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CAR LOADINGS

VOL. XIVII

(Forty-second week ended October 21, 1950)

No. 42

Carloadings for the week ended October 21st climbed to a seasonal peak of 92,753 cars compared with a revised total of 81,211 cars in the preceding Thanksgiving week and stood 5,964 or 6.9 p.c. above the 42nd period of last year when 86,769 cars were reported. The current total was only exceeded in 1928 when 93,022 cars were loaded during the similar week. With the advance in tons loaded per car since that time, volume was at an all time high. The Eastern division had 58,158 cars for the week against 54,139 last year while western loadings were an encouraging 34,575 cars compared with 32,630 cars, the first time since the week of August 5th that the western total exceeded the corresponding period of 1949.

Twenty of the 52 commodity groups listed registered increases over 1949. Total grain loaded at 10,906 cars was up from 10,207 cars last year and other agricultural products advanced 454 cars to 1,470. Ores and concentrates totalled 4,913 cars against 3,262, base bullion was up 81 cars to 546 while building products amounted to 5,400 cars, a good gain over the 4,623 cars loaded in the same week last year. Other mine products rose 504 cars to 2,346. The forestry group continued to boom with logs up from 1,095 to 1,566, pulpwood 3,080 cars against 2,574 and lumber at 5,651 cars compared to 4,138 in 1949. Gasoline and petroleum oil shipments totalled 4,693 cars up 749 cars but crude oil took a nosedive to 367 cars from 1,173 cars in the preceding week and 1,245 cars last year as the oil pipeline to Regina was being filled.

Iron and steel products were in demand and 1,969 cars were moved against 1,568 in the 42nd period of 1949. Implements also were heavier while autos and trucks totalled 1,538 carloads, up from 1,502 cars. Fertilizers increased to 734 cars from 619.

The woodpulp and paper group at 4,458 cars continued well in advance of 1949 levels. Current price advances by the industry may have some effect on demand. Miscellaneous manufactures showed 6,294 cars up from 5,691 last year.

The principal reductions from the same week of 1949 were in vegetables down from 1,741 to 1,202 cars, livestock at 2,568 cars against 3,123 last year, meats, dairy products, coal off 186 cars to 7,711 for the week, L.C.L at 18,072 cars against 18,729 one year earlier and in crude oil down 878 cars as mentioned above.

Receipts from foreign connections were steady at 35,296 cars against 35,001 cars in the previous week and 32,878 cars last year. Loadings on United States Lines are running near the 1948 peaks and considerably above 1949 when strike conditions dragged volume down.

Cumulative totals show 3,100,259 cars loaded in Canada during the first 42 weeks compared with 3,152,200 last year while receipts from foreign connections exceeded 1949 by 11,749 cars to total 1,307,407. Eastern loadings are some 30,322 above the same weeks of last year but the West due to lower grain, gasoline and L.C.L shipments is down 82,263 cars in the similar comparison.

INDEX NUMBERS

(Adjusted for seasonal variations and holidays)

(Average 1935-1939 = 100)

Week	TOTAL FOR CANADA		EASTERN DIVISION		WESTERN DIVISION	
	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949
35	91.4	165.1	96.8	155.4	82.5	175.8
36	169.4	159.7	176.7	158.0	157.8	162.3
37	168.5	164.6	175.5	158.2	156.5	175.7
38	171.3	165.1	176.0	160.2	165.3	168.1
39	168.8	166.3	176.1	163.1	157.1	171.4
40	162.5	162.1	169.2	157.9	151.6	169.1
41	169.3	161.8	176.5	164.1	158.5	158.5
42	167.2	156.4	171.9	160.1	159.7	150.7



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