

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

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Please Read This Carefully

The Director of Government Office Economies Control has ordered a thorough purging of all departmental free mailing lists, and to this end, has ordered that all publications must carry the following notice: "There must be a reduction, and more economical use, of paper, envelopes and labour in respect of the free mailing list. This is the last issue of this publication you will receive, unless you desire to have it continued, in which event you will advise the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, and give the reason for such continuation." This does not apply to copies going to paid-up subscribers or exchange publications.

Revision of the Index of the Physical Volume of Business

Productive operations were at a higher level in September than in the preceding month, according to the revised index of the physical volume of business. The index on the base of 1935-39 was 197.3 in September against 192.9 in the preceding month. The revision of the index consisted mainly in the application of a new set of weights. The components were weighted according to the value added during the current period by productive enterprises in mining, manufacturing, construction, electric power and distribution. The object was to weight the factors according to their present relative importance. The weights established on the basis of "value added" during the base period of 1935-39 resulted in an overemphasis of production for civilian purposes during the war period. It was consequently decided to recompute the weights giving greater representation to factors indicating the operations of firms engaged on war production. A number of changes were also made in the factors included in the compilation. The result of the alterations is a much higher level for the index during the last two years or more.

Economic Activity in September compared with the preceding month *

	1942	
	September	August
Physical Volume of Business, 1935-1939=100	197.3	192.9
Industrial Production	222.1	213.4
Mineral Production	211.1	143.2
Gold Production **.....	121.0	117.0
Coal production	114.8	146.7
Manufacturing	236.6	236.1
Flour production **.....	142.9	136.2
Rolled Oats production **.....	47.4	57.3
Inspected slaughterings	134.4	131.4
Cattle	80.4	96.2
Sheep	102.8	75.6
Hogs	178.0	161.5
Creamery Butter	117.2	111.4
Factory Cheese	153.7	150.0
Tobacco	156.3	141.0
Cigar releases	136.8	130.4
Cigarette releases	158.1	142.1
Boots and Shoes Production **.....	114.7	133.1
Textiles	167.8	166.7
Cotton consumption	148.5	146.7
Forestry	116.2	120.7
Newsprint	105.2	98.4
Iron and Steel	438.9	438.0
Steel production	271.9	257.1
Pig iron production	262.6	257.0
Coke production	145.7	147.1
Construction	128.4	115.8
Contracts awarded	121.4	118.5
Building permits	156.5	105.0
Cost of Construction	123.5	123.3
Electric Power	140.0	142.8
Distribution	145.8	150.4
Tons carried	132.3	163.0

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Economic Activity in September Compared with the Preceding Month

	1942	
	September	August
Marketings -		
Grain and Live Stock Marketings	43.6	99.6
Grain Marketings - Country Elevators	33.9	98.8
Wheat	35.9	15.7
Oats	129.6	56.2
Barley	144.6	120.8
Rye	105.7	126.2
Live Stock Marketings	85.7	102.9
Cattle	69.8	104.1
Calves	94.9	101.8
Hogs	139.0	114.7
Sheep	96.1	67.8
Cold Storage Holdings, 1st of following month	116.6	121.5
Eggs	191.7	224.5
Butter	79.7	77.2
Cheese	162.4	158.3
Beef	44.4	63.9
Pork	122.1	107.2
Mutton	73.8	167.3
Poultry	171.3	198.4
Lard	251.9	354.8
Veal	83.0	102.4

* The index of the Physical Volume of Business was revised for the period from January 1941 to the present. The weights were changed to apply to the current period rather than to the base period of 1935-1939. Alteration was also made in the list of components. The indexes shown above are subject to change as the revision is more fully developed.

**Preceding month.

October Cost of Living Index

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index on the base 1935-1939=100 advanced from 117.4 on September 1 to 117.8 on October 1. This index has shown a wartime increase of 16.9 per cent. The October increase was due mainly to higher food prices although moderate increases also occurred for coal. The food index advanced from 128.5 in September to 129.8 for October 1. Eggs and oranges moved sharply higher and increases of lesser importance were recorded for butter, lard, several canned vegetables, and lemons. Most meats averaged slightly lower on October 1, as did cheese and potatoes.

The fuel and light index mounted from 112.5 to 112.8 because of the coal price increases already noted. The October rental survey showed small advances in a few localities, but these were insufficient to change the Dominion rent index, which remained at 111.3. Other group indexes also remained unchanged for October, clothing at 120.1, home-furnishings and services at 117.8, and miscellaneous items at 107.1.

In compliance with Order-in-Council P.C. 6219 as amended, the price of cigarettes and tobacco in the October cost of living index does not include the tax imposed on June 24, 1942, under the Special War Revenue Act.

Sales of New Motor Vehicles in September

New passenger car sales in Canada in September totalled 643 units with a retail value of \$884,131, down 83 per cent in both number and value from the 3,799 passenger models which sold for \$5,057,897 in the same month a year ago. Cumulative totals for the first nine months of this year were less than 25 per cent of the volume of passenger car sales in the corresponding period of 1941. There were 16,525 passenger cars sold for \$22,790,619 during the January to September period this year as compared with 72,523 vehicles which retailed for \$93,740,987 during the same period of last year.

Sales of 122 commercial vehicles valued at \$301,931 were reported for September. These totals were lower by 94 per cent in number and 89 per cent in value than the 1,931 new trucks and buses which sold for \$2,762,623 in September, 1941. During the first nine months of this year, sales totalled 12,432 units valued at \$17,502,160, down 57 per cent in number and 50 per cent in value from the 28,588 commercial vehicles which sold for \$35,063,405 in the similar period of last year.

Visible Supply of Wheat

The stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on October 29 aggregated 445,085,137 bushels compared with 437,517,999 a week ago and 502,411,643 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks of wheat in Canadian positions on the latest date totalled 425,614,476 bushels, the balance of 19,470,661 being in United States positions.

Farmers' Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Farmers' marketings of wheat in western Canada during the week ending October 29 totalled 11,471,724 bushels compared with 13,003,647 in the previous week, while the total marketed during the elapsed portion of the crop year was 83,866,353 bushels compared with 93,736,998 in the corresponding period of the previous crop year.

Marketings of coarse grains during the week ending October 29 included the following, figures for the previous week being in brackets: oats, 4,538,577(6,345,476) bushels; barley, 2,472,496(3,932,180); rye, 168,046(329,135); flaxseed, 975,027(2,073,764).

Stocks of United States Grain in Canada

Stocks of United States grain in Canada on October 29 included the following, with figures for the corresponding date in 1941 in brackets: corn, 3,510,170(3,766,049) bu.; wheat, 85,772(830,182); rye, 23,548(23,578); oats, 11(27,779).

Production of Flour in September

Wheat flour production in September amounted to 1,737,472 barrels compared with 1,647,910 in the like month last year, the percentage of output to capacity being 78.5 compared with 74.6. Production for the first two months of the crop year aggregated 3,557,671 barrels as compared with 3,500,049 in the corresponding period of 1941-42.

Grains ground in Canadian mills during the month included the following, with figures for September last year in brackets: wheat, 7,804,651(7,415,830) bushels; oats, 1,295,334(2,040,330); corn, 183,962(265,260); barley, 437,700(309,869); buckwheat, 7,914(5,395); and mixed grain, 2,528,113(2,438,677).

Estimate of the Fruit Crops

The favourable outlook for the fruit crops in Canada of a month ago remain unchanged or somewhat improved. Better prospects for the apple crop in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Ontario more than offset a minor revision in Quebec, and with the estimate of the British Columbia crop remaining unchanged the Canadian crop is now set at 4,210,000 barrels. This is an increase of 18 per cent above the 1941 crop of 3,578,400 barrels but is 13 per cent below the 1936-40 average of 4,813,800 barrels.

There is no change in the estimate of the pear crop since September when Canadian production was set at 573,100 bushels. The present crop is 11 per cent larger than that of 1941. A minor upward revision in the Ontario estimate of the plum and prune crop brings the total for Canada to 329,100 bushels. This year's crop is considerably below the 1941 harvest of 447,100 bushels but is well above the 1936-40 average of 215,700 bu.

The largest grape crop on record has been successfully harvested and marketed. A further revision in the estimate for Ontario brings the Canadian total to 74,834,000 pounds which is 59 per cent above the 1941 total of 47,151,300 pounds and 69 per cent above the 1936-40 average of 44,319,300 pounds. The September estimate of the peach crop of 997,500 bushels remains unchanged. This year's crop is seven per cent larger than the 1941 harvest of 932,900 bushels and is 42 per cent greater than the five-year average of 703,300 bushels.

Canadian Production of Gold

Canadian gold output from all primary sources totalled 5,345,179 fine ounces valued at \$205,789,392 in 1941. This was the greatest output of the metal ever recorded in the history of Canadian gold production and represented an increase of 34,034 fine ounces at \$1,310,309 over the previous high record of 5,311,145 ounces valued at \$204,479,083 in 1940. Increases in production over 1940 were attained only in Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories; however, these were sufficiently great to more than compensate the decline recorded in the other producing areas of the Dominion.

Of the total output in 1941, the mines of Ontario contributed 3,194,308 fine ounces of 59.8 per cent; Quebec, 1,089,339 fine ounces or 20.6 per cent, and British Columbia 608,203 fine ounces or 11.4 per cent. Production in the Northwest Territories totalling 74,417 fine ounces represents a 34.9 per cent increase over 1940 and reflects the recent mining development of the Yellowknife deposits; this area is Canada's newest and farthest north producing lode gold camp.

Production of Iron and Steel

Production of pig iron in Canada amounted to 155,900 net tons in September as compared with 162,578 in the previous month and 125,168 in the corresponding month last year. During the nine months ended September the output aggregated 1,464,631 tons as compared with 1,058,520 produced in the corresponding period of 1941.

Output of steel ingots and steel castings during September totalled 244,922 tons compared with 248,868 in August and 224,626 in the same month last year. The total for the nine months ended September was 2,309,588 tons as compared with 1,958,940 in the like period of 1941.

September production of ferro-alloys amounted to 18,548 net tons compared with 15,961 in the previous month and 18,941 in September, 1941.

Production of Coal and Coke in September

The Canadian production of coal during September amounted to 1,463,187 tons as compared with 1,599,014 in the corresponding month last year. The average output for September during the past five years was 1,377,903 tons. Production during the nine months ended September aggregated 13,860,225 tons compared with 12,679,416 in the corresponding period of 1941.

Production of coke from coal in September amounted to 269,348 tons compared with 273,735 in the previous month and 373,063 in the corresponding month in 1941. Total output during the nine months ended September was 2,452,356 tons as compared with 3,404,268 in the like period of 1941.

Output of Central Electric Stations

Central electric station output for September amounted to 2,946,611,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 2,989,675,000 in the previous month and 2,866,647,000 in the corresponding month last year. The total for the nine months ended September was 27,514,365,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 23,900,261,000 in the like period of 1941. Exports to the United States dropped from 195,145,000 kilowatt hours in August to 135,292,000 in September.

Indexes of Country General Store Sales

Country general store sales averaged 12 per cent higher in September than in the like month last year, with all regions of the country reporting gains. The unadjusted index number on the base 1935-1939=100 stood at 139.7 as compared with 124.1 a year ago. Sales during the nine months ended September averaged 13.2 per cent higher than in the same period of 1941.

Indexes of Wholesale Sales in September

September sales of wholesale merchants in Canada gained four per cent over the corresponding month last year, according to returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The unadjusted index number of sales on the base 1935-1939=100 was 177.7 for September compared with 171.2 a year ago. Sales during the nine months ended September averaged 12 per cent above the corresponding period of 1941.

Telegrams and Cablegrams

The number of telegrams dispatched by companies operating in Canada during 1941 was considerably higher than in the previous year, the total being 12,689,124, an increase of 1,428,537, while the number of telegrams received from the United States for delivery in Canada increased to 1,592,446 from 1,471,495. Cablegrams, exclusive of wireless messages to vessels at sea, increased to 2,251,979 from 1,657,148. During the year \$3,868,040 was transferred by telegraph as compared with \$3,118,166 in 1940.

Production of Asphalt Roofing in September

The production of asphalt roofing by firms reporting to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics included the following in September, with figures for the corresponding month last year in brackets: asphalt shingles, 62,137 (82,646) squares; asphalt siding, 382 (6,360) squares; smooth surfaced roofing, 83,076 (124,077) squares; mineral surfaced roofing, 89,754 (76,667) squares; tar and asphalt felts, 2,108 (2,503) tons; tar and asphalt sheathing, 1,262 (1,153) tons.

Production of Maple Syrup in 1942

There was a sharp increase in the production of maple syrup and maple sugar in the four producing provinces in 1942, with the result that the total Canadian output expressed in terms of maple syrup amounted to 3,250,600 gallons compared with the short 1941 crop of 2,276,400 gallons, an increase of 43 per cent.

The crop sold readily at prices sharply higher than in the previous year, the total value being estimated at \$6,716,300, an increase of \$3,155,100 or 89 per cent compared with the 1941 crop which was valued at \$3,561,200. Of the 1942 production the province of Quebec accounted for 81 per cent, Ontario 18 per cent and the balance by the Maritime Provinces.

Civil Aviation in June

Revenue passengers transported by civil aircraft during June increased to 22,134 from the June 1941 total of 17,551, while freight declined to 1,140,991 pounds from 1,194,610. Mail carried increased by 77 per cent, or to 450,795 pounds from 254,898. Revenues of Canadian licensed companies rose to \$1,164,368 in June from \$806,224 in the like month last year, and operating expenses advanced to \$928,889 from \$707,547.

Canadian Dwellings and Households

Records of the equipment of Canadian homes, compiled for the first time in 1941, indicated that almost all urban homes had running water and electric lighting. Over 97 per cent of homes in 24 of 27 cities had running water; electric lighting was installed in 98 per cent or more of homes in 26 cities, and 96 per cent in the twenty-seventh. The picture with regard to other facilities was less uniform. Unshared use of a flush toilet was reported for 100 per cent of households in Verdun and Outremont, for 80 per cent or more in another 21 cities, and for 64 to 71 per cent in Sudbury, Regina, Saskatoon and Edmonton. Unshared bathing facilities were reported by substantially lower proportions of households; only in Outremont and Verdun were more than 90 per cent so equipped, and the proportion in other cities ranged as low as 43 per cent.

Heating systems varied widely: in the Maritimes and Quebec, stoves were commonly used, while furnace heating was more general elsewhere. The proportion of homes heated by furnace ranged from 16 to 94 per cent in Quebec, and from 70 to 95 per cent in Ontario, excepting Brantford and Sudbury; among the Prairie cities it ranged from 72 to 84 per cent. Methods of cooking varied equally widely. With some exceptions, it appeared that where stoves were used for heating, smaller proportions of households cooked by

gas or electricity than where heating was done by furnace. However, larger proportions of homes in the 5 eastern provinces depended on gas or electricity for cooking than were heated by furnace; while in the 4 western provinces, fewer homes used gas or electricity for cooking than were furnace heated. The proportions of homes equipped with ice or mechanical refrigeration also varied widely, but without any general regional correlation.

Four household conveniences were reported in the census: they were radio, telephone, vacuum cleaner and auto. With only minor exceptions, they were reported in that order of frequency. Only in 6 of the 27 cities were less than 90 per cent of homes equipped with radio. The proportion with telephone ranged from 91 per cent in Outremont to 30 per cent in Hull; that with vacuum cleaner from 64 per cent in Outremont to 11 per cent in Hull; and that with auto from 50 per cent in St. Catharines to 16 per cent in Montreal. There was no clear regional distribution for radio; but for the other 3 items and for the proportion of homes reporting all 4, central Ontario figures were relatively high, Quebec figures relatively low, and those for the western cities between the two.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Manitoba - Rural and Urban Sub-Divisions, Population, 1941 Census (10 cents).
 2. Lime Industry, 1941 (25 cents).
 3. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
 4. The Gold Mining Industry, 1941 (50 cents).
 5. Nova Scotia - Birthplace of the Population, 1941 Census (10 cents).
 6. Production of Asphalt Roofing, September (10 cents).
 7. Sales of Asphalt Roofing, September (10 cents).
 8. Telegraph and Cable Statistics, 1941 (10 cents).
 9. Fruit and Vegetable Crop Report (10 cents).
 10. Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins, September (10 cents).
 11. Sales of New Motor Vehicles, September (10 cents).
 12. Indexes of Wholesale Sales, September (10 cents).
 13. Current Trends in Food Distribution, September (10 cents).
 14. Monthly Indexes of Country General Store Sales, September (10 cents).
 15. Coal and Coke Statistics, September (10 cents).
 16. Summary Bulletin of Dwellings and Households, 1941 (10 cents).
 17. Production of Iron and Steel, September (10 cents).
 18. Output of Central Electric Stations, September (10 cents).
 19. Advance Preliminary Statement of Stocks of Canadian Butter, Cheese and Eggs in the Principal Cities, November 1 (10 cents).
 20. Nova Scotia -- Immigration and Citizenship, 1941 Census (10 cents).
 21. Artificial Abrasives Industry, 1941 (10 cents).
 22. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
 23. Canadian Milling Statistics, September (10 cents).
 24. Civil Aviation, June (10 cents).
 25. The 1942 Maple Crop (10 cents).
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