

**EMPLOYMENT SITUATION:** The seasonal turning-point in labour-market conditions was reached in September. Over the summer the increasing labour requirements of agricultural, construction and other seasonal industries expanded more rapidly than labour supplies. By the first of October, however, it was apparent that labour demand had reached its peak and had begun its normal seasonal decline. On the other hand, labour supply declined during September as many students and other short term seasonal workers withdrew from the labour force. By the end of the month there were nearly 100,000 fewer persons with jobs than at the end of August. These developments were reflected in labour market conditions. Compared with a month earlier, labour shortage areas decreased from 9 to 7 (all located in the Prairie region), areas with balanced demand-supply situation decreased from 87 to 85, and areas with moderate labour surpluses increased from 15 to 19.

The Monthly Labour Force Survey conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics relating to the week ended September 19, 1953, indicated that there were 5,398,000 in the civilian labour force, compared with 5,507,000 during the week ended August 22, 1953. The civilian labour force includes all civilians 14 years of age and over who, during the survey week, (a) worked for pay or profit, or did unpaid work on a family farm or in a family business, (b) had a job but did not work, or (c) were looking for work. Classed as "not in the labour force" are those engaged in keeping house or going to school, as well as the retired or voluntarily idle, and those too old or permanently unable to work. In the week ended September 19, these numbered 4,682,000 up 132,000 from August 22.

The figures for 1953 are not strictly comparable with those for previous years because of revisions based upon new age and sex distributions obtained from the 1951 Census. The figures for earlier years are now being revised, the revision amounting to slightly more than one per cent of the sampled population. The total civilian non-institutional population 14 years of age and over was estimated at 10,080,000 as at September 19, 1953. Excluded from all these estimates are persons living in institutions, Indians on reservations, and a few people living in remote and inaccessible areas.

Out of the total civilian labour force of 5,398,000 there were 5,175,000 persons working full or part time during the week; 139,000 had jobs but did not work at them because of bad weather, temporary lay-off, illness, labour dispute, vacation or other reason; and another 84,000 did not have jobs and were seeking work.

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The average wage was 73% of the average salary in Canadian manufacturing in 1950 as compared with 69% in 1947 and only 56% in 1939.

**WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS:** Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on September 30 were boosted to 306,406,000 bushels from 300,499,000 a week earlier and 224,818,000 at the same time last year, according to the weekly release of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

At the same time, farmers' marketings of wheat in the Prairie Provinces during the week were cut to 12,501,000 bushels as compared with 25,014,000 a year ago. Deliveries of oats were off to 1,385,000 bushels from 2,887,000, barley to 2,890,000 bushels from 6,673,000, rye to 395,000 bushels from 448,000, and flaxseed to 494,000 bushels from 1,143,000.

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week were moderately higher at 5,066,031 bushels as compared with 4,771,468 at the same time last year.

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**CANADIAN COKE, 1952:** Production of coke from bituminous coal in 1952 was 4,047,262 tons compared with 3,931,626 tons in 1951. Coal processed for the manufacture of coke amounted to 5,563,300 tons of which 1,236,035 tons were of Canadian origin and 4,327,265 tons were imported from the United States. Petroleum coke produced at the refineries amounted to 204,000 tons compared with 164,689 tons in 1951.

Imports of coke totalled 825,259 tons, a decrease of 131,496 tons from 1951, while exports increased from 219,340 tons in 1951 to 359,456 tons in 1952...

The increasing demand for metallurgical coke has resulted in the construction of new batteries of coke ovens in British Columbia and in the planned expansion of other coke plants.

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**FOREIGN TRADE OF CANADA RELEASED:** Volumes I and II of the Trade of Canada for the calendar year 1952 were released on October 16 by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Volume I contains summary statistics, analytical tables and data on Canada's foreign trade with each country by principal commodities, and Volume II contains final detailed statistics on exports of Canadian and foreign produce by articles and countries of destination.

These volumes, which are part of a set of three annual reports on the foreign trade of Canada, may be obtained from the Queen's Printer at \$2.00 per copy. The set of three volumes -- Total Trade (Volume I), Exports (Volume II), and Imports (Volume III), may be obtained for a total of \$5.00.

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Canadian-made women's bathing suits cost an average of \$5.82 each at the factory in 1951, 38 cents more than in 1950 when the average cost was \$5.54