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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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VOL. XVII

CAR LOADINGS

No. 52.

(Fifty-second Week ended December 28, 1940.)

Car loadings for the week ended December 28 dropped to 40,338 cars from 57,528 cars for the previous week. This was a greater decrease than usual for the holiday week, and the index number dropped from 101.2 to 95.8.

Compared with loading in the 52nd. week of 1939 of 36,866 cars, the increase was 9.4 per cent, all groups showing increases except coal and pulp and paper.

Total loadings for the 52 weeks amounted to 2,612,587 cars compared with 2,549,449 cars in 1939 and 2,432,786 cars in 1938.

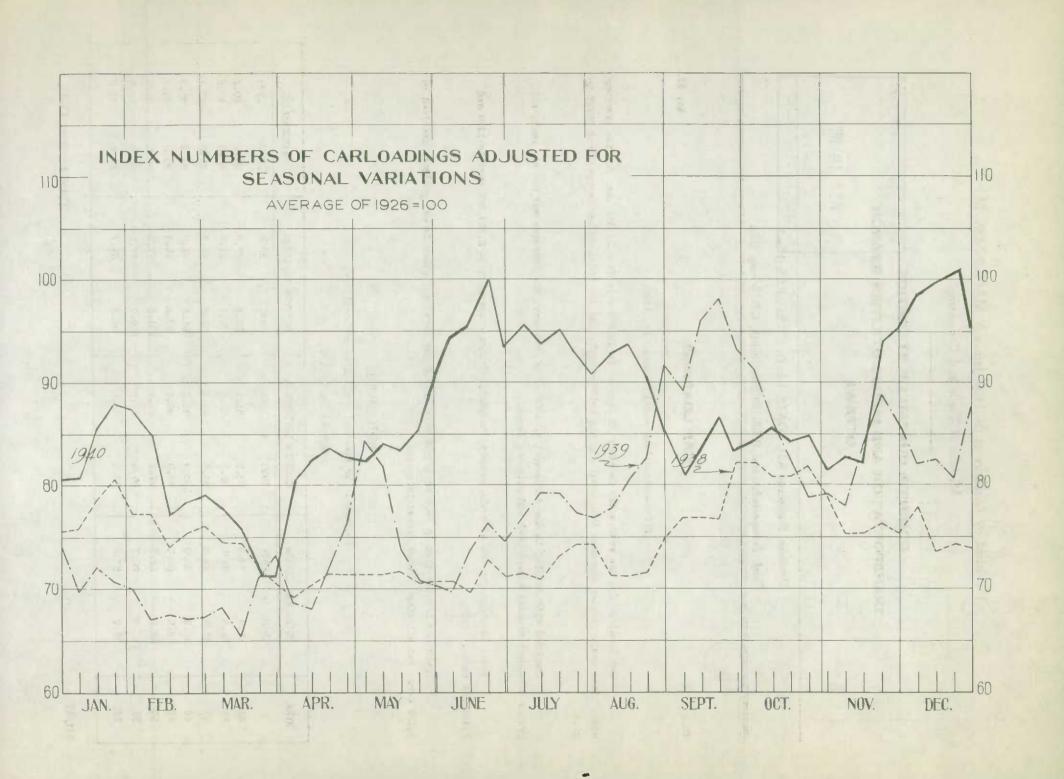
Grain was lighter than in 1939 by 22,856 cars or 5.6 per cent, and other forest products declined by 5,120 cars, but all other groups showed increases.

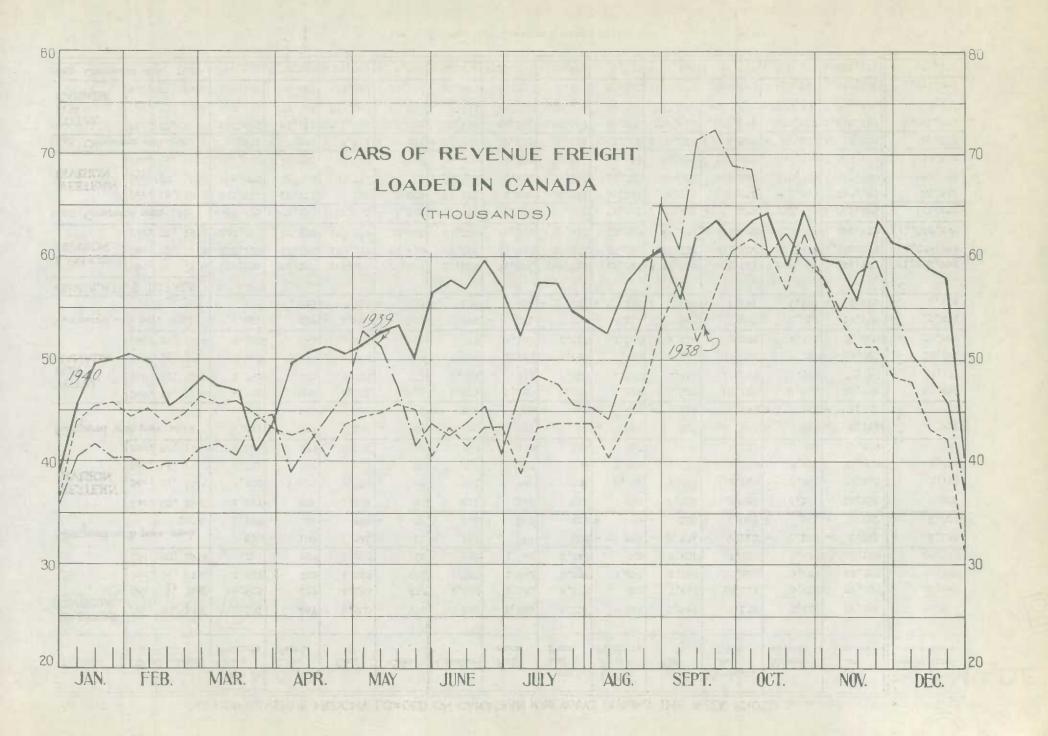
INDEX NUMBERS

(Adjusted for seasonal variations and holidays)

Average, 1926 = 100

WEEK	TOTAL FOR	CANADA	EASTERN I	DIVISION	WESTERN	DIVISION	MERCHAN	MERCHANDISE		
-11	1940 :	1939	1940	1939	1940 :	1939	1940 :	1939		
45	82.8	77.9	90.3	81.1	76.8	77.9	85.2	80.3		
46	81.8	84.0	89.1	89.2	75.1	81.3	86.0	82.8		
47	93.9	88.9	99.3	90.3	91.2	92.3	87.0	80.7		
48	95.3	86.0	100.0	92.7	91.3	78.0	87.8	81.8		
49	98.8	82.0	98.0	84.8	97.8	75.0	88.2	80.2		
50	99.4	82.5	97.2	82.4	101.5	75.5	90.6	81.4		
51	101.2	80.7	95.6	81.8	109.0	77.1	88.1	76.3		
52	95.8	87.6	99.4	96.5	86.5	69.7	87.6	77.6		





Division	Week ended	Grain & Grain Products	Live Stock	Coal	Coke	Lumber	Pulp- wood	Pulp and Paper	Other Forest Products	Ore	Merchand- ise, L.C.L.	Miscell- aneous	Total Cars Loaded	Total Cars Rec'd from Connections
EASTERN DIVISION	Dec. 28, 1940	1,135	467	2,499	574	990	1,397	1,735	544	1,337	8,186	7,492	26,356	22,910
	Dec. 21, 1940	1,625	617	4,160	637	1,544	1,681	2,573	806	1,641	10,396	9,€17	35,097	28,03
	Dec. 14, 1940	2,448	769	4,019	784	1,581	1,342	2,396	1,021	2,046	10,806	9,667	36,879	28,34
	Dec. 30, 1939	2,322	387	2,833	535	595	1,028	2,148	345	1,650	7,123	6,623	25,589	20,14
Compared wi	ith mey wook	- 490	- 150	- 1,661	- 63	- 554	_ 284	- 638	- 262	- 304	- 2,210	- 2,125	- 8,741	- 5,12
	1939	- 1,187	+ 80	- 334	+ 39	+ 395	+ 369	- 413	+ 199	- 313	+ 1,063	+ 869	+ 767	+ 2,76
WESTERN DIVISION	Dec. 28, 1940	4,197	632	1,562	50	611	183	241	732	1,224	2,389	2,161	13,982	92
	Dec. 21, 1940	7,668	1,039	2,798	94	851	260	286	1,384	1,843	3,249	2,959	22,451	1,14
	Dec. 14, 1940	6,392	1,047	2,885	89	744	227	286	1,368	1,611	3,278	3,475	21,402	1,39
	Dec. 30, 1939	2,533	527	2,005	55	322	118	194	668	876	2,251	1,728	11,277	87
Compared with prev. week		- 3,471	- 407	- 1,236	- 44	- 240	- 77	- 45	- 652	- 619	- 860	- 798	- 8,449	- 21
21 1	1939	+ 1,664	+ 105	- 443	- 5	+ 289	+ 65	+ 47	+ 64	+ 348	+ 138	+ 433	+ 2,705	+ 9
TOTAL FOR CANADA	Dec. 28, 1940	5,332	1,099	4,061	624	1,601	1,580	1,976	1,276	2,561	10,575	9,653	40,338	23,83
	Dec. 21, 1940	9,293	1,656	6,958	731	2,395	1,941	2,659	2,190	3,484	13,645	12,576	57,528	29,1
	Dec. 14, 1940	8,840	1,816	6,904	873	2,325	1,569	2,682	2,389	3,657	14,084	13,142	58,281	29,74
	Dec. 30, 1939	4,855	914	4,858	590	917	1,146	2,342	1,013	2,526	9,374	8,351	36,866	20,98
Compared with prev. week		- 3,961	- 557	- 2,897	- 107	- 794	- 361	- 683	- 914	- 923	- 3,070			- 5,33
	1939	+ 477	+ 185	- 777	+ 34	+ 684	+ 434	- 366	+ 263	+ 35	+ 1,201	+ 1,302	+ 3,472	+ 2,85
CUMULATI	VE TOTALS													II I
EASTERN DIVISION	Dec. 28, 1940	142,283	36,100		25,226	-	74,032	118,713	42,217	91,637	507,734		1,844,120	1,235,99
	Dec. 30, 1939	118,608	33,284		23,585	61,192	51,839		33,282		475,504		1,598,291	1,074,86
	Dec. 31, 1938	104,659	32,838	172,879	19,420		66,900	80,417		73,831	475,088		1,525,518	1,016,8
940 Compai	red with 1939	+ 23,675	+ 2,816	+ 17,652	+ 1,643	+ 30,914	+ 22,193	+ 24,039		+ 10,923	+ 32,230	+ 70,749	+ 245,829	+ 161,13
WESTERN DIVISION	Dec. 28, 1940	242,346	48,217	87,221	3,863	53,421	8,892	14,694	54,585	86,788	175,835	192,605	968,467	65,33
	Dec. 30, 1939	288,877	42,730		3,512	38,679	6,475	11,740		76,931	171,628			54,9
	Dec. 31, 1938		41,743		3,648		17,846	10,702		77,476	170,002	180,396		55,9
40 Compa	red with 1939	- 46,531				-	-		-					+ 10,3
TOTAL FOR CANADA	Dec. 28, 1940	384,629	84,317	301,046	29,089	145,527	82,924	133,407	96,802	178,425	683,569		2,812,587	1,301,3
	Dec. 30, 1939	407,485		279,983	27,095		58,314	106,414					2,549,449	1,129,8
	Dec. 31, 1938	337,561	74,581	257,967	25,068		84,746		-		645,090		2,432,786	1,072,8
040 Compa	red with 1939	- 22,856	+ 8,303	+ 21,063	+ 1,994	+ 45,656	+ 24,610	+ 26,993	- 3,120	+ 20,780	+ 36,537	+ 103,178	+ 263,138	+ 171,5

Note: 1939 figures contain revisions.

SUMMARY OF CAR LOADINGS

1940

Charts on pages 7-10 show the cars of the eleven groups of commodities loaded each week on Canadian railways for 1938, 1939, and 1940. It should be noted that the scales are not the same for all charts.

Comparisons are made below of the loadings for the first 51 weeks of each year. Data for the last week of 1940 will not be available in time to be included in this summary.

Grain and grain products Although loadings were fairly heavy for the first six months when the total was 51,012 cars over the corresponding total for 1939, and nearly double the 1938 loadings, the usual peak in September and October did not develop, and the total was 6 per cent, or 23,333 cars below the 1939 total, and only 44,310 cars above the 1938 total.

On December 22 there were 257,000,000 bushels of grain in western elevators to be moved, compared with 179,600,000 bushels in 1939.

Live stock Loadings showed little change week by week, but the total of 83,218 cars was 8,118 cars or 10.8 per cent above 1939 loadings,

Coal Loadings were above 1939 loadings throughout most of the year, and the total of 296,985 cars was 21,840 cars, or 8 per cent above 1939 loadings, the eastern division accounting for 82 per cent of the increase, and 71 per cent of the total loadings.

Coke Total loadings amounted to 28,465 cars, or 1960 cars more than in 1939. Over 80 per cent of this increase was made in the first six months when the totals were 14,273 cars in 1940, and 12,662 cars in 1939.

Lumber Heavy loadings were recorded throughout the year, increases over both 1939 and 1938 being shown for every week. A peak was reached in August at 4,515 cars, which was exceeded only four times before, in 1927, and 1928. The total was 143,926 cars as against 98,954 cars in 1939, and was by far the heaviest since 1929.

Pulpwood Loadings for the first three months were well above those of 1939, but below the unusually heavy loadings of 1938, and for the last seven months were above the loadings of both 1939, and 1938. The total for the 51 weeks was 81,344 cars as against 57,168 cars in 1939, 83,737 cars in 1938, and 80,278 cars in 1937. Whereas the cars of pulpwood ran from 100 to 130 per cent of the cars of pulp and paper shipped by rail in the twenties for the past nine years, they have run from 55 to 70 per cent, except in 1938 when there was an abnormal movement of pulpwood during January, February, and March, and the ratio reached 93 per cent.

Pulp and paper The improvement in loadings shown in the last four months of 1939 was continued throughout 1940, a peak of 3,131 cars being reached in the third week in June. The total for the 51 weeks was 131,431 cars, which was exceeded only in 1929 with 133,105 cars, and in 1937 with 132,329 cars.

Other forest products Total loadings declined from 98,909 cars in 1930 to 95,526 cars, the decrease being all in the western division where the drop was 12,179 cars, or from 66,032 to 55,853 cars.

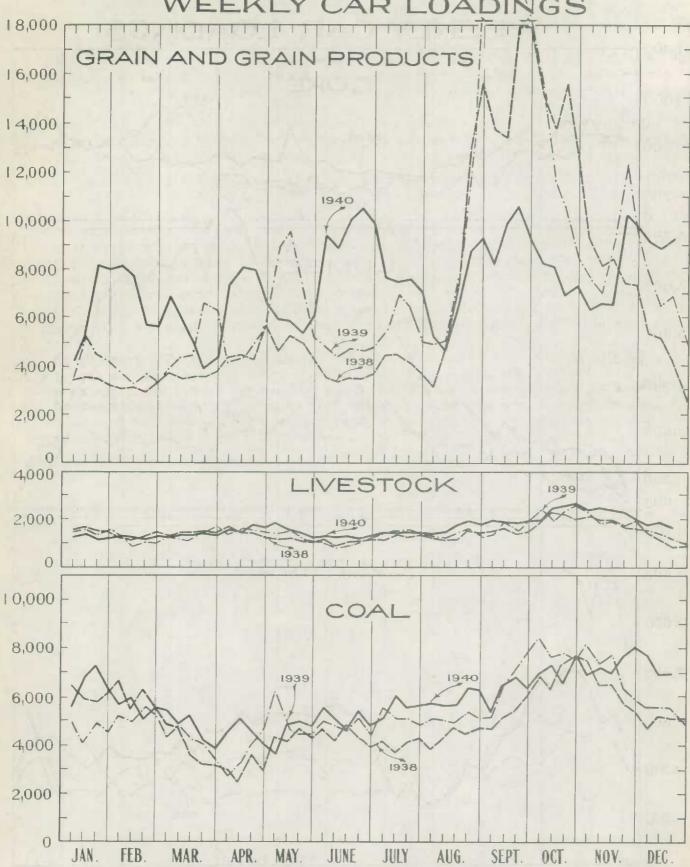
Ore Loadings were the heaviest to date, amounting to 175,864 cars as against 155,119 cars in 1939, the previous high year, and 45,838 cars in 1933, the low record. Loadings were closely divided, the eastern division accounting for 90,300 cars, and the western division accounting for 85,564 cars.

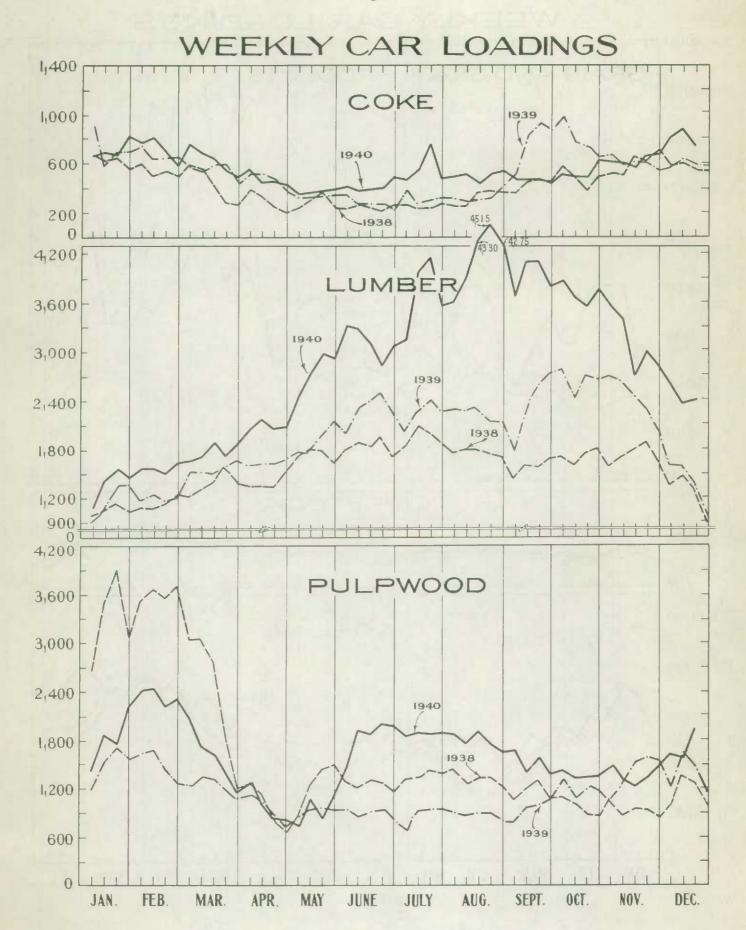
Merchandise Loadings were the heaviest since 1931, amounting to 672,994 cars as against 637,658 cars in 1939, and 636,046 cars in 1938. The eastern division showed an increase of 6.6 per cent, or from 468,381 cars in 1939 to 499.548 cars, and the western division showed an increase of 2.5 per cent, or from 169,277 cars to 173,446 cars.

Miscellaneous— This group is approximately 9 per cent agricultural products, 5 per cent animal products, mostly dressed meats and other packing house products, and 37 per cent mine products, sand, gravel, and stone making up about 38 per cent of this, and manufactures and miscellaneous accounted for the remaining 51 per cent. In this last group, gasoline, oils, cement, fertilizers, iron, and steel (bar, sheet, structural, pipe) were the largest items. Total loadings amounted to 683,199 cars, the heaviest since 1930 and, 101,876 cars or 17.5 per cent above the 1939 total.

Total loadings were the heaviest since 1930 exceeding the 1939 total by 10 per cent. This increase was made in the first eight months, the total at the end of the third week in August being up by 250,178 cars, or 16.8 per cent. The light movement of western grain in the Autumn reduced the peak usually reached in September or October, and almost completely offset the increases in the other commodity groups. The increase for the last 18 weeks in the total loadings was only 9,488 cars, but fair increases were recorded in the last 5 weeks.

WEEKLY CAR LOADINGS





WEEKLY CAR LOADINGS

