

Within manufacturing, the non-durables group advanced by 2.9 per cent in June, with the gains widespread among major groups. The 6 per cent increase in foods and beverages output brought that index slightly above its levels of a few months ago. Elsewhere, the increases ranged up to 7 per cent in leather products and 10 per cent in tobacco products. Textiles were up 2 per cent, paper products 3 per cent, chemicals 4 per cent, and rubber products 5 per cent. On the other hand, petroleum-refining output and printing and publishing each declined 3 per cent in June.

A 2.5 per cent advance in manufacturing durables was based on significant increases in all but two major groups. Wood products recovered the ground lost by the decline in May, advancing 4 per cent in June. Iron and steel products were up 3 per cent in the month, reflecting significantly higher iron-castings output and continued high primary-steel production. Motor-vehicles output continued to advance, resulting in a 5 per cent increase in transportation equipment. A 2 per cent increase was recorded in electrical apparatus and supplies. Neither non-ferrous metal products nor non-metallic mineral products showed much change over the month.

NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION

The National Energy Board's authorization in 1960 of large-scale exports of natural gas to the United States brought a renewal of activity in the natural-gas industry. Permission was granted to five pipeline companies to export a maximum of 1,071 million cubic feet a day. This resulted, during the latter half of the year, in the initiation of new gas-pipeline construction programmes and an increase in the development of field facilities. The largest construction project begun was that of the Alberta-California pipeline, scheduled for completion in 1962. This line will carry more than 400 million cubic feet a day. In August, Trans-Canada Pipe Lines Limited began to export gas through Emerson, Manitoba, to the United States.

In 1960, Alberta produced nearly 73.8 per cent of Canada's net output of natural gas. British Columbia accounted for 16.5 per cent, Saskatchewan for 6.4 per cent, and Ontario for 3.3 per cent. The small remainder was from New Brunswick and the Northwest Territories. Manitoba, although it produced crude oil, produced no commercial quantities of natural gas.

In 1960 the net output of natural gas, exclusive of flared gas and waste, was nearly 25 per cent greater than in 1959. Net production increased 29 per cent in Alberta, 24 per cent in British Columbia, and 2 per cent in Ontario. Production declined slightly in Saskatchewan and 16 and 40 per cent respectively in New Brunswick and the Northwest Territories.

BROADCAST GOVERNORS IN ACTION

An application received by the Minister of Transport from the licensee of the Toronto private television station CFTO-TV for the transfer of shares to an American corporation was recently passed to the Board of Broadcast Governors for an opinion. The Board commended CFTO-TV for a "performance that compares well with other television stations recently licensed" and for having "fully lived up to the commitments made to the Board in the provision of facilities and employment" and sent the application back to the Minister of Transport with the following comments:

"The Board recommends that approval of this application be deferred to provide the applicant an opportunity to receive offers from experienced Canadian broadcasting interests on terms and conditions substantially as favourable to the station as the offer which the applicant has received from the American Broadcasting-Paramount Theatres Incorporated. The Board should be advised by noon on September 25 of all offers made. If, in the opinion of the Board, no acceptable offer as defined above has been received by noon on Monday, September 25, the Board will at that time recommend the approval of the present application for the transfer of shares. If, in the opinion of the Board, an acceptable offer has been received, the Board will not recommend the present application and will advise the applicant to submit a new application if he so desires."

COMMODITY IMPORTS IN APRIL

Canada's commodity imports from all countries in April were valued at \$438,729,000, a decline of 8.0 per cent from last year's corresponding total of \$476,910,000. The main totals for April were published in a preliminary statement on June 12. Decreases were also posted in February and March. Imports in the January-April period declined 4.3 per cent to \$1,725,600,000 from \$1,803,100,000 a year earlier.

Among the principal sources of supply in April there were smaller values posted for the United States, United Kingdom, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Netherlands and Australia, and larger values for Italy, Saudi Arabia, Japan and The West Indies.

Among major commodities, values were smaller in April than a year earlier for non-farm machinery, electrical apparatus, automobiles, rolling-mill products and cotton products, and larger for aircraft and parts, automobile parts, crude petroleum, farm implements and machinery, engines and boilers, fruits, and books and printed matter.