986.

Catalogue number 71-536

(Canada: \$40; Other Countries: \$42).

Science Statistics Service Bulletin,

Vol. 12, No. 10, The Provincial
Research Organizations, 1987.

Catalogue number 88-001

(Canada: \$6.50/\$65; Other Countries: \$7.50/\$75).

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