

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

No. 100.

Ottawa, Saturday, September 8, 1934.

Weekly Review of Economic Statistics--Economic Index Reaches a New Maximum with Carloadings and Bond Prices Main Constructive Factors--Building and Sugar Industries Report Greater Activity

The economic index maintained by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics recorded a further increase in the week ended September 1, reaching a new high point during the period of compilation from January 1933 to the present. The index based on six major factors has followed an upward trend since the first of this year. While temporary setbacks occurred from time to time, an unmistakable betterment was apparent during the last eight months. A decline was in evidence during the latter part of 1933, the index is showing a considerably higher standing than in the week ended September 2 of last year. The index was 98.9 in the last week for which statistics are available. The comparable numbers were 98.1 in the preceding week and 88.2 in the same week of 1933. Consequently the gain over the week ended August 25 was nearly 1 p.c., while the increase over the week of September 2, 1933 was 12 p.c.

The marked rise in carloadings was the main influence in raising the economic index in the week under review. The index of carloadings rose to 72.7 in the 34th week, a new high point for the present year. The standing was higher than in the corresponding week of any year since 1930. Owing partly to the heavy loading of grain in the western division, the gain in total loadings over the preceding week was 4,392 cars. Carloadings during the first 34 weeks numbered 1,442,800, a gain of 224,200 over the same period of 1933.

Owing partly to the decline in grains, the official index of wholesale prices reflected moderate reaction in the week ended August 31. The standing was 71.8 compared with 72.2 in the preceding week. The average price of No. 1 Northern Manitoba wheat was 81 cents per bushel compared with 84.5. The price of oats was maintained but declines were shown in other coarse grains. The price of medium weight steers advanced markedly in Toronto and a further slight gain was shown in bacon hogs.

Government bond prices advanced further, reaching a new high point in the week ended September 1. The bid quotation for the 1944 $4\frac{1}{2}$ p.c., Dominion Government refunding bond was 107 $\frac{3}{4}$, while the 1940 5 p.c. bond was quoted from 111.50 to 111.75. The average yield on the four refunding bonds was 3.65 p.c. compared with 3.67 in the preceding week. The firm demand for highest grade bonds is regarded as a constructive factor of fundamental importance, the low level of long-term interest rates being one of the most encouraging factors from the viewpoint of productive enterprise.

The index of bank clearings was 90.5 compared with 96.1 in the preceding week, a slight gain being recorded over the same week of last year.

Common stock prices reacted slightly in the week ended August 30. Domestic utilities averaged lower while industrials were at a slightly higher level. The sub-indexes for iron and steel, pulp and paper and milling receded, gains being shown in the other industrial groups of the official classification. The index of 16 power and traction stocks was 65.1 compared with 66.7. The general index for 113 stocks was off one-tenth of one per cent at 92.4. The number of shares traded on the Montreal and Toronto stock exchanges was 136,000 compared with 137,500 in the preceding week.

The public works programme of the Dominion Government being an important factor, the award of construction contracts showed a marked increase in August over the preceding month. The gain over July after seasonal adjustment was 14 p.c. Contracts in August last year amounted to \$9,479,000, the increase over that month being 43 p.c. The total in August last was \$13,543,900 compared with \$11,190,500 in July.

The total for the first eight months of this year was \$85,651,100 as against \$55,043,800 in the same period of 1933, a gain of 37.4 p.c.

Contemplated projects reported during the elapsed portion of 1934 were \$186,013,000 compared with \$119,976,000 in the first eight months of 1933.

In the total for August were about \$1,500,000 for a general post office in Montreal and nearly half a million for a post office in Moncton, N.B.

The manufacture of sugar in the four-week period ended August 11 was 95,042,000 pounds compared with 83,544,000 in the preceding period. The gain in this comparison after seasonal adjustment was nearly 15 p.c. Activity in the sugar industry during the last reported period was greater than at any other time during the present year.

Expenditures on Roads in 1933--The Auto Registrations--Auto Fatalities

A report on "The Highway and the Motor Vehicle in Canada, 1933," which will be issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics during the month will show 94,721 miles of surfaced roads in Canada, as against 91,845 miles in 1932, and a total of 409,124 miles of all classes of roads as against 388,094 miles for 1932.

The provinces and municipalities expended \$23,854,579 for construction and \$16,650,475 for maintenance, including \$21,877,941 for road construction, \$15,381,175 for road maintenance, \$1,976,538 for bridge and ferry construction and \$1,269,300 for bridge and ferry maintenance and operation. In 1932 the construction expenditures amounted to \$45,867,491 for roads, \$4,164,018 for bridges, or a total of \$50,031,509, and maintenance expenditures amounted to \$19,954,776 for roads, \$1,506,561 for bridges, or a total of \$21,461,337. Tolls collected by bridges and ferries amounted to \$336,590 in 1933 and \$300,566 in 1932, or an increase of \$36,024, despite a reduction in motor vehicle registration, gasoline consumption and tourist traffic. These expenditures include considerable amounts made for unemployment relief and subsidies from the Dominion Government.

Registrations of passenger automobiles declined from 939,761 in 1932 to 911,627, each province reporting a decrease. Total motor vehicle registrations, including passenger cars, trucks, buses, motor cycles, etc. declined from 1,114,503 in 1932 to 1,082,957.

Revenues collected from registrations amounted to \$20,576,392 and from gasoline taxes, \$26,467,735, or a total of \$47,044,157. In 1932 these were \$21,126,271, \$27,083,316 and \$48,209,587, respectively. The gasoline taxes include the commissions paid to the local distributors for collection and the registration revenues also are gross amounts collected from the public from which administration expenses must be deducted before any computations are made as to amounts available for highway purposes.

The number of deaths resulting from motor vehicle accidents decreased from 1,120 in 1932 to 954 which was the lowest since 1927. On a per capita basis it was 8.9 per 100,000 population as against 10.7 in 1932, 9.0 in 1927 and 6.4 in 1926.

Lower Production of Leather Footwear

The output of leather footwear in July shows a considerable reduction. The output of 184 out of 189 factories was 1,332,000 pairs compared with 1,723,000 in June and 1,975,000 in July 1933. All boots and shoes with leather or fabric uppers show decreases but there were increases in sheepskins, larrigans, moccasins and footwear with felt uppers.

The total production of leather footwear in the first seven months of 1933 was 10,629,000 pairs compared with 10,799,000 in 1933.

Butter, Cheese and Eggs

An advance preliminary statement of butter, cheese and eggs in cold storage warehouses in Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg on September 1 shows 14,086,000 pounds of butter at Winnipeg, or 3,684,000 more than a year ago; 7,076,000 at Toronto or 1,190,000 less; 6,431,000 at Winnipeg, or 1,052,000 more.

Cheese at Montreal at 19,881,000 pounds was 3,197,000 less; 3,123,000 at Toronto was 69,000 more; 341,000 at Winnipeg was 156,000 more. Cold storage eggs at Montreal at 3,870,000 dozen were 497,000 more; 2,620,000 at Toronto were 171,000 fewer; 2,045,000 at Winnipeg were 636,000 fewer.

Milling of Wheat Lower in July

There were 4,816,000 bushels of wheat ground in Canadian mills in July compared with 5,364,000 a year ago. With the exception of mixed grain, other grains were higher. Flour production amounted to 1,073,000 barrels compared with 1,323,000.

Investors' Index of Security Prices

The investors' index of industrial common stocks was 123.2 for the week ending August 30 as compared with 123.0 for the previous week, domestic utility common 52.1 compared with 52.5, common of companies abroad 107.0 compared with 106.7 and for all three groups of common combined 92.4 compared with 92.5.

Railway Revenues in June

Freight revenues of Canadian railways for June amounted to \$17,394,053, or \$541,635 less than for June 1933. This was the first decrease recorded since last October. Passenger revenues increased from \$3,026,623 in 1933 to \$3,480,685 and all other items also registered increases, bringing the total revenues to \$24,435,743 as against \$24,309,657 for June last year. Operating expenses were increased by \$418,949, the net operating revenue was reduced by \$292,863 and the operating income by \$434,494. Although the tons of freight carried increased by 6.8 per cent revenue ton miles decreased by 19.3 per cent, due largely to light grain shipments. The number of passengers carried increased by 2.9 per cent and the passenger miles by 29.4 per cent, the average journey being increased from 93.4 miles to 117.5 miles. The number of employees was increased by 2,757, or 2.3 per cent, and the pay roll was larger by \$395,886, or 3.1 per cent.

For the first half of the year gross revenues were \$140,193,200 in 1934 and \$120,328,621 in 1933 and the operating income was \$12,421,701 in 1934 and \$1,192,138 in 1933.

With a decrease in revenue ton miles of 17.3 per cent, freight revenues of the Canadian National Railways declined by \$49,868 or .6 per cent. Passenger and other revenues, however, increased and total revenues amounted to \$11,724,637 as against \$11,423,764 in June 1933. Operating expenses were increased from \$10,725,649 to \$11,003,040 and the net operating revenue from \$698,114 to \$721,596, but the operating income was reduced from \$429,633 to \$370,166, or by \$59,467. The lines in the United States showed an increase in gross revenues, but a decrease in net revenues and a reduction of \$58,409 in operating income. The system operating income amounted to \$384,930 as against \$502,806 in June, 1933.

For the six months the operating income of the Canadian National Railways was: Canadian lines \$446,665, United States lines \$250,211 and system, \$696,876; as against debits in 1933 of \$5,490,233, \$916,099 and \$6,406,332 respectively.

Gross revenues of the Canadian Pacific Railways were reduced from \$10,409,356 in June 1933 to \$10,016,550 and, with operating expenses reduced by \$122,323, the net operating revenue declined by \$270,481 and the operating income from \$2,049,387 to \$1,755,580, or by \$293,807. The operating pay roll was increased by \$181,713, but the number of employees was reduced by 368.

Gross revenues of the Canadian Pacific Railways for the six months amounted to \$57,321,078 and the operating income to \$8,054,412, as against \$50,654,742 and \$4,861,140 respectively in 1933.

New Zealand's Hugo Sheep Flocks

The 1934 census of sheep in New Zealand shows 28,551,000 in the country, an increase of nearly 800,000 over 1933. However the largest number was in 1930 when there were 30,841,000. The number of sheep in Canada in December 1933 was 2,737,000, and the 1934 figures received so far show a tendency to be below those of 1933.

Sugar and Copra in the Fiji Islands

Sugar-growing is the chief industry of the Fiji Islands. The exports of sugar in 1933 were 113,836 tons valued at £1,190,782. The United Kingdom was the largest consumer, getting 63,763 tons at £656,619, and Canada next with 47,712 tons at £500,273.

Copra, which is the dried flesh of the fruit of the cocoanut palm, is the second most important product of the Fiji Colony. The export in 1933 was 22,597 tons valued at £195,738. In 1929 it was 33,226 tons at £563,978.

Some Facts about Multiple Births Recorded in Canada

Owing to the effect of the birth and survival of the Dionne Quintuplets in stimulating public interest in the matter of multiple births, some figures on this subject issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics may be worth noting. The figures applied to the nine provinces of Canada for the aggregate period of seven years, 1926-32 were as follows: During this period, out of a total of 1,690,032 recorded confinements, 20,497, or a proportion of one in 82.5, were twin confinements. Triplet confinements numbering 203 were fewer than one to 100 twin confinements.

There was one quadruplet confinement, which took place in British Columbia in 1931. All of the children born of this quadruplet confinement were females and all died within a few hours of their birth. This is in contrast with a quadruplet confinement in New Brunswick in 1923, resulting in the birth of three girls and one boy. All of these children are still living.

The proportion of twin confinements to total confinements, which as stated above was one in 82.5 for the whole of Canada, varies as between provinces. In the Maritime Provinces it was one in 83.2, in Quebec it was one in 82.2, in Ontario one in 85.9, in the Prairie Provinces one in 76.9 and in British Columbia, the lowest proportion of all, it was one in 91.8. While these differences may be partly racial, another important factor without doubt is the difference in the average age of mothers as it is recognized that multiple births occur in greater proportion to mothers of the higher ages.

Of the 20,497 twin confinements during the period, both twins were born alive in 18,411 cases, forming 89.8 per cent of the total. Of the 203 triplet confinements all three children were born alive in 170 cases, forming 83.7 per cent of the total.

Even when both live and stillbirths are considered together the masculinity in multiple births was considerably lower than that of single births, the multiple births showing only 1,023 males to 1,000 females while the single births had 1,066 males to 1,000 females. As it is recognized that the male foetus is less resistant throughout than the female, this lower proportion for multiple births reflects the greater risk in connection with multiple births.

Again the proportion of stillbirths amongst the single births during the period was only 3.0 per cent, while amongst the multiple births it was 6.6 per cent. This greater mortality, to which males were more subject than females, again reduces the masculinity of multiple live births, which show a proportion of 1,003 males to 1,000 females as against 1,059 males to 1,000 females for single live births.

Science recognizes, according to their origin, two kinds of twins which are distinguished as fraternal twins and identical twins. The latter are the twins which are held to resemble each other very closely in body, mind and character, and which are always of the same sex. Such twins, in addition to furnishing the novelist and dramatist with a theme for a plot of which the fullest advantage has been taken, have also been the subject of a considerable amount of serious study owing to the light they are thought to throw on the nature of hereditary characteristics. While the Vital Statistics records, of course, do not distinguish the two kinds of twins, their numbers can be estimated with considerable accuracy from the sex proportions.

If there were no identical twins it might be expected that the twin confinements in which one child was male and the other female would about equal the number in which both were of the same sex. In actual fact during the period under review there were 13,379 twin confinements in which both children were of the same sex and only 7,118 in which the sex was different. A computation based on this relationship indicates that out of a total of 20,497 twin confinements, 6,259 or 30.5 per cent produced identical twins.

Automobile Imports by Australia

The following imports during the fiscal year ending June 1933 gives an idea of the source of Australia's imported automobiles: motor car bodies, United States £8,319, United Kingdom £3,007, Canada £155; assembled motor car chassis, United Kingdom £13,968, United States £9,084; unassembled motor car chassis, United Kingdom £642,373, United States £366,006, Canada £259,117; motor car parts, United States £66,670, United Kingdom £36,392, Canada £12,022.

Auto Financing in July

The number of new and used automobiles, trucks and buses financed was 8,348 in July, 10,482 in June and 5,852 in July 1933, and the amount of financing was \$3,618,053 in July, \$4,253,549 in June and \$2,137,692 in July 1933.

New vehicles financed numbered 2,776 in July, 3,457 in June and 1,775 in July 1933, while used vehicles numbered 5,572, 7,025 and 4,077 for the same three months. The amount of financing for new vehicles was \$1,913,474, \$2,456,095 and \$1,145,803, and for used vehicles \$1,704,579, \$1,797,454 and \$991,889 respectively.

Night Schools in Canada in Recent Years

Evening classes, or night schools, experienced a steady and rapid growth in popularity in the decade or more preceding 1931. Since 1931, for reasons mainly economic, the number of them and their enrolment have shown sharp declines.

From the standpoint of the number of students reached, the classes supported as a part of the provincial school systems come first. The enrolment in these classes dropped from 89,847 in the school year ending in 1931 to 66,501 two years later. Though returns for 1934 are not complete, it is known that there was another very large decrease. Some municipalities have abandoned the classes as an economy measure, and others report a falling-off in attendance by reason of young people losing interest in their self-improvement when continuously unable to find employment.

Enrolment in Prince Edward Island dropped from 69 in 1930 to nil in 1933, Nova Scotia from 2,703 to 2,236, New Brunswick from 2,512 to 312, Ontario from 51,363 to 38,314, Manitoba from 3,333 to 2,002, Saskatchewan from 1,701 to 1,659, Alberta from 2,032 to 1,770, British Columbia from 6,419 to 4,600. On the other hand the number in Quebec increased from 14,298 in 1930 to 15,108 in 1933.

These figures from the various provinces include only classes that normally operate through the winter. This excludes extension courses from provincial Departments, which are perhaps especially important in Quebec, where the Department of Education has a staff of seven graduate dress-makers who travel about the province giving courses which usually last three weeks or more. In 1932-33 there was an attendance of 3,038 women and girls at their courses. The Department of Agriculture since 1930 has maintained a staff of travelling instructresses in handicrafts, - carding, spinning, weaving, etc. They gave 215 series of lectures in 1932-33, attended by 11,926 persons. Apart from these there are the more occasional agricultural and household extension services like those in other provinces.

Some of the universities, especially those located in the largest cities, offer evening courses to the general public. Occasionally they are given for credit toward a university degree, but more often not. In contrast with the classes at the provincial schools the university courses lean toward subjects in literature and the social sciences rather than technical or vocational subjects, and this may explain in part why their enrolment has not declined as seriously. The object in attending the type of course offered by the universities is probably not as commonly the improvement of the student's economic position. The number enrolled in 1930 was 4,639 which rose to 5,743 in 1931 but declined to 5,560 in 1933. In the case of the Workers Educational Association of Ontario, whose tutors are paid by the University of Toronto, there has been an outstanding increase. These classes are now conducted in 15 cities and towns.

Evening courses at the type of institution commonly called a business college have suffered a loss of attendance much more severe than either of the two foregoing. This was probably to have been expected at a time of general economic difficulty, because of the cost of these courses as compared with those of the provincial schools and universities.

It is noteworthy that of the 15,108 pupils of night schools in Quebec in 1933, more than half of them, or 8,621, are described as non-technical students, of whom 90 per cent were present for the study of English alone.

Changes in the Value of Retail Sales in July

The value of retail sales in July, as measured by the index numbers of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics (January, 1929=100), showed an increase in the general index over the corresponding month of last year of approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. In July 1933 the general index stood at 62.8, and in July 1934 it was 63.8.

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Comparing July 1934 with July 1933 index numbers were higher for six groups and lower for five groups. Drug sales rose from 72.5 to 72.6; Dyers and Cleaners from 83.0 to 107.3, and Furniture from 33.5 to 40.2. General and Departmental increased from 54.5 to 55.3; Hardware from 81.0 to 100.6, and Music and Radio from 14.4 to 17.1. Boots and Shoes fell from 73.5 to 71.6; Candy from 60.2 to 57.1; Clothing from 63.1 to 64.6; Groceries and Meats from 72.6 to 72.0, and Restaurants from 53.4 to 57.6.

Comparing June and July of this year the general index decreased from 77.1 to 63.8 due mainly to seasonal influences. All indexes for sub-groups showed a corresponding decline.

Silver Mining Industry in 1933

Silver mining in Canada is not a distinct mining industry in as much as silver or silver-bearing minerals usually occur in association with other metals of economic value; with lead and zinc; with cobalt, nickel and arsenic; with lode and placer free gold; in copper-gold and nickel-copper ores, and at Great Bear Lake, N.W.T., with uranium and radium. Silver-lead-zinc mining is a very important industry in British Columbia and to a lesser extent in the Yukon Territory. There is no production of silver-lead-zinc ores in eastern Canada at the present time; this industry, however, has attained a position of importance during past years in the provinces of Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia.

In 1933 the total primary production of these metals from all Canadian sources was as follows: silver, 15,187,950 fine ounces valued at \$5,746,027; lead, 266,475,191 pounds valued at \$6,372,993; zinc, 199,131,984 pounds valued at \$6,393,132; cobalt, 466,702 pounds valued at \$597,752; and arsenic, 1,468,022 pounds at \$56,534.

Among the metals produced in Canada during 1933 zinc held fourth position, lead fifth and silver sixth in point of value. This represents for silver and zinc values a complete reversal of positions as compared with those held in 1932.

The year 1933 witnessed a distinct improvement in lead and zinc production, the output of the former metal experiencing a 4.1 per cent increase over 1932 while zinc production was 15.6 per cent higher. An analysis of the statistics pertaining to silver production reveals that the recession in output from the previous year was largely attributable to a pronounced decline in the metal recovered from the cobalt-silver-arsenic ores of Northern Ontario and, to a lesser extent, to the smaller recoveries of the metal from argentiferous blister copper produced in British Columbia and Quebec and reduced exports of silver-lead ores from the Yukon Territory. The reduced output of cobalt and arsenic reflected decreased activities in the mining of cobalt-silver ores in Northern Ontario camps.

Index Numbers of 23 Mining Stocks

The weighted index number of twenty-three mining stocks computed by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on the base 1926=100, was 142.5 for the week ending August 30, as compared with 142.5 for the previous week. Nineteen gold stocks remained unchanged at 138.8, and four base metals stocks fell from 163.2 to 163.0.

Raw Sugar Imports Increasing

Raw sugar imports during the first seven months of 1934 amounted to 426,003,800 pounds compared with 412,333,700 in 1933. During July the imports were from the following countries: Barbados 41,504,800, British Guiana 23,225,100, Jamaica 18,260,100, Trinidad 13,691,500, Fiji 5,639,200, Smaller British West Indies 3,963,900, Cuba 3,370,600, British South Africa 2,841,800, Dutch Guiana 389,700. Imports from the British West Indies totalled 77,420,306 pounds out of a total of 126,433,800.

Refined Sugar Imports and Exports

Refined sugar imports in July amounted to 354,700 pounds, of which 251,000 at \$10,206 came from the United States, 83,200 from British East Africa and 500 at \$37 from the United Kingdom. at \$1,910

Refined sugar exports in July totalled 761,900 pounds, the countries of destination being: Newfoundland 553,600, British West Indies 147,300, British Honduras 22,300, St. Pierre 20,000, Bermuda 13,300, British Guiana 5,400.

Canadian Files in Great Britain

An interesting item in the detailed report on British trade is the large quantity of files and rasps imported from Canada. There were 90 at £23 in 1928, 3,320 at £63 in 1929, none in 1930, 444 at £47 in 1931 and 787,666 at £20,029 in 1932.

Weekly Index of Wholesale Prices

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices on the base 1926=100, fell further from 72.2 for the week ended August 24 to 71.8 for the week of August 31. This was attributable to renewed declines for grains, and lower quotations for raw sugar, wool, and tin, which were of more consequence than advances for livestock, copper, and crude oil. Apart from activity in prices of farm products, markets for other commodities lately have become very quiet. There was less movement in group indexes for the week of August 31, than in any preceding week for the current year.

The Vegetable Product index dropped from 69.6 to 68.3 due to reductions for grains, turpentine, and raw sugar. Animal Products moved fractionally lower from 65.6 to 65.5, decreases for cheese and meats exercising more weight than increases for lobsters and livestock. Minor price fluctuations failed to change other group indexes which remained as follows: Textiles 73.5, Wood Products 65.5, Non-Ferrous Metals 62.9, Iron and Its Products 87.0, Non-Metallic Minerals 86.1, and Chemicals 81.9.

Canadian Farm Products dropped from 61.3 to 60.5, lower grain prices more than offsetting advances for livestock.

Taking the Census in the Far Places of the Dominion

For a census that covers half a vast continent, embracing the most varied conditions of nature and hinterland settlement and stretching northward into the Arctic, absolute uniformity of arrangement is clearly impossible. In the remote and seldom penetrated northern parts of Quebec, Ontario and the West where the population consists for the most part of small and widely separated settlements or of more or less nomadic native bands, the co-operation of the fur trading companies and of the various church missions was obtained.

In other regions the Royal Canadian Mounted Police conducted the census, whilst the agents of the Department of Indian Affairs performed a like service for the Indian population on the reserves and elsewhere. The Department of the Interior likewise co-operated through its officers in the census of the lower Mackenzie River Valley. Even in districts much nearer to settlement than these, numerous localities required the organization of special expeditions by pack train, steamer etc. in order that no section of the country might be missed.

Rev. J. Emile Saindon was engaged by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics to take the census along the Eastern shore of James Bay in 1931. A brief report of his work written at Moose Factory on his return tells a thrilling story. Let him use his own words as translated from the French by the Bureau:

I must say that the canoe trip gave me a good deal of worry as I had never made that trip in such an unsafe means of conveyance. On my trip to Fort George last year I used the boat of the Hudson's Bay Company.

The run is 600 miles along the shore, which means a battle with the elements; rain, snow, winds, ice, heavy fogs, etc. Furthermore, we have to cross three bad spots, viz., Hannah Bay, Rupert's House Bay, and Cape Hope Bay; all are wide and deep. Everything is fine in good weather, but when it is stormy the trip is very dangerous. Three Indians from Eastmain were drowned last fall while crossing Cape Hope Bay.

Only once did we find ourselves in a storm of that kind; this was in Hannah Bay. It looked as if the sea was going to swallow us. The canoe was rising on the crest of the waves; a moment later it was plunging into the trough. My guide gave proofs of his marvellous skill in dodging and cutting through the waves. Our canoe had air-tight compartments; it measured twenty feet in length and was covered with a very strong water-proof fabric. In order to prevent any accidental delay, I carried two outboard motors in case one would fail.

We suffered a delay of about five days on account of bad weather, rain, wind and heavy fogs.

The trip along the east coast of James Bay has its charms and is not nearly as

monotonous as that along the western coast with its flat and muddy shores and reefs. The landscape is beautiful, the water is deep and clear as crystal. Most of the time we are passing islands. The cliffs supply us with all the drinking water we want and plenty of fire-wood may be gathered on shore. There is an abundance of fish.

I had asked for authorization to hire two guides, as this number is required usually, but in view of the fact that I noticed an improvement in my health since my arrival here, I thought one guide would be sufficient, especially since two motors are available.

The first locality I visited was Eastmain which is located 190 miles north-east of Moose Factory. All the families were at the trading post, except three who remained 250 miles away around Eastmain River, where they could find food. A special trip of that length for the purpose of taking the Census of these families was of course out of the question, particularly since I was not sure of being able to locate them. In the summer-time the Indians move from one lake to the other in order to catch some fish.

I interviewed several families who are well acquainted with the absentees and who had seen them the previous winter. I thus got all the information exactly as if these families had been present.

The Indians living in the village of Eastmain are most interesting. They are real primitives and are artless like children. I worked very hard for three days. My activities were not limited to the duties of a census officer; I also had to play doctor. Acting as a physician against my own will, I had to sit at the desk, look the patients over and prescribe for them. I found myself all of a sudden a dentist, and had to extract teeth for several hours. I had brought with me some instruments, a dental syringe and liquid anaesthetic. I believe I have made quite a success in painless extraction, painless both for me and my patients. I must have performed one hundred extractions all told. The few lessons in dentistry I had taken in Montreal stood me in good stead and were of benefit to the poor Indian who, unlike civilised man, has no dentist at his beck and call.

I hope the Bureau of Statistics is not going to raise any objection about my having widened the scope of my duties for the purpose of alleviating the sufferings of the poor afflicted.

As I could not reach the Eskimos settled on Cape Hope Island, I got some information as to their number. These Eskimos do not mix with the Crees whom they despise. When they come to the post to trade their furs, they even do not condescend to set up their tents on land settled by Crees; they keep away from there. They live on an island situated 16 miles away from terra firma. The crossing in a canoe is quite unsafe and I believe therefore that your department will approve my decision not to undertake that trip. Twice I tried to reach that island, but I had to desist both times; the first time a storm compelled us to turn back, and the second attempt had to be abandoned on account of foggy weather.

I am not sure as to the ages, as the Indians do not know how old they are. With the assistance of an interpreter I gathered all the information I could possibly obtain and I have endeavoured to state the ages as accurately as was possible under the circumstances.

Furthermore I could not get in Eastmain the maiden names of quite a few women; I therefore had to be content with entering the names of their husbands. The great difficulty is however to find out what their surname is. The head of one household sometimes has four or five names. The names given to them by the trading companies for book-keeping purposes usually are English names, as the trader can neither catch nor remember Indian names which oftentimes are odd and intricate. There are several Indian names. If they are asked to state their names, they invariably give their Christian names, i.e. John, Hannah, etc. Most of them cannot even remember the names the trading companies have given them.

As to education, it is difficult to state the number of months in which there has been school attendance. There are two day schools at Eastmain and Fort George. The Indians being away from the trading post most of the year, attendance on their part is, so to say, non-existing almost the whole year round. The children of the companies' officials are more favoured in this respect.

Just now, the Catholic mission is erecting a boarding school at Fort George; this undertaking is expected to bring about a great improvement in attendance. At Fort George there was only half the population at the trading post, and this in spite of the fact that my sojourn there happened to be at the time when the number of families there is greatest. On account of their destitution they only remain a short time around the trading warehouses. They scatter along the coast in order to devote their time to fishing. Many of them live at Cape Jones, close to the lakes dotting the interior. I was told it would be very difficult to locate them, notwithstanding the utmost efficiency that could

possibly be displayed. The expenses for a trip of that kind would have been very high and would not have yielded satisfactory results.

I selected several interpreters among the Indians living at Cape Jones, among those located farther inland, and among those inhabiting the districts north and south from Fort George. I also took advantage of the assistance given me by Rev. Father McIlleur, missionary at Fort George for the last seven years. The managers of the trading posts of the Hudson's Bay Company and of the Revillon concern who keep records of the names and numbers of Indians as well as birth and death registers helped me also.

I am sure that I have been able to register 99 per cent of the population.

One thing that struck me particularly at Fort George is the communistic spirit of the Indians living on the coast. There are cases of from seven to ten families housed in the one wigwam. We have seen as many as 70 or 80 people in the same dwelling. As there is a great number of women, it is they who split wood, carry water, perform all household duties and a good deal of the work to be performed in the open. The food brought to the tent is for common use. The same applies to canoes, cooking utensils, dogs, sleds, etc. While the woman is working the man is playing checkers. The fabric required for the wigwam is contributed by each individual.

The reason for this communistic regime is to be found in the great poverty of these people. They do not possess the number of furs required for the purchase of tents, canoes and other necessities.

It is quite obvious that this state of affairs brings about deplorable consequences, particularly from the morality viewpoint. There is no privacy whatever in these tents; the promiscuousness has disastrous results. These conditions also cause a complete neglect of the ordinary laws of hygiene. This system promotes laziness, lack of initiative, because each individual depends on the other man.

There is enough fish at Fort George to supply the wants of the whole population. The state of health of the Indians is, on the whole good.

Imports of Green Coffee

Imports of green coffee in July, amounting to 2,140,000 pounds, were much the same as a year ago. The largest consignments were from the following countries: Jamaica 654,620, Brazil 653,486, British East Africa 373,913, Colombia 236,321, United Kingdom 54,653, United States 25,783, British India 22,498, Mexico 15,950, Trinidad and Tobago 15,548, Dutch East Indies 13,670, Venezuela 13,383, Aden 6,530, Hawaii 5,000, Abyssinia 2,816.

New Motor Vehicle Sales in July

Sales at retail of new passenger cars, trucks and buses reported to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for July show an increase of over 27 per cent in numbers and 32 per cent in value, as compared with July 1933. There was a total of 6,538 new vehicles sold for \$6,673,673 in July, 9,997 for \$10,238,317 in June, and 5,146 at \$5,051,511 in July 1933.

New passenger cars sold numbered 5,431 in July, 8394 in June and 4,574 in July, 1933, and the retail value of these vehicles was \$8,568,635, \$8,671,565 and \$4,497,985 respectively. There were 1,107 trucks and buses sold in July for \$1,105,038 as compared with 1,603 for \$1,566,752 in June and 572 for \$353,526 in July last year.

Imports of Farm Implements and Machinery

Imports of farm implements and machinery in July were of the value of \$355,000 compared with \$262,000 a year ago. Amongst the imports were 743 cream separators from Sweden at \$11,610, one pasteurizer from the United Kingdom at \$2,197 and one from Denmark at \$1,651, 73 harvesters from the United States at \$12,594, 184 mowing machines from the United States at \$10,257, 15 potato diggers at \$1,230 from the United Kingdom and 47 at \$3,850 from the United States, 118 horse rakes at \$4,024 from the United States, 166 dozen rakes at \$108 from Japan, 60 dozen scythes at \$349 from Austria, 7 threshing machine separators from the United States at \$6,516, 20 fodder or ensilage cutters at \$6,672 from the United States, 257 dozen spades and shovels at \$671 from the United Kingdom, one traction engine at \$879 from the United Kingdom and 36 at \$30,092 from the United States.

June Output of Crude Petroleum in Canada

The output of crude petroleum in Canada in June was 109,021 barrels compared with 117,693 in May and 114,330 in June 1933. Production during the first six months of 1934 at 716,621 barrels was 34 per cent above last year. Alberta produced 95,820 barrels in June.

Natural Gas Production in June

Natural gas production in June was 1,122,520,000 cubic feet compared with 1,442,521,000 in May and 1,127,681,000 in June 1933.

Sales of Gasoline in May

Sales of gasoline in Canada in May amounted to 43,761,000 gallons, exclusive of the sales in Manitoba, which, at date of writing, had not been reported. The quantity in May 1933 was 42,935,000 gallons so that without Manitoba there was an increase. Ontario at 19,783,000 showed an increase of over two million gallons and Quebec at 9,213,000 had an increase of over four millions.

Gypsum Production in June

Gypsum production in June was 67,109 tons compared with 53,353 in May and 50,070 in June 1933. During the first six months of 1934 the production was 157,445 tons as against 97,025 and 136,383 in the same periods of 1933 and 1932.

Feldspar Production in June

Feldspar production in June was 936 tons compared with 864 and 479 in the same month of 1933 and 1932. Production during the first six months of 1934 amounted to 5,992 tons as against 2,522 in 1933 and 4,222 in 1932.

Commercial Salt Production

Commercial salt production in June amounted to 15,628 tons compared with 18,605 a year ago and 15,628 tons two years ago. Production in the first six months of 1934 was 90,195 tons compared with 82,013 in 1933, 79,180 in 1932 and 76,054 in 1931.

Production of Asbestos

Asbestos production in June amounted to 13,719 tons compared with 12,630 and 8,936 in the same month of 1933 and 1932. Production in the first six months of 1934 was 67,888 tons as against 49,550 in 1933, 55,457 in 1932 and 79,769 in 1931.

Remarkable Improvement in Mineral Production - Metals Make Magnificent Advances in 1934

Canada's mineral production during the first six months of 1934 showed remarkable improvement over the same period of the preceding year. Gains were general in each group, metals, fuels, non-metallic minerals other than fuels, and structural materials.

The total value of the mineral production for the Dominion totalled \$131,942,180 as against \$90,647,151 during the first six months of 1933, an increase of 45 per cent. These total production values include the estimated difference between the value of gold computed at the standard price - \$20.671834 per fine ounce.- and the value of gold computed at the average price per fine ounce in Canadian funds.

Metals made magnificent advances. Total production was valued at \$94,365,444 as against \$59,444,773 for the same period of 1933, an increase of 59 per cent. All metals, except arsenic and the quantity of gold produced, showed substantial advances. Gold output was only one per cent less than in the first six months of 1933, due to the mining of lower grade ores by some of the larger companies, the ore reserves of which were considerably enlarged because of the increased price now obtainable for this metal. The average price of gold in Canadian funds during the first six months of 1934 was

\$34.67 per fine ounce as against \$25.75 per fine ounce during the first six months of 1933. By applying these unit prices, Canada's gold production was valued at \$49,862,602 as against \$37,463,956, an increase of 33 per cent. This record price for gold intensified the search for new mines and many properties are being brought to the production stage as rapidly as possible.

United States Ports Take Lead Last
Week in Export of Canadian Wheat

Canadian wheat in store on August 31 amounted to 193,771,000 bushels as compared with 185,236,539 on August 24 and 190,952,331 a year ago. In transit wheat on the lakes was 2,458,513 bushels compared with 1,703,504 the week before and 4,270,000 a year ago. Canadian wheat in the United States amounted to 10,065,306 compared with 4,784,542 last year. United States wheat in Canada was reported at two bushels as against 3,672,318.

Wheat marketings in the Prairie Provinces for the week ending August 24 amounted to 9,020,987 bushels, three times the amount of the previous week. Receipts by provinces were as follows, the figures in brackets being those of a year ago: Manitoba 2,954,531 (4,365,097); Saskatchewan 3,735,045 (4,795,312); Alberta 2,331,411 (1,392,213); Total 9,020,987 (11,052,622). Four weeks ending August 24: Manitoba 3,537,867 (7,655,774); Saskatchewan 5,567,877 (6,190,858); Alberta 5,879,977 (4,051,783); Total 15,035,721 (17,898,415).

Export clearances during the week ending August 31 amounted to 3,676,079 bushels compared with 2,984,527 the week before. By ports the clearances were, the figures in brackets being those of a year ago: United States ports 1,425,000 (406,000); Montreal 1,343,546 (1,819,943); Churchill 477,240 (943,512); Vancouver-New Westminster 383,493 (613,183); Sorel 46,800 (204,999); Total 3,676,079 (3,987,637). Four weeks ending August 31: Montreal 5,416,123 (8,079,570); United States ports 3,314,000 (1,375,000); Vancouver-New Westminster 3,246,759 (2,306,442); Churchill 1,816,795 (2,170,173); Sorel 583,394 (1,335,369); Quebec 284,000 (304,500); Total 14,661,076 (15,279,054).

Sharp Advance in Export of
Wheat During Month of August

There was a sharp advance in the export of wheat in August the quantity being 14,709,675 bushels valued at \$12,868,422. This compared with 8,652,970 bushels at \$6,656,511 in 1933, 18,289,832 at \$10,642,471 in 1932 and 11,909,108 at \$6,620,677 in 1931. The average export value for the month was 87.5 cents per bushel compared with 76.9 in 1933, 58.2 in 1932 and 55.6 in 1931.

During the first five months, April to August, of the present fiscal year the export was 68,706,699 bushels valued at \$53,613,642 compared with 67,950,236 at \$45,360,220 in the corresponding period last year.

August Export of Wheat Flour

The export of wheat flour in August was 412,089 barrels valued at \$1,570,580, the average price for the month being \$5.31. A year ago the export was 430,288 barrels at \$1,948,441, the average price being \$4.06.

Crop Conditions in the Prairie Provinces

Harvesting is well advanced throughout the Prairie Provinces in spite of delays occasioned during the past week by light to heavy rains received over wide areas of the west. Threshing is nearly completed in southern Manitoba but there is considerable threshing still to be completed in northern districts.

In Saskatchewan wheat cutting is nearly completed in central and southern areas and in the northern districts only ten to fifteen per cent of the wheat crop is still standing. In southern Saskatchewan about sixty-five per cent of the wheat crop is threshed. A smaller amount of threshing is completed in central areas and about ten per cent is finished in northern districts.

In Alberta harvesting is well advanced in southern districts with about thirty per cent of threshing completed. Cutting is nearing completion in central areas and threshing is under way. Good progress has been made with wheat cutting in northern Alberta but practically no threshing has been done. Frost damage is evident in central and northern Alberta and northern Saskatchewan where yields and grades have suffered.

Imports of Wood and Timber by the United Kingdom

Imports of wood and timber by the United Kingdom during the first seven months of 1934 amounted in value to £19,583,000, compared with £11,654,000 in 1933 and £13,487,000 in 1932.

Imports from Canada were £2,896,000 in 1934, £1,140,000 in 1933 and £867,000 in 1932. Imports from the United States were £2,367,000 in 1934, £1,828,000 in 1933 and £2,476,000 in 1932.

The United States proportion of the total imports in the first seven months of 1932 was 18 per cent and Canada's share was 6 per cent. In 1934 the United States share was 12 per cent and Canada's 14 per cent. The largest item from the United States in 1934 was oak at £715,000, and Canada's largest item was soft wood at £2,060,000. Canada in 1934, so far as it has gone, stands second to Finland which sent wood and timber to the value of £3,057,000 into the British market. Finland's main item was soft wood at £2,250,000, which was about one million dollars worth more soft wood than from Canada.

New High in Car Loadings for the Year

Car loadings continued upwards amounting to 52,888 cars for the week ended September 1 and the index number rose to 81.51, a new high for the year. Heavy loading of grain in the western division was the largest factor, increasing from 7,916 cars for the previous week to 10,594, the movement of new grain starting about two weeks earlier this year than usual. Coal also increased in the western division by 562 cars, ore by 157, miscellaneous by 137 and the total of 22,433 was up by 3,330 which increased the index number from 100.98 to 103.11.

In the eastern division total loadings increased from 29,117 cars for the previous week to 30,455 and the index number rose from 69.60 to 70.58. Miscellaneous freight was heavier by 451, merchandise by 213, coal by 576 and grain by 288. Ore decreased by 102 and small decreases were shown for live stock, coke, lumber, pulpwood and pulp and paper.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Monthly Review of Business Statistics.
2. Imports of Farm Implements and Machinery in July.
3. Imports of Coffee and Tea in July.
4. Sugar Report for the Four Weeks Ending August 11.
5. Coal Tar Distillation Industry in 1933.
6. Index Numbers of Security Prices.
7. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries in Second Quarter of 1934.
8. New Motor Vehicle Sales in July.
9. Changes in the Value of Retail Sales in July.
10. Summary of the Silver Mining Industry in 1933.
11. Night Schools in Canada in Recent Years.
12. Index Numbers of 23 Mining Stocks.
13. Financing of Automobile, Truck and Bus Sales in July.
14. Weekly Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices.
15. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces.
16. Asbestos Production in June.
17. Feldspar and Salt Production in June.
18. Gypsum Production in June.
19. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production in June and Gasoline Sales in May.
20. Mineral Production of Canada during the Six Months ending June, 1934.
21. Live Stock and Animal Products Statistics in 1933.
22. Cold Storage Preliminary.
23. Production of Leather Footwear in July.
24. Milling Statistics for July.
25. Weekly Grain Statistics.
26. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways.
27. Monthly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics.

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