

## Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

Vol. XI - No. 6

Ottawa, Saturday, February 6, 1943

Price 10¢ per copy

DOMINION BUREAU  
OF STATISTICS

JUN 15 1943

LIBRARY.

Productive Operations Reach New High Point

Productive operations in Canada were greater in 1942 than in any preceding year. The index of the physical volume of business showed a marked increase in the last month of 1942. The standing in December was 221.2 against 207.8 in November, a gain of about 6.5 p.c. The standing in December, 1941, was 193.9, an increase of about 14 p.c.

Each of the main components, except construction, recorded advances over the preceding month. The index of mineral production, based on fifteen items rose from 192 to 209.6. Coal production recorded an increase of 15 p.c. after seasonal adjustment. The index measuring the fluctuation in manufacturing production was 276.2 in December against 263.4 in the preceding month. Each of the eight groups in the component material classification recorded gains over November.

New business obtained by the construction industry was at a lower level than in November. Further expansion was shown in the output of electric power, the index advancing from 137.3 to 140.1. The index of distribution, a composite of all railway transportation, retail and wholesale sales and external trade rose from 142.7 to 160.6.

Economic Activity in December compared with the preceding month

	1942	
	December	November
Physical Volume of Business, 1935-1939=100 .....	221.2	207.8
Industrial Production .....	250.8	239.3
Mineral Production .....	209.6	192.0
Gold Production * .....	105.3	106.2
Coal Production .....	112.9	98.0
Manufacturing .....	276.2	263.4
Flour Production * .....	117.8	113.8
Rolled Oats Production * .....	68.5	59.5
Inspected slaughterings .....	169.1	161.9
Cattle .....	130.7	124.8
Sheep .....	111.9	120.8
Hogs .....	201.8	192.9
Creamery Butter .....	139.7	124.9
Factory Cheese .....	283.9	203.1
Tobacco .....	207.7	199.9
Cigar Releases .....	209.2	125.6
Cigarette Releases .....	207.8	205.7
Boots and Shoes Production * .....	194.4	144.0
Textiles .....	162.1	161.7
Cotton Consumption .....	151.0	158.0
Forestry .....	124.7	116.7
Newsprint .....	100.5	95.6
Iron and Steel .....	541.9	514.4
Steel Production .....	272.6	283.9
Pig Iron Production .....	255.4	289.7
Coke Production .....	127.7	131.4
Construction .....	101.5	106.3
Contracts Awarded .....	97.0	105.6
Building Permits .....	119.6	109.0
Cost of Construction .....	127.8	127.6
Electric Power .....	140.1	137.3
Distribution .....	160.6	142.7
Tons Carried .....	173.4	137.2
Marketings -		
Grain and Live Stock Marketings .....	141.7	95.4
Grain Marketings - Country Elevators .....	146.4	90.4
Wheat .....	210.8	119.8
Oats .....	267.8	256.2
Barley .....	278.6	201.2
Rye .....	498.1	109.1

(Continued on next page)



Economic Activity in December compared with the preceding month

	1942	
	December	November
Live Stock Marketings .....	121.2	117.0
Cattle .....	126.3	121.8
Calves .....	93.1	104.3
Hogs .....	125.5	106.6
Sheep .....	101.8	140.6
Cold Storage Holdings, 1st of following month .....	125.9	130.4
Eggs .....	176.5	210.5
Butter .....	60.4	63.1
Cheese .....	212.4	220.1
Beef .....	150.0	115.5
Pork .....	161.7	158.7
Mutton .....	64.1	65.5
Poultry .....	99.5	117.3
Lard .....	112.4	120.2
Veal .....	68.3	84.1

\* Preceding month

Gainfully Employed by Industry, Occupation and Status

Preliminary figures, based on a 10 p.c. sample tabulation, indicate that the number of persons in Canada gainfully occupied at the 1941 Census was 4,195,370, of whom 3,330,440 were males and 864,930 were females. Figures quoted throughout do not include persons on Active Service with a gainful occupation previous to enlistment. The gainfully occupied population was distributed by regions as follows: Maritime Provinces, 305,630 males, 73,890 females; Quebec, 887,530 males, 257,460 females; Ontario, 1,129,470 males, 329,830 females; Prairie Provinces, 755,760 males, 145,720 females; British Columbia, 252,050 males, 58,030 females.

Since the 1931 Census the gainfully occupied male population in Canada has increased by 69,069 or by only 2.1 p.c., and the gainfully occupied female population by 199,071 or by 29.9 p.c. The small increase in the gainfully occupied males since the 1931 Census is chiefly due to the considerable number of men on Active Service at the Census date, who were gainfully occupied prior to enlistment, not being included in the 1941 Census figures. If these men on Active Service are included in the gainfully occupied male population in 1941, the percentage increase in the gainfully occupied males over the decennial period 1931-41 becomes 9.8 p.c., or slightly less than the growth in the total male population over this decade. The tendency for men in the older age groups to drop out of the ranks of the gainfully occupied at an earlier age than in the past largely accounts for the slowing down in the rate of increase of males in gainful occupations.

Out of a total of 3,330,440 gainfully occupied males at the Census date 2,088,200 or 62.7 p.c. were wage and salaried workers, 237,040 or 7.1 p.c. were employers, 733,190 or 22.0 p.c. were employed on own account, and 272,010 or 8.2 p.c. were unpaid family workers, mostly on farms and in other family enterprises. The corresponding figures for gainfully occupied females were: 719,910 or 83.2 p.c. wage and salaried workers, 8,900 or 1.0 p.c. employers, 61,440 or 7.1 p.c. on own account, and 74,680 or 8.6 p.c. unpaid family workers.

The number and percentage of the total gainfully occupied males engaged in agriculture at the 1941 Census was 1,046,950 or 31.4 p.c., in forestry, fishing and trapping 132,180 or 4.0 p.c., in mining 81,210 or 2.4 p.c., in manufacturing 788,880 or 23.7 p.c., in construction 218,810 or 6.6 p.c., in transportation and communication 238,730 or 7.2 p.c., in trade and finance 408,060 or 12.2 p.c., and in service 329,780 or 10.0 p.c. For females 21,390 or 2.5 p.c. were engaged in the primary industries, 181,500 or 21.0 p.c. in manufacturing, 20,560 or 2.4 p.c. in transportation and communication, 139,810 or 16.2 p.c. in trade and finance, and 484,740 or 56.0 p.c. in service, of whom 266,410 or 30.8 p.c. were employed in personal service and 183,550 or 21.2 p.c. in professional service, chiefly in education and health services.

The relative growth in the gainfully occupied by industry groups since the Census of 1931 may be compared, after some adjustment for differences in industrial classification, for Canada. While the total gainfully occupied males increased by 2.1 p.c. over this period, the number engaged in agriculture showed a decrease of 5.2 p.c. Males employed in forestry, fishing and trapping recorded a notable increase of 36.3 p.c. between 1931 and 1941, while the increase in the numbers employed in mining industries was 13.4 p.c. The growth in the number of males employed in manufacturing since the 1931 Census was considerably greater than the increase shown for all gainfully occupied males, being just over 25 p.c., while losses of 11.6 and 6.7 p.c., respectively, occurred



in construction and transportation over this decade. The increase in the number of males in trade and finance was slightly above 10 p.c., while the numbers engaged in the services represented an increase of only 2 p.c. In the latter group employment in the professional and public services expanded by 11.0 p.c. and 7.7 p.c. respectively over the decennial period, while the number in the personal services showed a decline of about 10 p.c.

Females in gainful employment increased by 30 p.c. over the ten year period between 1931 and 1941. Among the more important industry groups employing women the largest increases occurred in the public service group and in manufacturing, the former showing an increase of over 85 p.c. and the latter an increase of 45 p.c. The number employed in trade and finance increased by 27 p.c. over this period, slightly less than the rate of increase shown for gainfully occupied females as a whole. The increase of 26 p.c. in the number of women employed in the personal services was also less than the rate of increase for all females in gainful occupations, although the numbers employed in such personal services as restaurants and hair dressing establishments probably increased at a faster rate than shown for all gainfully occupied women. The number employed in professional service also represented an increase of 26 p.c. between 1931 and 1941. It would appear that the number of women employed in the teaching profession has not shown a normal rate of increase over the ten year period since the 1931 Census.

---

#### January Cost of Living Index

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost of living index number declined from 118.8 on December 1, 1942, to 117.1 on January 2, 1943. This index which has been specified as the basis for calculating cost of living bonus adjustments has increased 16.2 per cent between August 1939 and January, 1943. The January decrease of 1.7 points was due entirely to a drop in the food index from 132.8 in December to 127.3 in January.

The two cent reduction in milk prices was the most important factor in the January decline, but prices were lower also for eggs, butter, tea, coffee and oranges. Beef, potatoes, onions, lard and lemons advanced moderately. The miscellaneous group advanced from 107.2 to 107.5, due mainly to an increase in the hospital rates index. Other groups remained unchanged as follows: rentals 111.3, fuel and light 112.8, clothing 120.3, and homefurnishings and services 117.8.

---

#### January Wholesale Prices

Industrial material prices advanced further in January, reflecting higher prices for oats, steers, hogs and imported bituminous coal. At 95.9 for the week of January 29, the composite index for 30 industrial materials on the base 1926=100 recorded an increase of 0.6 points over the week of December 31, while changes among sub-groups showed foods up 3.1 points at 92.3 and stable commodities 0.3 at 114.7. Manufacturing materials eased 0.1 to 82.6 in the same interval on a fractional decline in resin quotations.

Canadian farm product prices gained 0.7 points to 88.0 between December 31 and January 29, on strength in both field and animal products. Gains for grains, potatoes and onions offset lower hay prices to advance the field products sub-group 1.0 to 70.9; animal products gained 0.3 to 116.7 due to firmness for livestock. This outweighed a seasonal drop in eggs and a minor decline for hides and skins.

---

#### December Indexes of Retail Sales

According to calculations made by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics customers spent six per cent more money in retail stores in Canada in December than in the corresponding month of 1941 and 30 per cent more than in the previous month. The general index of sales, on the base 1935-1939=100 stands at 213.4 for December, 164.8 for November and 201.5 for December, 1941. The six per cent increase over December 1941 was considerably lower than the spread recorded for earlier months of the year, aggregate sales for 1942 averaging 14 per cent above 1941 transactions.

---

#### Country General Store Sales in December

Country general store sales averaged 15 per cent higher in December 1942 than in the like month of 1941, with all regions of the country participating in the upswing in business. During the calendar year 1942 sales averaged 14 per cent greater than in the previous year. The index number of sales on the base 1935-1939=100 stood at 167.2 compared with 139.9 in November and 147.4 in December, 1941.

---

### Indexes of Wholesale Sales in December

Dollar sales of wholesale merchants averaged eight per cent higher in December than in the same month of 1941. This increase of eight per cent is greater than gains recorded in the five immediately preceding months but is materially below increases recorded for the early months of 1942 which averaged as high as 25 per cent in January. Sales for the calendar year 1942 averaged 10 per cent above 1941. The December unadjusted index of sales on the base 1935-1939=100 stands at 148.4 compared with 153.0 for November and 137.4 for December, 1941.

---

### Department Store Sales in December

Department store sales, including mail order departments of these establishments, recorded only a minor gain of one per cent in December over sales in the corresponding month of 1941. Sales during the calendar year 1942 were 12 per cent higher than in 1941. The unadjusted index of sales on the base 1935-1939=100 stands at 241.2 for December, 187.4 for November and at 239.2 for December, 1941.

---

### Visible Supply of Wheat

The visible supply of Canadian wheat on January 28 totalled 463,584,164 bushels compared with 467,163,330 on January 21 and 490,240,905 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks in Canadian positions on the latest date amounted to 447,093,627 bushels, the balance of 16,490,537 bushels being in United States positions.

---

### Farmers' Marketings of Wheat

Deliveries of wheat from farms in western Canada during the week ending January 28 amounted to 740,587 bushels as compared with 3,407,828 in the previous week. During the elapsed portion of the crop year 156,506,453 bushels were delivered from western farms as compared with 159,736,472 in the like period of the previous crop year.

---

### Flour Production in December

Flour production in Canadian mills in December amounted to 2,062,835 barrels compared with 1,577,169 for the same month in 1941. This was an all-time high for December, topping the same month in 1942 when production went over the two million figure. Flour production for the present crop year has shown a steady advance in the five months covered, with 9,444,969 barrels manufactured compared with 8,337,952 for the like period last year. Production for the calendar year 1942 amounted to 20,760,396 barrels compared with 20,471,347 in 1941.

---

### Stocks of Hides and Skins

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers in Canada at the end of 1942 amounted to 490,829 as compared with 592,112 at the close of 1941. Calf and kip skins totalled 786,417 compared with 781,253, goat and kid skins 23,751 compared with 232,130, horse hides 29,387 compared with 38,276, and sheep and lamb skins 88,480 (dozen) compared with 74,916 (dozen).

---

### Estimate of the Tobacco Crop

The second estimate of commercial production of leaf tobacco in Canada in 1942 indicates a crop of 83,192,900 pounds as compared with the 1941 production of 91,160,600 pounds. A preliminary estimate based on marketings to date places the gross farm value of the 1942 crop at \$19,873,100 which is \$1,259,900 or 6.8 per cent higher than the revised value of the 1941 crop.

Most of the decrease in production occurred in the Ontario flue-cured crop where heavy frost destroyed six million pounds. In Quebec approximately one million pounds of flue-cured, cigar and pipe types was lost through frost. The acreage planted in 1942 was 75,200, an increase of 4,600 over that of 1941. The average yield per acre was lower for all types and particularly for flue-cured which occupies the greatest acreage.



### Production of Iron and Steel in December

The Canadian production of pig iron in December amounted to 164,382 net tons as compared with 170,578 in the previous month and 166,182 in the corresponding month of 1941. During the calendar year 1942 production aggregated 1,975,015 net tons as compared with 1,528,053 in 1941. Included in the 1942 outturn were 1,645,847 net tons of basic iron, 159,979 net tons of foundry iron and 169,189 tons of malleable iron.

The December output of steel ingots and castings totalled 269,834 net tons compared with 270,812 in November and 244,844 in December, 1941. Output during the calendar year 1942 amounted to 3,121,361 net tons as compared with 2,701,313 in 1941. The 1942 production included 2,942,921 net tons of steel ingots and 178,440 net tons of steel castings.

Output of ferro-alloys in December amounted to 19,567 net tons compared with 16,733 tons in the previous month and 19,986 in the same month of 1941, while the total for the calendar year 1942 was 213,636 net tons compared with 213,219 in 1941.

---

### Production of Leading Minerals

The output of Canada's leading mineral products during the eleven months ended November 1942 was as follows, figures for the corresponding period of 1941 being in brackets: cement, 8,813,553 (7,987,357) barrels; clay products, \$5,894,924 (\$6,122,773); coal, 17,103,950 (16,411,958) tons; feldspar, 21,265 (18,733) tons; gold, 4,440,327 (4,909,210) fine ounces; gypsum, 547,224 (1,487,590) tons; lime, 819,889 (771,710) tons; natural gas, 38,733,863,000 (34,722,839,000) cubic feet; petroleum, 9,504,291 (9,226,961) barrels; commercial salt, 291,571 (272,674) tons; silver, 18,118,286 (18,620,625) fine ounces.

---

### Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings for the week ended January 23 dropped to 50,168 cars from 61,774 in the previous week and 64,992 in the corresponding week last year. The extremely cold weather was undoubtedly the main factor in these decreases. During the month of December 273,000 cars of revenue freight were loaded as compared with 291,000 in November and 261,000 in December, 1941.

---

### Reports Issued During the Week

1. Railway Revenue Freight Loadings, December (10 cents).
  2. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
  3. Department Store Sales, December (10 cents).
  4. Canada's Leading Mineral Products, November (10 cents).
  5. Production of Iron and Steel, December (10 cents).
  6. Tobacco Crop Report (10 cents).
  7. Monthly Indexes of Country General Stores, December (10 cents).
  8. The Clay & Clay Products Industry, 1941 (25 cents).
  9. Advance Preliminary Statement of Stocks of Canadian Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Principal Cities, February 1 (10 cents).
  10. Monthly Dairy Review of Canada, December (10 cents).
  11. Price Movements, January (10 cents).
  12. Gainfully Occupied by Occupation, Industry and Status, 1941 (10 cents).
  13. Indexes of Wholesale Sales, December (10 cents).
  14. Indexes of Retail Sales, December (10 cents).
  15. Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins, December (10 cents).
  16. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
  17. Canadian Milling Statistics, December (10 cents).
-



1010729779