

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

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Business Advance in June

Productive operations recorded a further gain in June over the preceding month. The index of the physical volume of business on the base 1935-1939 rose nearly 2 points to 133.7. Construction and electric power of the five main factors used in this connection showed gains over the preceding month, while production in terms of volume recorded recession in mining, manufacturing and distribution. The indexes indicating the trend of mineral production averaged lower. The index for coal production, however, rose nearly 5 points to 137.4. The recession in the index of gold receipts at the Mint was limited to about 3 points.

The index of manufacturing production receded a half point to 144.3. Inspected slaughterings, indicating the trend in the meat-packing industry were at a higher level. The gain in dairy production was less than normal for the season. Tobacco releases showed a considerable decline, the general index receding from 134.7 to 128.3. A considerable acceleration in operations was shown by the forestry industry, the index advancing from 114 to 121. The gain in newsprint production, after seasonal adjustment, was of moderate proportions.

The iron and steel industry recorded further expansion, the output of steel and pig iron rising appreciably. The new business obtained by the construction industry was much higher in June than in the preceding month, gains being shown both in contracts awarded and in building permits. The electric power industry had a greater output in June than in the preceding month and the distribution of commodities by means of the railways was practically maintained after seasonal adjustment.

The general trend of production in Canada is indicated by the variation in the trend of indexes of the output of producers' goods and of consumers' goods. The index of producers' goods rose from 153.5 in May to 166.7 in June. On the other hand the index for the production of consumers' goods receded from 110.5 to 101.8.

Economic Activity in June compared with the Preceding Month

	1942	
	June	May
Physical Volume of Business, 1935-1939-100.....	133.7	131.8
Industrial Production .....	142.3	139.0
Mineral Production .....	124.6	132.0
Gold, Mint receipts .....	126.7	131.5
Coal production .....	137.4	132.8
Manufacturing .....	144.3	144.8
Flour production .....	-	118.9
Oatmeal production .....	-	17.4
Inspected slaughterings .....	134.8	127.3
Cattle .....	112.3	99.7
Sheep .....	65.2	72.8
Hogs .....	180.3	178.2
Creamery Butter .....	105.7	110.5
Factory Cheese .....	163.5	269.1
Tobacco .....	128.3	134.7
Cigar releases .....	140.7	141.9
Cigarette releases .....	127.4	134.5
Boots and Shoes Production .....	-	122.7
Textiles .....	165.1	163.6
Cotton consumption .....	160.7	181.2
Forestry .....	121.1	113.9
Newsprint .....	95.4	94.1
Iron and Steel .....	247.0	211.2
Steel production .....	272.2	267.4
Pig iron production .....	274.2	264.0
Coke production .....	140.2	138.7

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Economic Activity in June compared with the preceding month\*

	1942	
	June	May
Construction .....	159.6	97.5
Contracts awarded .....	173.4	100.5
Building permits .....	106.4	84.5
Cost of Construction .....	123.6	123.7
Electric Power .....	146.6	146.1
Distribution .....	113.4	119.0
Carloadings .....	141.4	142.3
Producers' Goods .....	166.7	153.5
Consumers' Goods .....	101.8	110.5
Marketings -		
Grain and Live Stock Marketings .....	88.6	83.7
Grain Marketings - Country Elevators .....	82.3	84.3
Wheat .....	130.4	133.7
Oats .....	70.7	68.1
Barley .....	86.7	82.1
Rye .....	73.2	85.6
Live Stock Marketings .....	113.8	80.9
Cattle .....	116.5	78.7
Calves .....	124.1	104.7
Hogs .....	122.8	96.3
Sheep .....	61.3	41.7
Cold Storage Holdings, 1st of following month .....	137.3	173.4
Eggs .....	250.8	269.1
Butter .....	84.3	136.0
Cheese .....	214.2	266.6
Beef .....	90.0	88.9
Pork .....	107.8	138.8
Mutton .....	129.8	142.1
Poultry .....	183.6	178.5
Lard .....	354.0	320.9
Veal .....	121.3	117.9

\* Publication of External Trade Statistics has been discontinued for the present.

### June Employment Situation

In accordance with the movement invariably indicated at June 1 in the period since 1920, there was a substantial increase in employment at the beginning of June this year. Statistics were received from 13,069 establishments whose working forces aggregated 1,718,329, an increase of 43,566 persons or 2.6 per cent as compared with May 1 when the number of employees was 1,674,763. The unadjusted index rose from its previous all-time maximum of 167.4 at May 1 to 171.7, when it was 12.3 per cent higher than that of 152.9 at June 1 last year.

The cooperating manufacturers reported a gain of 18,809 men and women; this exceeded the average at the beginning of June in the period since 1920, although it was smaller than that noted at June 1, 1941. Nearly two-thirds of the total number added to the working forces of manufacturing establishments were reported in iron and steel plants, in which the gain was abnormally large. Other durable goods industries also showed heightened activity. On the other hand, there were considerable declines in tobacco factories. Textiles also released some employees in a seasonal movement.

Among the non-manufacturing industries, improvement was indicated in logging, mainly as a result of river-driving operations; the gain at June 1 was not equal to the average in the period since 1920. Mining on the whole was quieter, the moderate decline being contrary to the usual movement in the late spring. In transportation and construction there were advances which, though seasonal in character, were below normal in extent. Services and trade reported relatively small increases.

The upward movement in payrolls continued at June 1, although the increase was smaller than those recently reported; this was partly due to observance of the Victoria Day holiday, which, falling in the last week in May, in many cases affected the earnings distributed at June 1. Earnings of employees reported to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics during the final week of May totalled \$50,440,521. This was an average of \$28.31 per worker, a decline of 34 cents from the weekly average earnings distributed during the last week of April.

### Primary Marketings of Wheat

Wheat receipts in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending July 31 amounted to 7,976,352 bushels compared with 5,692,441 in the previous week and 5,118,681 in the corresponding week last year. By provinces the receipts were as follows, figures within brackets being those for 1941: Manitoba, 760,015(630,275) bushels; Saskatchewan, 4,218,816(4,105,222); Alberta, 3,087,521(3,383,184).

Marketings in the three provinces during the crop year 1942 aggregated 222,860,988 bushels compared with 458,382,611 in the crop year 1941. Totals follow by provinces with figures for 1941 in brackets: Manitoba, 41,317,954(57,394,249) bushels; Saskatchewan, 113,405,805(242,345,995); Alberta, 68,057,229(158,642,367).

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### Visible Supply of Wheat

The visible supply of Canadian wheat on July 31 totalled 410,633,920 bushels as compared with 407,194,845 on July 24 and 463,838,082 on the corresponding date last year.

The stocks in elevators and in transit in Canada amounted to 390,572,438 bushels compared with 387,491,643 a week ago and 432,503,783 on the same date a year ago. Canadian wheat in the United States totalled 20,061,482 bushels compared with 19,703,202 a week earlier and 31,334,299 in 1941.

In the latest week the amount of wheat in transit on the lakes was 2,023,439 bushels compared with 3,253,949 in 1941, while the total in transit by rail was 16,421,935 bushels compared with 21,351,509 a year ago.

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### Stocks of United States Grain in Canada

A sharp increase was recorded in the amount of United States corn in Canada on July 31 as compared with the corresponding date last year, the total being 6,791,590 bushels compared with 2,473,524. The stocks of United States wheat and soya beans were also somewhat higher, while rye remained about the same as last year.

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### Stocks of Hides and Skins in June

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers in Canada amounted to 444,642 at the end of June compared with 442,188 on the corresponding date last year. Calf and kip skins on hand totalled 887,973 compared with 566,957 a year ago, goat and kid skins 214,229 compared with 51,306, horse hides 19,775 compared with 13,494, and sheep and lamb skins 70,921 (dozen) compared with 59,006.

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### Production of Leather Footwear in June

The quantity of leather footwear produced during June was 2,391,123 pairs compared with 2,816,452 in the previous month and 2,781,325 in the corresponding month last year. The total manufactured during the first half of 1942 was 16,493,270 pairs compared with 14,956,922 in the corresponding period of 1941.

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### Production of Asphalt Roofing

Production of asphalt roofing by firms reporting to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in June included 273,537 squares of shingles, siding and roofing and 3,444 tons of felts and sheathing as compared with 245,376 squares of the former and 3,050 tons of the latter in June last year. During the first six months of this year these firms produced 1,185,609 squares of shingles, siding and roofing and 19,167 tons of felts and sheathing compared with 1,223,529 squares of the former and 19,171 tons of the latter in the like period of 1941.

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## June Indexes of Wholesale Sales

June sales of wholesale trading establishments in Canada averaged 19 per cent higher than in the corresponding month last year. The increase in June considerably exceeds the seven per cent gain registered in May. The general unadjusted index of sales on the base 1935-1939-100 stands at 166.8 compared with 158.7 in May and 140.6 in June, 1941. The cumulative totals for the first six months of 1942 stand 17 per cent above the corresponding period of 1941.

## Production of Leading Minerals

The production of leading mineral products during the five months ending May was as follows, with figures for the corresponding period of 1941 in brackets: cement, 2,392,443 (2,392,252) barrels; clay products, 32,096,449 (32,103,636); coal, 8,003,260 (7,282,138) tons; feldspar, 3,258 (7,234) tons; gold, 2,066,452 (2,182,259) fine ounces; gypsum, 342,115 (434,069) tons; lime, 361,014 (330,457) tons; natural gas, 21,083,120,000 (19,255,695,000) cubic feet; petroleum, 4,388,260 (4,054,969) barrels; commercial salt, 112,771 (95,884) tons; silver, 7,359,336 (8,102,427) fine ounces.

## Summary of Quotations

1. Whoever thinks a faultless piece to see,  
Thinks what ne'er was, nor is, nor e'er shall be. -- Pope
2. Patience is a necessary ingredient of genius. -- Disraeli
3. Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm. -- Emerson
4. Who builds a Church to God and not to Fame,  
Will never mark the marble with his Name. -- Pope

## Cost of Living Indexes for July

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost of living index advanced to 117.9 in July from 116.7 in June and 111.9 in July last year. This index which has been specified as the basis for calculating cost-of-living bonus adjustments under Order-in-Council P.C. 5963 has increased 17 per cent between August 1939 and July 1942.

The food index advanced from 126.2 to 130.3 between June and July, due mainly to increases in potatoes, beef, lamb and eggs. Butter, cheese and lard declined moderately. There was a lesser increase in the clothing index from 119.9 to 120.0. The fuel and lighting index declined from 112.6 to 112.5, while the three remaining groups were unchanged. Home furnishings and services held at 117.9, rentals at 111.3, and the miscellaneous group at 107.1.

In compliance with the revised Order-in-Council P.C. 6219, the price of cigarettes and tobacco in the July index does not include the tax imposed on June 24, 1942, by the Special War Revenue Act.

## Wholesale Prices

Closing at 94.7 for the week ended July 24th, the composite weekly price index for 30 industrial materials on the base 1925-100 showed a decrease of 0.3 points when compared with the final June figure of 95.0. The food series accounted for the decline, falling 2.7 points to 88.2 between the end of June and July 24th due to a decrease of more than \$2.00 per cwt. for steers. This more than offset continued gradual advances for wheat and hog quotations.

Manufacturing materials increased 0.3 points to 82.0 as prices for rosin advanced. The stable group of 12 commodities held steady at 114.0. Canadian farm product prices on the same base fell to 80.8 from 83.1 between June 26th and July 24th. Animal products declined 4.9 points to 103.5, as the livestock index dropped 22.1 points to 132.0. Field products eased 0.8 to 67.2.

## Indexes of Country General Store Sales

Country general store sales averaged 15 per cent higher in June than in the corresponding month last year. With the exception of the southern part of Saskatchewan all regions of the country reported gains ranging from nine per cent for the northern areas of Ontario and Saskatchewan to 22 per cent for the southern part of Quebec. The unadjusted index for June, on the base 1935-1939-100 stood at 132.7 compared with 115.8 a year ago. Sales during the first half of 1942 averaged 14.6 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1941.

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## Reports Issued During the Week

1. Monthly Indexes of Country General Store Sales, June (10 cents).
  2. Current Trends in Food Distribution, June (10 cents).
  3. Price Movements, July (10 cents).
  4. June Employment Situation (10 cents).
  5. Canada's Leading Mineral Products, May (10 cents).
  6. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
  7. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
  8. Production of Leather Footwear, June (10 cents).
  9. Monthly Indexes of Wholesale Sales, June (10 cents).
  10. Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins, June (10 cents).
  11. Production of Asphalt Roofing, June (10 cents).
  12. Sales of Asphalt Roofing, June (10 cents).
  13. Stocks of Canadian Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Cold Storage, August 1 (10 cents).
  14. Monographs, 1931 Census (\$1.00).
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