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Importance of Wood as Heating Fuel in Canadian Households

The importance of wood as a heating fuel does not appear to be thoroughly well understood, nor that a scarcity of cordwood would be so very serious. The fact is that the number of households using wood as the principal heating fuel is just about the same as the number using coal. Wood is used by 46 per cent of all the households in Canada and coal and coke by 47 per cent. Fuel oil, gas and sawdust are used by the remaining seven per cent. There are 2,572,590 households in the Dominion.

The only provinces that use wood principally for half or less of their households are Ontario and Alberta. No less than 75 per cent of the homes in New Brunswick use wood. The others follow in order: Prince Edward Island 66, British Columbia 62, Manitoba 59, Quebec 57, Nova Scotia 50, Saskatchewan 50, Alberta 36, Ontario 30. The table below indicates the situation clearly.

Percentages of Canadian Households Using Wood as Their Principal Heating Fuel in 1941

	Total Households	Total	Farm	Rural Non-Farm	Urban
Canada	2,572,590	46	79	64	25
Prince Edward Island..	20,082	66	88	66	5
Nova Scotia	123,228	50	90	68	15
New Brunswick	91,894	75	93	86	45
Quebec	644,579	57	97	91	37
Ontario	908,402	30	75	42	12
Manitoba	163,799	59	87	66	31
Saskatchewan	207,217	50	63	60	27
Alberta	193,465	36	57	46	6
British Columbia	219,924	62	95	78	44

Infant Mortality in Canada

Canada has made great progress in recent years in reducing infant mortality. Deaths of children under one year of age in 1942 were at the rate of 54 per thousand, the lowest ever achieved. Compared with the 1926 rate of 102 per thousand, when vital statistics were first collected on a nation-wide basis, it has been practically halved. The rate was 76 in 1937, 85 in 1931 and 90 in 1928.

Striking progress has been made in all provinces in this important work, reflecting the improvements achieved in hospitalization, health education, and other provincial and municipal public health services, together with improved home facilities for care of the new-born.

Provincial infant mortality rates for 1942 were as follows, with those for 1926 in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 50 (70); Nova Scotia, 58 (80); New Brunswick, 77 (106); Quebec, 70 (142); Ontario, 40 (78); Manitoba, 51 (77); Saskatchewan, 43 (81); Alberta, 53 (85); British Columbia, 38 (58).

The latest records the Dominion Bureau of Statistics has of other countries show that New Zealand's infant mortality was the lowest in the world in 1937 with 31 deaths per thousand. In that year the United States rate was 54, while the British Isles rate was 62 and Australia 38.

Canada's rate in 1937 was 76 when she stood 17th out of 43 leading countries in relation to infant mortality rates. Indications are, however, with the limited data available from other countries for 1942, that Canada's position in relation to these same 43 countries, has been much improved in this connection.

Second Estimate of Field Crops

Reductions from the September estimates of Canada's 1943 production of grain crops, amounting to 2,500,000 bushels of wheat, 17,000,000 bushels of oats, and 7,000,000 bushels of barley, are indicated in the second estimate of this year's field crops released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The 1943 wheat crop is now placed at 293,704,000 bushels, the oats crop at 482,860,000 bushels, and barley production at 215,816,000 bushels. Harvesting operations are completed, except in Saskatchewan and New Brunswick where threshing of grain crops is unfinished.

Lower yields in Alberta, attributable in part to killing September frosts which caught late grain in the central and northern areas of the province, account largely for the reduced estimates. Alberta's wheat crop is now shown to be 5,000,000 bushels below the September estimate, the oats crop 13,000,000 bushels smaller, and the barley crop 8,000,000 bushels less. In Manitoba, an upward revision has been made in all three crops while in Saskatchewan the wheat crop has been slightly raised and the oats and barley crops lowered. Changes are made also in the grain crops of the other six provinces but they are of a minor character.

Flaxseed production is revised slightly upward to 17,700,000 bushels but the crop in the Prairie Provinces, estimated in September at 17,400,000 bushels, remains unchanged. It is indicated in reports from Saskatchewan that approximately seven per cent of the 12,000,000 bushels of flaxseed produced in the province remains to be threshed. The rye crop, both spring and fall sown, is reduced by 1,334,000 bushels and the total of 7,144,000 bushels is less than 30 per cent of the 1942 harvest. Fall wheat production, estimated for Ontario only, is now placed at 13,222,000 bushels, a reduction of 600,000 bushels from the first estimate.

The second estimates of the production of peas, beans and corn for husking show very little change from figures released about a month ago. Only minor revisions are made also in the production of mixed grains and buckwheat. The crop of peas is now placed at 1,594,000 bushels and beans at 1,402,000 bushels. In the case of peas this is 100,000 bushels less than the 1942 production and in the case of beans 150,000 bushels less.

Production of potatoes in 1943 is now estimated to be less than in 1942. The late diggings have been disappointing and blight has taken heavy toll in Nova Scotia and elsewhere. The crop is now estimated at 42,197,000 cwt. Turnips and other roots for feeding show an increase over the first estimate and are now placed at 34,779,000 cwt.

The hay and clover crop estimated at 17,035,000 tons is almost 1,000,000 tons in excess of the 1942 harvest, while alfalfa at 3,893,000 tons is 162,000 tons above the 1942 crop. Fodder corn shows a slight decrease from a year ago at 4,104,000 tons, while sugar beet production now estimated at 472,000 tons is not only reduced from the first estimate but the crop is only about two-thirds of the 1942 harvest.

Visible Supply of Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on November 11 totalled 363,006,637 bushels, including 346,890,532 bushels in Canadian positions and 16,116,105 in United States positions. On the corresponding date last year the visible supply totalled 453,083,363 bushels.

Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Farmers in western Canada delivered 8,781,008 bushels of wheat from the farms during the week ending November 11 as compared with 6,568,395 in the previous week. Deliveries during the elapsed portion of the crop year totalled 66,407,707 bushels compared with 102,285,739 in the corresponding period of the previous crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from the farms in the three Prairie Provinces during the week ending November 11, figures for the previous week being in brackets: oats, 1,524,190 (1,848,036) bushels; barley, 1,144,235 (1,345,380); rye, 14,540 (12,495); flaxseed, 126,716 (225,018).

Gold Production Lower in September

Canada's production of gold has been falling off in recent months and the September output at 282,804 fine ounces was the lowest recorded in several years. Production during the corresponding month last year was 380,703 fine ounces. The value of this year's September output was $10,887,954.

Gold production during the nine months ended September declined to 2,842,122 fine ounces from 3,727,457 in the corresponding period last year. Production from auriferous quartz mines, including placer gold, dropped 27.8 per cent, while gold from base metal mines recorded an increase of 6.6 per cent.

September production of gold by areas was as follows, totals for September last year being in brackets: Nova Scotia, 287 (883) fine ounces; Quebec, 74,298 (84,722); Ontario, 158,352 (213,881); Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 20,255 (25,602); British Columbia, 17,637 (34,320); Yukon, 7,133 (14,772); Northwest Territories, 4,825 (6,523).

Production of Crude Petroleum and Natural Gasoline during August

The Canadian output of crude petroleum and natural gasoline in August totalled 840,823 barrels of 35 gallons each, excluding that produced in the Northwest Territories. In the previous month the production amounted to 831,412 barrels and in August last year, 870,108 barrels. Alberta's output in August this year totalled 826,191 barrels, of which 799,765 came from the Turner Valley Field.

Canadian crude oil and natural gasoline production during the eight months ended August totalled 6,710,105 barrels, excluding the Northwest Territories. In the corresponding period last year production amounted to 6,979,180 barrels. Alberta's output aggregated 6,510,458 barrels as compared with 6,836,130 in the similar period of last year.

Production of Natural Gas in August

Natural gas production in Canada during August amounted to 2,312,999,000 cubic feet as compared with 2,293,086,000 in the previous month and 2,295,309,000 in the corresponding month last year. Output during the eight months ended August totalled 28,880,413,000 cubic feet as compared with 27,967,570,000 in the similar period of 1942.

Production of Leading Minerals

The production of Canada's leading mineral products for which figures are made public was as follows during the nine months ended September, totals for the corresponding period of last year being in brackets: cement, 5,765,665 (7,031,092) barrels; clay products, $4,654,383 ($5,228,828); coal, 13,126,656 (13,904,025) tons; feldspar, 13,789 (15,901); gold, 2,842,122 (3,727,457) fine ounces; gypsum, 290,766 (480,444) tons; lime, 701,537 (653,369) tons; natural gas, 31,592,233,000 (30,850,037,000) cubic feet; commercial salt, 251,927 (233,847) tons; silver, 13,300,731 (15,323,855) fine ounces.

Retail Sales of Gasoline in July

Retail sales of motor, tractor and aviation grades of gasoline in Canada during July aggregated 92,471,000 gallons compared with 88,200,000 in the previous month and 86,454,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from the tax departments of the Provincial Governments and Canadian oil companies. Sales during the seven months ended July totalled 479,-037,000 gallons compared with 487,312,000 in the corresponding period of 1942.

Stocks of Unmanufactured Tobacco

Stocks of unmanufactured tobacco on hand in Canada at the end of September this year totalled 111,636,173 pounds compared with 113,845,843 on the corresponding date last year. This year's total included 109,682,752 pounds of Canadian tobacco and 1,953,421 pounds of imported tobacco, while last year the totals were 112,003,373 and 1,842,470 pounds, respectively.

Canada's Woollen Textile Industry in 1941

Extending the sharp increase noted since the outbreak of war, the production value of the Canadian Woollen Textile Industries advanced to $82,112,204 in 1941, an increase of 6.4 per cent over the 1940 output which totalled $77,135,832. The 1941 valuation was all but double that of 1939 when it was $43,872,064. Employment was provided for 15,457 persons in 1941, being 8.7 per cent more than in 1940. Disbursements in salaries and wages amounting to $16,743,652 showed an increase of 12.9 per cent. In 1941, 159 mills were operated, 97 of which were located in Ontario and 35 in Quebec.

The most important item of production was woven suitings, dress goods, overcoatings and cloaking of wool or containing wool, which amounted to 22,737,496 yards valued at $33,991,868 as against 22,259,331 yards valued at $33,522,549 in 1940. In 1941 blankets were produced to the extent of 725,461 pairs worth $4,599,666 compared with 829,933 pairs valued at $5,206,595 in 1940.

Raw wool was the principal material used, the 1941 consumption by this industry amounting in value to $13,585,569. Wool tops used totalled $11,424,937, as well as considerable quantities of worsted and wool, rags, clippings, etc.

Canadian Factories in Peace and War

The Canadian people generally are aware that Canadian industries have made a vast contribution to the war effort of the Allied Nations. Very many of the largest factories in the Dominion were converted from peacetime to wartime uses, and new plants had also to be built. But it is by the presentation of actual figures that a better conception of what was done can be obtained.

In 1938 there were 25,200 establishments housing the manufacturing industries of the country; by the end of 1941, after only two years and about four months of war the number of those establishments had grown to 26,293, an advance unprecedented in the history of the Dominion. The establishments were distributed as follows amongst the provinces in 1941 with the 1938 distribution in brackets: Ontario, 10,250 (9,885) Quebec, 8,711 (8,655); British Columbia and Yukon, 1,914 (1,785); Manitoba, 1,184 (1,072); Nova Scotia, 1,177 (1,102); Alberta, 1,108 (970); Saskatchewan, 945 (678); New Brunswick, 791 (826); Prince Edward Island, 213 (229).

The capital employed in 1938 was $3,485,683,018 and in 1941 it had grown to $4,905,-503,966, an increase of almost a billion and a half dollars. By provinces the distribution of capital was: Ontario, $2,336,788,884 ($1,676,896,175); Quebec, $1,700,527,405 (1,146,235,084); British Columbia and Yukon, $341,394,191 ($264,615,506); Manitoba, $163,489,471 ($114,367,743); Nova Scotia, $124,409,791 ($91,393,782); New Brunswick, $97,952,799 ($81,965,576); Alberta, $95,676,318 ($69,192,348); Saskatchewan, $42,158,738 ($38,364,021); Prince Edward Island, $3,106,369 ($2,652,783).

The number of employees in these establishments was very much increased. Over all of Canada the number rose from 642,016 in 1938 to 961,178 in 1941, with the following distribution by provinces: Ontario, 468,230 (311,274); Quebec, 327,591 (214,397); British Columbia and Yukon, 62,506 (42,213); Manitoba, 32,262 (23,507); Nova Scotia, 24,577 (16,810); New Brunswick, 19,600 (13,967); Alberta, 16,761 (12,684); Prince Edward Island, 1,105 (1,041).

The salaries and wages paid by the manufacturing industries of the Dominion in 1941 totalled $1,264,862,643 compared with $705,668,589 in 1938, an increase of more than half a billion dollars. These salaries and wages were distributed by provinces as follows: Ontario, $660,722,278 ($362,351,277); Quebec, $393,819,671 ($213,390,084); British Columbia and Yukon, $89,368,119 ($52,044,823); Manitoba, $40,894,267 ($27,195,923); Nova Scotia, $27,527,339 ($15,570,669); New Brunswick, $21,718,407 ($13,177,238); Alberta, $20,151,705 ($14,367,789); Saskatchewan, $9,979,974 ($6,988,061).

The gross value of Canadian products in 1941 was $6,076,308,184 as against $3,337,-[illegible]1,366 in 1938 and the value by provinces was: Ontario, $3,121,756,568 ($1,712,496,421); Quebec, $1,841,088,523 ($983,123,599); British Columbia and Yukon, $413,299,184 ($225,-[illegible]5,489); Manitoba, $211,532,751 ($131,770,280); Alberta, $142,651,493 ($86,675,500); Nova Scotia, $133,873,428 ($74,860,605); New Brunswick, $111,433,726 ($58,570,952); Saskatchewan, $96,020,975 ($61,027,853); Prince Edward Island, $4,649,476 ($3,570,667).

Some Conveniences in Occupied Dwellings

It was found during the taking of the Census in 1941 that 78 per cent of Canadian occupied dwellings had radios, 40 per cent had telephones, 24 per cent had vacuum cleaners and 37 per cent had automobiles. None of those conveniences was possessed by the households in 17 per cent of occupied dwellings while 11 per cent had all four.

Proportions of dwellings with radios and vacuum cleaners increased with the concentration of population, being smallest on farms and largest in the cities of 30,000 population and over. However, higher proportions of farms reported telephones and automobiles than did the smaller urban communities, and automobiles were owned by a higher proportion of farm households than by households in the cities of 30,000 and over.

Seventy-eight per cent of all occupied dwellings had radios in 1941. The percentage of urban dwellings so equipped was 89, farm dwellings 61, and rural non-farm 71 per cent. Telephones were reported by 40 per cent of all dwellings, 50 per cent by urban dwellings, 29 per cent of farm dwellings and 28 per cent of rural non-farm.

Automobiles were owned by 37 per cent of occupied dwellings. Forty-four per cent of farm dwellings had automobiles, 37 per cent of rural non-farm, and 33 per cent of urban dwellings. Electric vacuum cleaners were owned by 24 per cent of dwellings, mostly urban.

Production of Leather Footwear in September

Canadian factories produced 2,737,055 pairs of leather footwear during September as compared with 2,777,055 in the previous month and 2,807,754 in the corresponding month last year. During the first nine months of this year, production totalled 25,765,850 pairs compared with 24,672,220 in the corresponding period of last year.

Car Loadings Reduced

Reductions in shipments of coal and grain in the West were chiefly responsible for the decline in car loadings in the Dominion during the week ending November 6. The total dropped to 71,882 cars from 77,835 the previous week, although 2,908 cars above the corresponding week last year.

Western coal loadings dropped from 3,297 cars the week before to 1,453 and grain declined 1,977 cars although 5,645 cars heavier than in 1942. The total in the eastern division decreased from 45,684 in 1942 to 44,186 cars, but in the western division it increased from 23,290 to 27,696, grain and livestock being the main factors in the increase.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
2. Households and Families, 1941 (10 cents).
3. Automobiles, Radios, Telephones and Vacuum Cleaners in Canadian Dwellings, 1941 (10 cents).
4. Production of Leather Footwear, September (10 cents).
5. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
6. Second Estimate of Field Crops (10 cents).
7. Radial Origin by Conjugal Conditions, Age, Etc., Prince Edward Island, 1941 (10 cents).
8. Gold Production, September (10 cents).
9. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, August; and Petroleum Fuels Sales, July (10 cents).
10. Stocks and Consumption of Unmanufactured Tobacco, September 30, 1943 (10 cents).
11. The Hardwood Flooring Industry, 1942 (10 cents).
12. The Woollen Textile Industries in Canada, 1941 (35 cents).
13. Canada's Leading Mineral Products, September (10 cents).

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