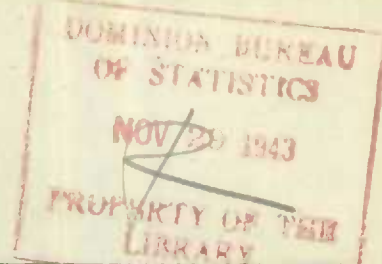


WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce



Vol. XI - No. 47

Ottawa, Saturday, November 27, 1943

Price \$1.00 per year

Business Acceleration in October

General business activity was slightly greater in October than in the preceding month, according to the preliminary business index adjusted for seasonal variation.

The operations of the milling industry were nearly maintained, the production of flour showing an absolute gain in the last month for which statistics were available. The index of tobacco released rose from 161.5 to 179.3. The cigarettes made available numbered 969 million against 924 million in September. Slight decline was shown in the operations of the meat-packing industry. The considerable decline in cattle slaughtering was counterbalanced by the greater gain in hogs. Hog slaughterings were 644,663 head against 475,028.

The operations of the dairy industry were nearly as great as in the preceding month, an increase having been shown in the production of cheese after seasonal adjustment. The production of newsprint was 259,336 tons against 251,827. Increases were shown in the operations of the iron and steel industry and of the non-ferrous metals group. An index of employment in the chemical industry receded from 670.2 to 670.3 in the latest month for which statistics are available.

The new business obtained by the construction industry showed a gain even before seasonal adjustment. The total was \$19.2 million against \$18.6 million. Index of sales of livestock on the stockyards receded about 10 points to 73.5. Cold storage holdings recorded a gain, the index moving up from 132.7 to 136.3.

The index of the physical volume of business which had been 236.7 in September showed a further rise in October according to preliminary calculations. The amount of cheques cashed in clearing centres was \$4,654 million in October compared with \$4,073 million in the same month last year, a gain of about 14 per cent.

Business Indicators for October compared with September and October 1942

	October 1943	September 1943	October 1942
Physical Volume of Business 1935-39=100	*	236.7	207.2
Cost of Living 1935-39=100	119.3	119.4	117.8
Factory Cheese Production pounds	18,306,226	23,404,691	20,523,268
Creamery Butter Production pounds	25,120,002	32,830,481	25,073,959
Newsprint Production tons	259,336	251,827	271,566
Contracts Awarded \$	19,238,500	18,570,600	21,412,800
Carloadings No.	315,000	303,000	323,000
Raw Cotton Consumption Lb.	13,550,334	14,190,431	16,891,029
Gold Receipts at Mint Fine oz.	286,141	286,771	380,144
Cattle No.	82,868	80,095	90,008
Calves No.	36,781	33,263	38,316
Hogs No.	36,083	66,837	73,423
Sheep No.	94,708	45,096	81,549
Cigars Released No.	16,257,607	16,472,106	19,647,564
Cigarettes Released No.	969,456,161	923,720,371	1,010,450,994
Bank debits \$000	4,654,207	4,485,004	4,073,391

* The index of the physical volume of business according to preliminary calculations showed increase over the preceding month.

Cheques Cashed Against Individual Accounts

The amount of cheques cashed by the chartered banks was \$4,654,206,673 in October compared with \$4,073,390,537 in the same month last year. The increase was 14.3 per cent, reflecting heavy payments on the Fifth Victory Loan, the expansion in productive operations and moderate increases in prices. Debits during the first ten months of this year aggregated \$43,032,809,594 compared with \$36,365,082,629 in the like period of 1942, an increase of 18.3 per cent.

Increases were recorded in each of the five economic areas in October when compared with October last year, the greatest increase being shown in the Prairie Provinces. Debits by areas were as follows in October, figures for October 1942 being in brackets: Maritime Provinces, \$105,678,066 (\$97,460,681); Quebec, \$1,271,301,374 (\$1,144,156,474); Ontario, \$2,093,056,271 (\$1,906,939,630); Prairie Provinces, \$394,284,524 (\$370,321,304); British Columbia, \$289,006,438 (\$253,932,363).

Feed Situation in Canada

Supplies of feed grains in Canada, translated into terms of supply per grain-consuming animal unit, are more than sufficient to maintain the existing live-stock population during the crop year 1943-44. The hay-consuming animals are also well provided with hay and fodder but the position with respect to high-protein supplements is very unsatisfactory and likely to adversely affect the output of certain important products.

Statistics show that the supply of feed grains available in the current crop year, exclusive of wheat, is equal to the supply consumed per animal unit during the crop year 1942-43 which included 2,700,000 tons of wheat. Moreover, this year's total supply of feed grains other than wheat, takes into account the prospect of large exports of oats and barley to the United States and to the extent that these export shipments are not made, the supply will be increased in Canada.

If existing wheat surplus stocks, after allowing for substantial export and relief shipments and normal human food requirements in Canada during the current crop year, could be considered as animal feed, there are almost as many tons of wheat available for live-stock feeding as the combined tonnage of other feed grains which include oats, barley, rye, corn, buckwheat, peas and mixed grains.

The distribution of feed grain supplies is much less satisfactory than the volume. All of the surplus is located in the three Prairie Provinces while there are serious deficiencies in the five eastern provinces. This involves the transportation of large quantities of feed grains from west to east. The Federal Government, through the operation of several schemes including Freight Assistance, has made a substantial contribution to the transfer of feed grains from surplus to deficiency areas.

A "feed bank" is in process of being established in eastern Canada to be held in case of an emergency and to safeguard against transportation difficulties such as were experienced last winter. A bonus scheme to encourage the purchase and shipment of western grain early enough to move it to the point of consumption before wintry conditions prevail is also operative. This went into effect last July, payments commencing at the rate of three cents per bushel on wheat, oats and barley, and decreasing at the rate of one-half cent per month until they get down to one-half cent per bushel in December.

The Federal Government has also revised the drawback payments on western wheat used for live-stock feeding in the five eastern provinces and in British Columbia. This drawback was originally set at eight cents per bushel but has now been increased to 25 cents per bushel in view of the increase in the Canadian Wheat Board's initial price from 90 cents to \$1.25 per bushel for No. 1 Northern wheat. The new drawback payment applies only to No. 4 Manitoba Northern or grades of equal or lower value, whereas the old drawback payment was applicable to all grades of western wheat used for feed outside of the Prairie Provinces.

Farmers in western Canada have delivered substantial amounts of both oats and barley since the new season opened and the transportation interests, both lake and rail, have done a big job in moving the grain to areas of consumption. Lake shipments have been very heavy in recent weeks while rail movement from Fort William and Port Arthur has been appreciable. Moderately good shipments have been made also by rail direct from western Canada to points in the five eastern provinces, by-passing the head of the lakes. These latter shipments are subject to the provision that the dockage is not more than three per cent.

The record of claims paid under the Freight Assistance Policy shows that in the three months August-October this year a total of more than 13,000,000 bushels of wheat, oats and barley and more than 100,000 tons of millfeeds and screenings had been distributed in the six provinces entitled to receive freight assistance on western grain used for live-stock feed. During the entire crop year 1942-43 these provinces received almost 58,000,000 bushels of western wheat, oats and barley under the Policy.

Visible Supply of Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on November 18 totalled 363,786,183 bushels, including 346,169,076 bushels in Canadian positions and 17,617,107 in United States positions. On the corresponding date last year visible stocks totalled 452,901,084 bushels.

Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Farmers in western Canada delivered 9,200,850 bushels of wheat from the farms during the week ending November 18 as compared with 8,790,196 in the previous week. During the elapsed portion of the crop year which commenced August 1, marketings totalled 75,617,745 bushels compared with 108,759,306 in the similar period of the previous crop year.

The following amounts of coarse grains were also delivered from western farms during the week ending November 18, totals for the previous week being in brackets: oats, 1,412,879 (1,559,973) bushels; barley, 1,100,904 (1,169,801); rye, 15,355 (14,696); flaxseed, 116,722 (127,093).

Production of Vegetables in Canada

The value of all vegetables produced in Canada in 1940 was \$28,978,217, according to information secured at the last census of agriculture. Of that amount \$14,579,930 came from vegetable farms, \$9,211,950 from farm gardens and \$5,186,337 from elsewhere than on farms. The area devoted to the growing of vegetables was 116,840 acres in 1940.

The value of vegetables produced by provinces in 1940 was as follows: Prince Edward Island, \$152,276; Nova Scotia, \$1,136,211; New Brunswick, \$854,852; Quebec, \$6,919,161; Ontario, \$10,681,886; Manitoba, \$1,630,845; Saskatchewan, \$2,177,264; Alberta, \$2,612,946; British Columbia, \$2,812,806.

Biscuit, Confectionery, Cocoa and Chocolate Industries in 1942.

An interesting development in the Canadian biscuit, confectionery, cocoa and chocolate industry in 1942 was that the production of soda biscuits increased 26.2 per cent during the year, whereas in the plain and fancy types a decline of 5.6 per cent was recorded. There was a decline of 25.5 per cent in the production of bulk chocolate confectionery, while the production bars increased by an almost identical percentage. Output of sugar confectionery in bulk was 14.2 per cent lower.

The following were the principal products manufactured by the 202 establishments included in the industry in 1942, comparison with 1941 being in brackets: chocolate confectionery in bulk, 24,483,625 (32,660,703) pounds; chocolate confectionery in bars, 40,164,776 (31,925,942) dozen bars; chocolate confectionery in packages, 12,004,115 (12,659,262) pounds; sugar confectionery in bulk, 44,445,712 (51,860,043) pounds; plain and fancy biscuits, 43,881 (51,632) tons; soda biscuits, 22,947 (18,175) tons.

The total value of products was \$76,869,436 in 1942 compared with \$74,514,061 in 1941, an increase of 3.1 per cent. The industry is concentrated mainly in Ontario.

Retail Merchandise Trade of Saskatchewan

The retail merchandise trade of the Province of Saskatchewan aggregated \$191,183,800 in 1941, according to final compilations for the census of merchandising and service establishments conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In 1930, when the last complete survey was made, the value was \$189,181,000.

There were 10,097 retail outlets in the province in 1941 compared with 10,841 in 1930. These stores required the services of 19,271 paid employees who were paid a total in salaries and wages of \$14,580,100. In addition there were 9,644 proprietors who devoted the major portion of their time to the management of these retail businesses.

Sales by kind of business groups were as follows in 1941, corresponding figures for 1930 being in brackets: country general stores, \$32,689,600 (\$36,298,300); General merchandise group, \$22,649,000 (\$21,514,100); automotive group, \$37,138,300 (\$27,048,700);

apparel group, \$10,999,800 (\$10,231,900); building materials group, \$16,836,700 (\$22,612,200); furniture, \$2,877,200 (\$4,087,300); restaurant group, \$6,847,300 (\$5,551,900); other retail group, \$34,030,500 (\$35,507,600).

Department Store Sales in October

Dollar sales of department stores averaged 10 per cent higher in October than in the preceding month but were four per cent below the level of trading in October, 1942. Sales for the first ten months of 1943 were on a par with the volume of business transacted in the corresponding period a year ago. Unadjusted indexes of sales, on the base 1935-1939=100, were 175.6 in October, 159.1 in September and 181.9 in October, 1942.

Building Permits in October

The total value of building permits issued by municipalities reporting to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in October was \$6,605,794 as compared with \$7,709,916 in the previous month and \$8,432,851 in the corresponding month last year. During the ten months ended October the value of permits issued was \$66,980,812 compared with \$69,654,219 in the similar period of 1942.

Production of Iron and Steel in October

The Canadian production of pig iron in October amounted to 146,794 net tons as compared with 175,424 in the corresponding month last year. During the ten months ended October production aggregated 1,478,760 net tons as compared with 1,640,055 in the like period last year.

Production of steel ingots and steel castings in October totalled 271,976 net tons compared with 271,127 in the same month a year ago. The total output during the ten months ended October was 2,509,712 net tons compared with 2,580,715 in the similar period of 1942.

Output of ferro-alloys in October amounted to 16,843 net tons compared with 18,266 tons a year ago, the ten-month total this year standing at 185,480 tons compared with 177,336 tons last year.

Annual Report on Hospitals

Effective planning for mobilization of the Dominion's resources against sickness, disease and epidemics and of planning health services in the post-war period requires careful analysis of existing hospital facilities and in this respect the Annual Report on Hospitals for 1941 affords valuable data in tabular form that should prove useful to organizations and individuals concerned with immediate and long-range planning of hospital and auxiliary services throughout Canada.

The Annual Report on Hospitals for 1941 deals exclusively with general public hospitals, private hospitals and Dominion hospitals under the jurisdiction of the Department of Pensions and National Health and the Department of Mines and Resources. Due to the rapid changes occurring in hospitals under the control of the Department of National Defence, data on these are not included. Neither are mental hospitals nor tuberculosis sanatoria statistics included as these are printed in separate annual reports.

The following classes of hospitals are included: General Public, 496; Women's, 10; Children's, 11; Contagious Diseases, 14; Convalescent, 10; Red Cross, 42; Incurable, 20; Private hospitals, 322 and Dominion hospitals referred to above, 27, a total of 952.

As by far the most considerable portion of hospitalization for general and acute diseases of all classes of the population is provided in general public hospitals, it is to this large group that the following data refer.

The total bed capacity of all public hospitals was 56,318 beds, an increase of 1.5 per cent over 1940; salaried doctors numbered 577, a decrease of 6.5 per cent from the previous year; graduate nurses totalled 7,835, an increase of 4.7 per cent over 1940; all other nurses 10,715, an increase of 3.5 per cent, while total personnel was 40,868, an increase of five per cent over the number in 1940.

The percentage of bed occupancy rose from 68.2 in 1940 to 69.4 in 1941. Admissions during the year totalled 1,019,869, an increase of 68,499 over admissions in 1940, while the total days' care amounted to 11,505,365, an increase of 520,663 days over 1940.

The number discharged from public hospitals during the year was 984,197, or 93.5 per cent of the total under care. Births in public hospitals during the year totalled 126,365, of which number 122,379 were live births. Total births in public hospitals in 1940 were 112,493, of which number 108,952 were live births.

Nine out of every one hundred of the general population of Canada entered public hospitals in 1941.

Bathing Facilities in Canadian Dwellings

One half of Canadian dwellings were equipped with a bath or shower in 1941, according to the last Dominion housing census. Of this number four per cent were dwellings where two or more families shared these facilities. The proportion of homes with bath or shower was comparatively high in the larger urban communities. Seven per cent of farm homes had a bath or shower, while in cities of 30,000 population and over, the corresponding percentage was 89.

Provincial percentages of dwellings with bathing facilities were highest where urban development was greatest. Percentages of dwellings having a bath or shower were as follows: Saskatchewan 16, Prince Edward Island 21, Alberta 28, New Brunswick 31, Nova Scotia 35, Manitoba 38, Quebec 53, Ontario 61, British Columbia 69.

In the cities of 30,000 population and over, the proportions of dwellings with a bath or shower varied widely from 100 per cent down to 46 per cent. There are 27 of these cities in Canada, and in nine of them at least 20 per cent of dwellings had no bath or shower. The shared use of bathing facilities by two or more families in one dwelling was unusually high in the cities of the Prairie Provinces, and more than 13 per cent of dwellings contained a bath or shower used on this basis. The shared use of bathing facilities also appeared to be related to the prevailing size and type of dwellings. It was high, for example, in Toronto, where there is an unusually large proportion of large houses originally built for single family occupancy; it was especially low in Montreal, which is predominantly a city of moderate sized single family flats and apartments.

In some rural areas and smaller urban centres, a small proportion of dwellings had bathtubs but no running water. Saskatchewan farms showed the greatest disparity in this regard with four per cent reporting bathtubs and only one per cent with running water. Apart from the Prairie Provinces farm areas however, the proportion of farm households reporting running water was always considerably larger than the proportion reporting bathtubs. It may be safely assumed that bathtubs and showers in other areas were practically all in dwellings with running water.

Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales in October

New and used motor vehicles financed in October totalled 3,129 units with a financed value of \$1,234,543, being 24 per cent lower in number and five per cent lower in dollar volume than the 4,118 vehicles financed for \$1,362,501 in October, 1942. There were 158 new vehicles financed for a total of \$187,146.

In the used vehicle field, declines were 26 per cent in number and 14 per cent in amount of financing, the 2,971 vehicles financed for \$1,097,397 comparing with 3,999 transactions involving \$1,272,488 in the corresponding month last year. Percentage decreases in the number of used vehicles financed in various regions of the country were as follows: Maritime Provinces 57, Quebec 17, Ontario 23, Manitoba and Saskatchewan combined 22, Alberta 36 and British Columbia 26.

Cumulative totals for the first ten months of this year show that 783 new motor vehicles were financed as compared with 7,262 in the similar period of 1942. Used vehicles financed in the period from January to October numbered 33,602 units this year as compared with 53,028 units a year ago.

Shipping in 1942

Ships which arrived at Canadian ports in 1942 totalled 97,432, with a registered

net tonnage of 69,631,527. The number of vessels in the coasting service was 73,366 and in the foreign service 24,066. The arrivals by provinces of vessels in the coasting service were as follows with the tonnage in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 139 (17,065); Nova Scotia, 6,915 (3,123,183); New Brunswick, 2,979 (1,820,384); Quebec, 9,596 (6,159,356); Ontario, 10,180 (13,745,766); British Columbia, 43,380 (19,042,627); Yukon and Northwest Territories, 177 (82,383).

The arrivals of vessels in the foreign service were: Prince Edward Island, 29 (1,954); Nova Scotia, 4,305 (3,294,824); New Brunswick, 3,553 (988,346); Quebec, 2,059 (2,429,076); Ontario, 8,168 (14,657,705); British Columbia, 5,948 (4,266,262); Yukon and Northwest Territories, 4 (2,596).

The number of vessels which departed from Canadian ports in 1942 was 97,794 with a registered net tonnage of 69,951,033. The number of vessels in the coasting service was 72,673, and in the foreign service 25,121.

Departures by provinces of vessels in the coasting service were: Prince Edward Island, 132 (13,183); Nova Scotia, 6,878 (3,107,640); New Brunswick, 2,784 (1,273,223); Quebec, 9,664 (6,000,897); Ontario, 9,885 (13,280,091); British Columbia, 43,153 (18,362,166); Yukon and Northwest Territories, 177 (31,501).

Departures in the foreign service were: Prince Edward Island, 43 (6,402); Nova Scotia, 4,450 (3,279,976); New Brunswick, 3,768 (1,523,550); Quebec, 2,048 (2,666,555); Ontario, 8,532 (15,164,062); British Columbia, 6,267 (5,167,505); Yukon and Northwest Territories, 8 (4,232).

Railway Operated Mileage in 1942

Canada's single-track steam railway operated mileage was reduced in 1942 by 102.82 miles. Amongst the causes was the abandonment by the Canadian Pacific Railway of Ladreau to Gerrard portion of the Kootenay and Arrowhead Railway in British Columbia, a reduction of 33.4 miles. The Kootenay and Arrowhead was leased in 1913 to the Canadian Pacific for 999 years. "Reclassified as non-operated mileage" by the Canadian Pacific Railway are Bulwark to Berkinshaw 17.2 miles and Biette to Youngstown Junction 39.5 miles, both of which are in Alberta.

Another interesting point was the Canadian Pacific Railway report of "non-operated mileage" of 4.2 miles from Rocky Mountain House to Ullin. This is part of the Alberta Central Railway system, leased in 1913 to the Canadian Pacific for 999 years. The net reduction in Canadian National Railway was about half a mile.

Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings for the week ending November 13 increased to 73,078 cars from 71,882 for the previous week and 68,952 for the corresponding week last year. In the eastern division total loadings increased from 44,322 cars in 1942 to 45,462 cars and in the western division from 24,630 to 27,616 cars.

Coal was 361 cars heavier than in the previous week, the increase being all in the western division, but that division was 863 cars below last year's loading. Grain was heavier than in 1942 by 3,550 cars, live stock by 808 cars, coke by 19 cars, pulp and paper by 193 cars, other forest products by 110 cars, ore by 183 cars and miscellaneous by 257 cars.

Loadings of Revenue Freight

Revenue freight loaded at Canadian stations and received from foreign connections during August amounted to 13,873,204 tons as against 13,189,722 tons in July and 11,853,425 tons in August, 1942. Loadings during the seven months ended July aggregated 99,323,646 tons, an increase of 12,972,205 tons over loadings in the corresponding period of 1942.

Production of Concentrated Milk in October

Production of all items of concentrated milk in October amounted to 20,053,643 pounds, a decrease of 5,481,629 pounds or 21 per cent from the previous month, and a decline from October last year of 2,495,138 pounds or 11 per cent. Total production during the ten months ended October was 236,443,974 pounds compared with 235,771,020

in the similar period of last year.

Production of Asphalt Roofing

The production of asphalt roofing in October included 275,405 squares of shingles, siding and roofing and 3,464 tons of felts and sheathing. In the corresponding month last year production included 304,709 squares of the former and 4,068 tons of the latter.

Stocks of United States Grain in Canada

Stocks of United States grain in Canada on November 18 were considerably lower than on the corresponding date last year, the total being 374,224 bushels as compared with 3,593,207 bushels. The decrease was practically all in corn, stocks of which amounted to 84,614 bushels compared with 3,483,887.

Stocks of Corn in Store

Stocks of Canadian corn in store on November 18 totalled 193,715 bushels, including 105,648 bushels in elevators in Eastern Canada and 87,551 in western elevators.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Car loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
2. Changes in Single Track Mileage of Steam Railways, 1942 (10 cents).
3. Monthly Traffic Report of Railways, August (10 cents).
4. Area, Production and Value of Vegetables, 1940 and Area, 1941 (10 cents).
5. Cheques Cashed Against Individual Accounts, October (10 cents).
6. Canadian Coarse Grains, Quarterly Review (25 cents).
7. The Grain Situation in Argentina (10 cents).
8. Building Permits, October (10 cents).
9. Production of Iron and Steel, October (10 cents).
10. Hospitals in Canada, 1941 (25 cents).
11. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
12. Production of Concentrated Milk, October (10 cents).
13. Department Store Sales, October (10 cents).
14. Retail Merchandise Trade in Saskatchewan, 1941 (25 cents).
15. Sales of Asphalt Roofing, October (10 cents).
16. Production of Asphalt Roofing, October (10 cents).
17. The Biscuit, Confectionery, Cocoa and Chocolate Industries, 1942 (25 cents).
18. Shipping Report, Year Ended December 31, 1942 (25 cents).
19. Bathing Facilities in Canadian Dwellings, 1941 (10 cents).
20. Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales, October (10 cents).

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