

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

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Weekly Summary of Quotations

1. Necessity is a powerful weapon -- Seneca.
2. Mind unemployed is mind unenjoyed. -- Bovee.
3. Mightiest powers by deepest calms are fed,
And sleep, how oft, in things that gentlest be! -- Barry Cornwall.
4. Poverty is the only load which is the heavier the more loved ones there are to assist in supporting it. -- Richter.

Economic Conditions During First Eleven Months of 1941

During the first eleven months of 1941, the Canadian national income as compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics was \$4,777,751,000, representing a gain of 9.4 p.c. over the income of \$4,365,340,000 recorded for the same period of 1940. Since May, the monthly national income has been fairly stable fluctuating much less during the year under review than have other measures of economic activity, such as the index of the physical volume of business.

This statement is also broadly true of the income attributed to each of the three main functional groups. Since May, the income of the commodity producing industries has been about 50 p.c. of the national total, and has fallen off a trifle since September. The aggregate figure for the first eleven months was \$2,367,291,000 as compared with 2,041,680,000 for the preceding year, a gain of 15.9 p.c.

The commodity handling activities, contributing rather more than 20 p.c. of the national income, have also been very stable over the last six months. During the entire period, the total income for this group was \$993,637,000, a gain of 10.9 p.c. over the total of \$896,302,000 recorded for the first eleven months of 1940. Both these divisions have shown substantial increases over the preceding year. The income of the "facilitating" industries, while showing a gradual upward trend during the year, fell off 0.7 p.c. during the eleven months as compared with 1940. The total for the latter group comprising finance, government and service is exclusive of assets acquired by the Dominion government through war expenditures.

The general index of the physical volume of business on the base 1935-1939 equals 100 stood at 134.2 for the first eleven months of 1941 as compared with 120.4 in the like period of 1940, an increase of 11.5 per cent having been indicated. The index of manufacturing production averaged 150.7 compared with 133.8, registering a gain of 12.6 per cent. Iron and steel production recorded considerable advance over the high levels of 1940, the output of steel ingots rising 20 per cent.

Construction contracts awarded during the first eleven months of 1941 totalled \$374,781,000 as compared with \$329,091,900. This represented a gain of nearly 14 per cent above the high level of 1940, and showed that the industry was still on the upgrade despite the completion of many war-time projects. Building permits issued in 58 municipalities totalled \$94,467,000 over the period, more than 27 per cent above the figure recorded for 1940.

November sales of wholesale merchants declined 14 p.c. below the October total, although they were 12 p.c. above the dollar volume of business transacted in November 1940. All nine trades included in the survey reported gains over a year ago, the largest being recorded by dry goods merchants. Sales during the first eleven months of the year under review were 18.3 p.c. above the corresponding total for 1940, the largest advances being made by dealers in dry goods and hardware. The monthly index for general employment is still showing steady increases, contrary to the usual seasonal trend. The average index stands at 150.8, having risen nearly 23 per cent above the index of 122.8 recorded for the first eleven months of 1940.

Overseas Export Clearances of Wheat

During the week ending January 16 the export clearances overseas of Canadian wheat amounted to 4,291,422 bushels compared with 1,520,862 in the corresponding week last year. The accumulated total for the twenty-four weeks ending January 16 was 67,859,751 bushels compared with 43,229,987 in the corresponding period of the previous crop year.

Primary Movement of Wheat

Wheat receipts in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending January 16 totalled 2,178,397 bushels compared with 1,800,651 in the previous week and 5,787,214 in the corresponding week last year. By provinces the receipts were as follows, with those for 1941 in brackets: Manitoba, 388,365(612,398) bushels; Saskatchewan, 796,939(2,323,658); Alberta, 993,093(2,851,158).

Marketings during the twenty-four weeks ending January 16 aggregated 153,994,899 bushels compared with 296,417,102 in the corresponding period of the previous crop year. Totals follow by provinces, with those for 1941 in brackets: Manitoba, 29,360,211(40,139,087) bushels; Saskatchewan, 78,619,300(153,449,529); Alberta, 46,015,388(97,828,486).

Visible Supply of Wheat

Canadian wheat in store on January 16 totalled 497,988,148 bushels compared with 502,471,990 a week ago and 494,205,033 on the corresponding date last year. The stocks in elevators in Canada on the latest date totalled 469,613,521 bushels, the balance of 28,374,627 being in storage in the United States.

The Grain Situation in Argentina

The correspondent of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in Buenos Aires reports the first official estimate of grain crops. These are as follows, the figures in brackets being the crops last year: wheat, 220,459,000(299,456,000) bushels; linseed, 66,926,000(57,462,000); oats, 33,718,000(34,982,000); barley, 19,750,000(36,238,000); rye, 7,480,000(8,354,000). Among experienced grain men, the wheat estimate is regarded as probably 5 p.c. too high, although with the southern districts still to be heard from, a definite opinion is difficult to form as yet. Linseed is also regarded as too high but the oats figure is probably correct. With the barley it is guess work.

Canada's Domestic Exports in 1941

Canada's domestic exports, excluding gold, were increased by some \$442,049,000 during the calendar year 1941 over the total of the previous year, the totals being \$1,621,003,000 and \$1,178,954,000, respectively. The total for December was \$150,472,000 as compared with \$97,621,000 in December 1940. Shipments to the United Kingdom during the year 1941 were valued at \$658,228,000 as compared with \$508,096,000 in 1940, to the United States \$599,713,000 as compared with \$442,984,000 and to Egypt \$79,195,000 as compared with \$8,396,000.

Exports to other leading countries in 1941 were as follows, with figures for 1940 in brackets: British India with Burma, \$40,780,000(\$11,603,000); Australia, \$37,290,000(\$33,860,000); British South Africa, \$36,095,000(\$37,874,000); Newfoundland, \$31,873,000(\$12,640,000); British West Indies, \$30,564,000(\$17,361,000); New Zealand, \$9,981,000(\$9,786,000); Straits Settlements, \$9,630,000(\$4,281,000); Brazil, \$8,097,000(\$5,063,000); China, \$6,599,000(\$2,504,000); Russia, \$5,331,000(\$1,000); Mexico, \$4,255,000(\$4,328,000).

Production of Concentrated Milk

The combined output of all items of concentrated milk in 1941 aggregated 240,642,743 pounds compared with 195,453,424 in 1940. Evaporated was at a new high, totalling 166,912,220 pounds compared with 135,520,216 in 1940. December production of all items totalled 12,061,155 pounds compared with 14,083,275 in the previous month and 12,299,795 in the corresponding month last year.

Production of Butter and Cheese

The Canadian production of creamery butter during the calendar year 1941 aggregated 286,109,490 pounds compared with 264,723,669 in 1940, an increase of 8.1 p.c. All provinces except Ontario and British Columbia recorded heavier production. The December output for the Dominion as a whole amounted to 12,103,602 pounds compared with 14,968,566 in November and 12,308,237 in December, 1940.

Production of cheddar cheese in 1941 totalled 148,913,283 pounds compared with 144,685,356 in 1940, an increase of almost three per cent. Manitoba and British Columbia were the only provinces to report decreased outputs. Cheese output in December totalled 6,123,317 pounds compared with 7,643,870 in November and 1,799,325 in December, 1940.

Fruit and Vegetable Farms

The first in the series of preliminary bulletins based on the census of agriculture indicates that there were 48,276 fruit and vegetable farms in Canada on June 2, 1941. This compilation included only those farms which produced for sale in 1940 either vegetables (other than potatoes and turnips), vegetable seed, nursery products or small fruits to the value of \$50.00 or more and farms where there were 50 fruit trees or more in 1941. Of the farms reported, 21,886 were in Ontario, 11,769 in Quebec, 6,367 in British Columbia, 4,570 in Nova Scotia, 1,513 in New Brunswick, 814 in Manitoba, 762 in Alberta, 464 in Saskatchewan and 131 in Prince Edward Island.

Canadian Construction Industry

The impact of the war on the Canadian Construction Industry is strikingly illustrated in statistics for 1940 released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The value of work performed by the industry as a whole moved sharply higher during the year, the aggregate being \$474,122,778 as compared with \$373,203,680 in 1939, an increase of \$100,919,098 or 27 per cent. Employment was given to 149,830 persons, 1,416 more than in 1939 and salaries and wages totalling \$180,229,498 were greater by \$26,787,055. Materials used cost \$267,228,786, an increase of \$77,731,444.

The most noteworthy increase over 1939 was recorded in the group including the construction of armouries, barracks, hangars and other like projects, the aggregate value for this category being \$58,294,322 compared with \$12,145,387 in 1939, an increase of \$46,148,935. Industrial construction, including factories, warehouses, mine buildings, etc. was next in order with a gain of \$43,969,273, the total being \$80,624,101 compared with \$36,654,828.

The value of residential construction in 1940 totalled \$59,925,197 compared with \$53,926,429 in 1939, commercial \$41,748,521 compared with \$35,100,121 and institutional \$17,208,419 compared with \$21,214,315. The total value of new construction undertaken in 1940 was \$352,301,695 which was an increase of \$93,639,286 or 36.2 per cent, while alterations, maintenance and repairs at \$121,821,083 represented an increase of \$7,279,812. or 6.4 per cent.

Motion Pictures in 1940

Admissions to motion picture theatres exceeded 152 million in 1940 while box office receipts, exclusive of amusement taxes, reached a total of almost \$38,000,000. Per capita expenditure at motion picture houses stood at \$3.35 for 1940 compared with \$3.03 for 1939, \$3.02 for 1938 and \$3.77 for 1930, the earliest year for which figures are available. There were altogether 1,232 motion picture theatres. Box office receipts were up 10 per cent in number of admissions and 11 per cent in revenue.

All provinces reported gains in admissions and receipts over 1939, a marked increase in the city of Halifax producing a gain for the Province of Nova Scotia considerably in excess of those recorded for other provinces. Percentage increases in box office receipts over 1939 for the various provinces are as follows: Nova Scotia, 29 p.c.; New Brunswick, 21 p.c.; Ontario, 14 p.c.; Saskatchewan, 11 p.c.; Alberta, 9 p.c. Manitoba, 8 p.c.; Quebec, 7 p.c.; British Columbia, 6 p.c.; and Prince Edward Island, 2 p.c. Halifax receipts were up 38 p.c.

Population of the Prairie Provinces

According to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics the population of the Prairie Provinces as at June 2, 1941, increased to 2,398,592 from the 1931 figure of 2,353,529, or by 45,063. Manitoba and Alberta showed decided increases while Saskatchewan recorded a decline. The figures follow by provinces, with those for 1931 in brackets: Manitoba, 722,447(700,139); Saskatchewan, 887,747(921,735); Alberta, 788,398(731,605).

Among the larger centres in Manitoba for which population figures are announced are the following, with 1931 totals in brackets: Winnipeg, 217,994(218,735); St. Boniface, 18,023(16,305); Brandon, 17,172(17,082); St. Vital, 11,801(10,402); Portage la Prairie, 7,095(6,597). Saskatchewan centres: Regina, 57,389(53,209); Saskatoon, 42,320(43,291); Moose Jaw, 20,496(21,299); Prince Albert, 12,299(9,905). Alberta: Edmonton, 92,404(79,197); Calgary, 87,267(83,761); Lethbridge, 14,343(13,489); Medicine Hat, 10,473(10,300).

Population of the Federal Electoral Districts of British Columbia in 1941

According to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the population of the province of British Columbia at date of the 1941 census was 809,203 as compared with 694,263 on the corresponding date in 1931, an increase of 114,940. In making public the figures, the Bureau points out that it is the duty of anyone who has reason to believe he or she has been omitted from the census to notify the Bureau without delay.

The population of the Federal Electoral Districts of British Columbia follow, with corresponding figures for 1931 in brackets: Cariboo, 32,967(26,094); Comox-Alberni, 37,458(28,379); Fraser Valley, 40,592(31,377); Kamloops, 26,960(29,249); Kootenay East, 25,245(25,662); Kootenay West, 39,547(32,556); Nanaimo, 57,452(45,767); New Westminster, 77,029(59,170); Skeena, 29,727(30,391); Vancouver-Burrard, 65,805(59,583); Vancouver-Centre, 64,910(65,683); Vancouver East, 65,289(58,921); Vancouver North, 62,331(48,908); Vancouver South, 76,452(63,122); Victoria, 56,212(48,599); Yale, 51,177(40,804).

Census of Agriculture

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics announces the publication of a preliminary report based on the 1941 Census of Agriculture, setting forth statistics on the number of farms, the number of fruit and vegetable farms and the acreage, production and value of vegetables in the counties of Dundas, Halton, Kent, Leeds, Russell and Welland in the Province of Ontario. Copies may be procured on application to the Bureau.

Cigarette Usage Sets New Record

Cigarette releases established a new high record in the year 1941 when 8,531,740,500 were made available for consumption. This was 13.3 per cent greater than the previous maximum of 7,571,841,561 reached in 1940. The average for the five immediate pre-war years i- 1934 to 1938 - was 5,859,553,583. Cigar releases in 1941 numbered 191,440,709 as compared with 165,673,118 in 1940, a gain of 15.5 per cent. The average for the five pre-war years was 125,835,454.

Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales

Financing of new and used motor vehicles in December totalled 6,989 units with a financed value of \$3,099,867, down 35 per cent in number and 44 per cent in dollar volume from the 10,756 vehicles financed for \$5,492,353 in the same month of 1940. Results of reduced production, together with restrictions on instalment purchasing which became effective during October are revealed in the results for the latter months of 1941. During the calendar year 1941 there were 179,070 vehicles financed for \$83,692,160, being up one per cent in number and 11 per cent in dollar volume from 1940 figures.

Civil Aviation in September

Passenger traffic by air for September amounted to 18,612 revenue passengers carried for a total of 5,596,803 passenger miles or an average passenger journey of 300 miles. This was a decrease of 7.4 per cent from the number of passengers carried in August. For the nine months ending September, 135,992 revenue passengers were carried compared with 105,015 in the corresponding period of 1940. This was an increase of 29 per cent, and the average journey increased from 268 to 302 miles or by 12.7 per cent, thus increasing the passenger miles by 46 per cent.

Revenue freight carried by air carriers increased from 1,169,873 pounds in August to 1,365,784 pounds and for the first nine months amounted to 11,037,528 pounds from 9,333,151 in the like period of 1940, an increase of 18 per cent. Mail carried during September to 272,063 pounds as against 282,615 pounds in August and for the nine months of 1941 it amounted to 2,406,429 pounds as against 1,961,716 in the same period of 1940, an increase of 23 per cent.

Production of Leading Mineral Products

The production of leading mineral products during the eleven months ended November 1941 was as follows, with 1940 figures in brackets: cement, 7,937,357(7,271,232) barrels; clay products, 10,122,773(9,425,296); coal, 16,360,474(15,895,789) tons; gold, 4,909,210(4,360,283) fine ounces; gypsum, 1,407,530(1,407,048) tons; lime, 771,710(652,213) tons; natural gas, 34,722,839,000(31,542,883,000) cubic feet; petroleum, 9,266,961(7,979,599) barrels; commercial salt, 272,674(221,131) tons; silver, 18,620,625(21,001,221) fine oz.

Births, Deaths and Marriages

Live births in Canada during the second quarter of 1941 numbered 67,283, according to preliminary calculations, giving an equivalent annual rate of 23.6 per 1,000 population as compared with 63,040 and a rate of 22.2 for the second quarter of 1940. Deaths totalled 27,865 with a rate of 9.8 as compared with 27,269 and a rate of 9.6. There were 32,812 marriages giving a rate of 11.5 as against 31,372 or a rate of 11.1 in the same period of 1940.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Monthly Dairy Review, December (10 cents).
 2. Monthly Review of Business Statistics, December (10 cents).
 3. Census of Agriculture, Bulletin No. 1 (10 cents).
 4. Car Loadings (10 cents).
 5. Motion Picture Theatres, 1940 (25 cents).
 6. The Grain Situation in Argentina (10 cents).
 7. Railway Revenue Freight Loadings (10 cents).
 8. Canada's Domestic Exports by Principal Countries, December (10 cents).
 9. Summary of Canada's Domestic Exports, December (10 cents).
 10. Births, Deaths and Marriages, Second Quarter of 1941 (25 cents).
 11. Stocks of Evaporated Whole Milk (10 cents).
 12. Economic Conditions, Eleven Months of 1941 (10 cents).
 13. Bulletin No. 2, Census of Agriculture (10 cents).
 14. The Construction Industry, 1940 (25 cents).
 15. Civil Aviation, September (10 cents).
 16. Production of Concentrated Milk, December (10 cents).
 17. Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales, December (10 cents).
 18. Canada's Leading Mineral Products, November (10 cents).
 19. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
 20. Population Bulletin, No. 17 (10 cents).
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