

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

Vol. IX -- No. 31

Ottawa, Saturday, August 1, 1942

Price \$1.00 per annum

Summary of Quotations

1. Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well. -- Earl of Chesterfield
2. Where law ends, tyranny begins. -- Earl of Chatham
3. Under all speech that is good for anything there lies a silence that is better.
-- Carlyle
4. When a free man sails into his government he sails into it partly because he doesn't like it but mostly because it's his. -- Archibald MacLeish, June 17, 1942
5. Who overcomes by force, hath overcome but half his foe. -- Milton

Wheat Stocks in Store

Canadian wheat in store on July 24 totalled 407,194,845 bushels compared with 404,007,803 on July 17 and 462,333,429 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks on the latest date included 824,561 bushels of Durum wheat.

Stocks in elevators and in transit in Canada totalled 387,491,643 bushels compared with 384,129,434 on July 17 and 430,202,168 a year ago. The amount of Canadian wheat in the United States was 19,703,202 bushels compared with 19,898,369 on July 17 and 32,131,261 a year ago.

Primary Marketings of Wheat

Wheat receipts in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending July 24 amounted to 5,564,482 bushels compared with 4,886,930 in the previous week and 6,187,194 in the corresponding week last year. By provinces the receipts were as follows, figures within brackets being those for 1941: Manitoba, 508,117(789,744) bushels; Saskatchewan, 3,183,195(2,877,803); Alberta, 1,873,170(2,519,647).

Marketings in the three provinces during the fifty-one weeks of the crop year totalled 214,756,677 bushels compared with 450,263,930 in the corresponding period last year. Totals follow by provinces, with last year's figures in brackets: Manitoba, 40,551,702 (56,763,974) bushels; Saskatchewan, 109,269,338(238,240,773); Alberta, 64,935,587 (155,259,183).

Flour Production in June

Flour production in Canadian mills in June declined to 1,335,177 barrels from last year's corresponding output of 2,117,976, making the smallest monthly production for the present crop year. The percentage of output to capacity dropped to 60.0 from 96.9 in June a year ago. Flour production during the eleven months ending June amounted to 18,063,160 barrels compared with 17,480,873 in the corresponding period last year.

Grains ground during June are as follows, with figures for the corresponding month last year in brackets: wheat, 5,988,535(9,414,394) bushels; oats, 688,319(814,239); corn 201,797(208,057); barley, 214,237(162,404); buckwheat, 2,021(2,134); and mixed grain, 1,422,414(1,575,374).

Production of Concentrated Milk in June

The combined weight of the various items of concentrated milk produced in June this year totalled 33,536,686 pounds as compared with 31,738,692 in the previous month and 30,343,608 in the corresponding month last year. The total for the first six months of this year was 129,216,392 pounds compared with 121,134,728 in the corresponding period of 1941.

World Wheat Situation

Wheat is one commodity of which the United Nations have an abundance. So great is the present and prospective supply in the United States, the chief concern of the Government is to find storage accommodation for the river of wheat now flowing in from the south-west states. A recent census of storage facilities in the United States, exclusive of farm storage, disclosed a rated capacity of 1.6 billion bushels, but the latest official estimate of the United States winter and spring wheat crops, plus carry-over of old wheat, indicates a supply of 1.5 billion bushels, and large crops of corn and other grains have also to be reckoned with in the matter of grain storage. Canada appears to be running a close race with her neighbour to the south and has in prospect a bumper crop of wheat.

Both countries have taken steps by various means to induce farmers to cut down their wheat acreage and their efforts have met with considerable success, but this year the weather conditions have been unusually favourable both in Canada and the United States and the yield per acre is expected to be much higher as a result. It will be some weeks yet before the Canadian crop is assured, but at the moment it presents a rosy picture. The storage problem in Canada will also be quite acute in the event of a big crop being harvested, despite a reduction in the carry-over compared with a year ago, and it looks as though farmers in both countries will be compelled to provide greater accommodation on their own farms for the storage of grain crops.

If this growing pile of wheat in North America has its storage difficulties, it also contains assurance of a bread supply for the peoples of the United Nations. It will be especially reassuring to the Russians whose vast wheat fields in the Ukraine have again become the scene of gigantic tank battles just at a time when the new crop was about to be harvested. It also provides a reservoir for the needs of the people of China, Greece and other allied nations greatly in need of food supplies.

The most recent advices from Australia indicate that the acreage sown to wheat for harvest late this year will be about 25 per cent less than a year ago, compulsory measures having been adopted in the State of Western Australia where an accumulation from previous crops had created marketing difficulties. Argentine wheat acreage is also expected to be smaller, largely because of very dry weather in parts of the central and southern wheat zones, which has prevented the preparation of land for seeding. No official estimate has yet been made of the area sown to wheat as there is still some time left for the planting of this crop, which will also be harvested at the end of 1942 and early in 1943.

Of the European situation there is very little new to report. Conditions in the western sections of the European Continent appear to have improved and fewer complaints of crop damage are now coming forward. Taking the Continent as a whole, however, the crops appear to have little chance of overcoming losses caused by a very severe winter and difficulties of labour and fertilizer supplies this spring. It is reported that an official German decree requisitioning all of the 1942 grain harvest has been issued and it is believed that this reflects official anxiety concerning food supplies for the next year. The scanty advices seeping out from Italy indicate a very unfavourable crop condition there with no reserves on hand.

In the United Kingdom, the outlook for wheat is said to be especially favourable, and recent trade estimates indicate that the wheat acreage there has been expanded by one-third since the war began, while the area cultivated to all crops is now about 18 million acres compared with 12 million acres before the war. Further increases involving the ploughing-up of pastures are contemplated this fall, but it is not expected that wheat will take up very much of the new area to be brought under cultivation.

Gold Production in May

Gold production for May amounted to 425,160 fine ounces valued at \$16,368,660, compared with 420,795 in April and 449,185 in May last year. Production by provinces was as follows, figures for May 1941 in brackets: Ontario, 250,252(271,174) fine ounces; Quebec, 94,251(89,884); British Columbia, 40,418(49,927); Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 24,483(23,692); Yukon, 5,230(5,986); Northwest Territories, 9,991(5,726); Nova Scotia, 530,(2,795).

The cumulative total for the five months ending May amounted to 2,066,452 fine ounces valued at \$79,558,403, compared with 2,182,259 fine ounces with a value of \$84,016,971 in the corresponding period last year.

Fisheries Production in Nova Scotia in 1941

The product of the Nova Scotia fisheries in 1941 had a total value of \$12,634,832, this amount being the fifth largest recorded in the history of the province's fishing industry. The figure given represents the value of the fish as marketed, whether sold for consumption fresh or canned, cured, etc. The cod fishery is of first importance with a total marketed value of \$5,500,881, while second is the lobster fishery with a value of \$2,129,258, and third, the haddock fishery with \$1,361,488. Cod and lobster show increases over the preceding year in catch and in marketed value, but haddock records decreases in both.

The quantity of fish of all kinds, including shell fish, taken by Nova Scotia fishermen during the year was 2,736,573 cwt., with a value at the point of landing of \$6,931,650, compared with a catch of 2,813,628 cwt. and a landed value of \$5,800,897 in 1940.

Fisheries of New Brunswick in 1941

The value of production of the fisheries of New Brunswick in 1941 amounted to \$6,484,831 compared with \$4,965,618 in 1940. Of first importance is the sardine fishery with an output value of \$2,797,072, an increase over 1940 of \$914,212 or 49 per cent. The lobster and herring fisheries are second and third in order of value of production, the former with \$1,041,987 and the latter with \$795,746. The figures quoted represent the value of fish as marketed, whether sold for consumption fresh, or canned, cured, etc.

Fisheries of Prince Edward Island

The value of production of the fisheries of Prince Edward Island in 1941 was \$952,026 compared with \$714,870 in the preceding year. The lobster fishery constitutes the most important part of the fisheries output of the province, its marketed value in 1941 amounting to \$500,592. Second in importance is the cod fishery with an output valued at \$112,405.

Preliminary Report on Provincial Revenues from Motor Vehicle Registrations etc. and Gasoline Taxes

The total revenue derived from provincial motor vehicle registrations in 1941 amounted to \$31,559,944. Revenue from gasoline taxes totalled \$59,579,356. By provinces the revenue from registrations was as follows: Prince Edward Island, \$155,588; Nova Scotia, \$1,776,691; New Brunswick, \$1,518,312; Quebec, \$7,807,741; Ontario, \$10,437,274; Manitoba, \$1,363,881; Saskatchewan, \$2,163,737; Alberta, \$2,901,651; British Columbia, \$3,430,728.

The revenue derived from gasoline taxes was as follows by provinces: Prince Edward Island, \$284,722; Nova Scotia, \$3,031,449; New Brunswick, \$2,052,234; Quebec, \$12,260,427; Ontario, \$27,641,457; Manitoba, \$2,736,158; Saskatchewan, \$3,340,357; Alberta, \$4,212,305; British Columbia, \$4,005,947; Yukon, where it was levied for the first time in 1941, \$14,300. The total revenue from motor vehicle registrations drivers' licenses, fines, etc. and gasoline taxes amounted to \$91,139,300 compared with \$85,479,893 in 1940.

Department Store Sales in June

The dollar value of department store sales in Canada in June was 12 per cent higher than in the same month last year, but was two per cent lower than in the previous month. Unadjusted index numbers of sales, on the base 1935-1939=100 stood at 139.0 for June, 142.2 for May and 123.7 for June last year. The average gain in sales during the first half of this year over the like period of 1941 amounted to 15 per cent.

Bank Debits in June

Cheques cashed by the branches of the chartered banks amounted to \$3,767,000,000 in June as compared with \$4,241,000,000 in the corresponding month last year, a decline of 11.2 per cent. Declines were shown in each of the five economic areas. Debits during the first half of 1942 aggregated \$21,592,000,000 as compared with \$18,810,000,000 in the like period of the preceding year. The gain of 14.8 per cent or \$2,782,000,000 was due to heavy payments on the Second Victory Loan as well as to the higher level of business activity and commodity prices.

Average Weekly Wages Paid Wage-Earners Employed in the Manufacturing Industries

Weekly earnings of male wage-earners employed in the manufacturing industries of Canada as a whole averaged \$22.23 in 1939 as compared with \$21.53 in 1938 and \$20.31 in 1934. The average weekly wage of female wage earners was \$12.77 compared with \$12.11 in 1938 and \$11.80 in 1934. Worked out on an hourly basis, the average for male wage-earners was 46.2 cents compared with 45.5 cents in 1938, and for females 28.3 cents compared with 27.1 cents.

Male wage-earners of iron and steel plants earned the highest average weekly wage among the industrial groups, standing at \$26.11 per week, non-ferrous metal products following at \$25.24, non-metallic mineral products \$23.89, chemicals and allied products \$22.25, wood and paper products \$20.59, animal products \$20.18, textiles and textile products \$19.96, vegetable products \$19.75.

Female wage-earners in the iron and products group received the highest wage of \$15.21 per week while in the vegetable products group they received the lowest wage of \$11.32. In the textiles and textile products group which employs almost half the number of female wage-earners employed in manufacturing the average wage was \$13.37, 60 cents above the average for all groups.

Births, Deaths and Marriages

Live births in Canada during the fourth quarter of 1941 numbered 58,949, giving an equivalent annual rate of 20.5 per 1,000 population as compared with 59,263 and a rate of 20.7 in the corresponding quarter of 1940. Deaths totalled 27,564 with a rate of 9.6 compared with 29,461 and a rate of 10.3. There were 33,078 marriages giving a rate of 11.5 as against 29,543 or a rate of 10.3.

The number of deaths assigned to certain causes in the fourth quarter of 1941 was as follows (the figures for the corresponding period of 1940 being given in parentheses in each case); Typhoid and paratyphoid fever, 43(68); Scarlet fever, 39(38); Whooping-cough 136(187); Diphtheria, 67(88); Tuberculosis, 1,326(1,311); Influenza, 289(1,121); Small-pox -(-); Measles, 40(55); Infantile paralysis, 12(19); Cancer, 3,366(3,412); Intracranial lesions of vascular origin, 2,174(568); Diseases of the heart, 6,774(5,449); Diseases of the arteries, 533(3,130); Pneumonia, 1,428(1,823); Diarrhoea and enteritis, 484(477); Nephritis, 1,871(1,816); Suicides, 205(202); Homicides, 25(29); Automobile accidents, 543(529); Other violent deaths, 1,348(1,165).

June Production of Iron and Steel

The Canadian production of pig iron during June totalled 167,961 net tons compared with 171,386 in the previous month and 125,790 in the corresponding month last year. The cumulative output for the first six months of this year was 974,000 net tons as compared with 700,617 in the like period of 1941.

June Production of steel ingots and castings totalled 254,163 net tons compared with 272,247 in the previous month and 209,622 in June last year. Output in June this year included 238,838 tons of ingots and 15,325 tons of castings. During the first six months of this year, output of ingots and castings aggregated 1,559,238 net tons compared with 1,286,246 a year ago.

Commercial Failures in April

A decline was recorded in the number of commercial failures reported to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in April, the total being 65 with estimated assets totalling \$261,459 and grand total liabilities \$481,020. In the corresponding month last year there were 94 failures with assets amounting to \$801,430 and liabilities of \$1,161,334.

Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways during the week ended July 18 amounted to 64,989 cars as against 66,789 in the previous week and 62,867 in the corresponding week last year.

Output of Central Electric Stations

Central electric stations produced 3,043,200,000 kilowatt hours during June, an increase of almost 19 per cent over the output of 2,560,060,000 in June last year. For the six months of this year, output totalled 18,612,384,000 kilowatt hours, or 18.3 per cent above the production for the first half of 1941.

Consumption of Coke in 1940

The apparent consumption of coke during 1940 amounted to 3,884,544 tons compared with 3,118,382 in 1939. Production during the year totalled 3,083,728 tons and imports entered for consumption amounted to 855,086 tons, making an available supply of 3,938,814 tons. However, exports and re-exports totalled 77,968 tons and producers' stocks decreased 23,698 tons, leaving 3,884,544 tons as the quantity available for use in Canada during the year.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Preliminary Report on Births, Deaths and Marriages in the Fourth Quarter of 1941 (10 cents).
 2. Weekly Earnings and Hours of Work of Male and Female Wage-Earners Employed in the Manufacturing Industries of Canada, 1939 (10 cents).
 3. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
 4. Canadian Milling Statistics, June (10 cents).
 5. Advance Report on the Fisheries of Prince Edward Island, 1941 (10 cents).
 6. Advance Report on the Fisheries of New Brunswick, 1941 (10 cents).
 7. Bank Debits to Individual Accounts, June (10 cents).
 8. Production of Concentrated Milk, June (10 cents).
 9. Department Store Sales, June (10 cents).
 10. Commercial Failures, April (10 cents).
 11. Advance Report on the Fisheries of Nova Scotia, 1941 (10 cents).
 12. Preliminary Report on Provincial Revenues from Motor Vehicle Registrations, etc. and Gasoline Taxes. (10 cents).
 13. Gold Production in Canada, May (10 cents).
 14. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
 15. Consumption of Coke, 1940 (10 cents).
 16. Output of Central Electric Stations, June (10 cents).
 17. Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation (10 cents).
 18. Production of Iron and Steel, June (10 cents).
 19. Prices & Price Indexes Supplement, 1941 (25 cents).
 20. Estimate of Areas Sown to Principal Grain Crops in Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
 21. Asphalt Roofing Industry, Production, (10 cents).
 22. Asphalt Roofing Industry, Domestic Sales (10 cents).
-

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010729856