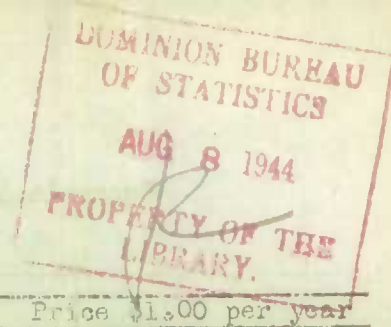


Dominion Bureau of Statistics
Department of Trade and Commerce



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Business Operations in June

Contrasting with the movement of the majority of major economic factors, the index of the physical volume of business receded in June from the relatively high level of the preceding month. The index was 238.8 compared with 241.8, the revised standing for May. Three of the five main components of the business index recorded declines in June, advances having been shown in the new business obtained by the construction industry and in the index of distribution based on trade both internal and external and the railway freight traffic.

The index of manufacturing receded five points to 232.2. The decline in the index of flour-milling was from 177 to 156. The gain in the release of cigarettes was less than normal for the season, the general tobacco index dropping from 155 to 150. The meat-packing industry was less active in June, the decline being greater than seasonal tendencies. The pronounced advances in the production of cheese and butter were less than normal for the season. The textile index dropped from 139 to 134.5, the main influence in depressing the index having been a reduction in the raw cotton used by the industry.

The advance in the index of forestry production was about two points to 121. Increases were recorded in outward shipments of planks and boards, woodpulp and shingles. Minor declines were shown in the output of steel ingots and pig iron after the usual adjustment. The index of activity in the iron and steel group receded from 603 to 590.

Construction contracts awarded were \$37.3 million against \$31.7 million in May. While building permits recorded a decline, the general index for construction rose from 109 to nearly 112. The decline in the index of electric power production was about five points to 160.2. A gain was shown in the freight moved by the railways. Recession was recorded in retail sales for the latest available period, while wholesale sales showed an increase. The index of merchandise imports rose 10.3 points to 170.9, the increase being attributable to seasonal adjustment. Exports were about \$346 million against \$371 million in the preceding month. The value of outward shipments in June of last year was \$251 million, a gain of 37.8 per cent having been indicated.

Economic Activity in June compared with the Preceding Month
1935-1939=100

	1944	
	June	May
Physical Volume of Business	238.8	241.8
Industrial Production	266.8	272.3
Mineral Production	225.5	238.8
Gold Receipts	82.4	78.3
Coal Production	124.0	131.8
Manufacturing	232.2	237.3
Flour Production*	157.6	179.5
Roller-Oats Production*	78.0	70.9
Inspected Slaughterings	198.7	212.8
Cattle	120.6	124.3
Sheep	63.9	129.1
Pigs	265.9	285.5
Factory Butter	116.2	128.5
Factory Cheese	153.8	203.4
Tobacco	149.8	155.3
Cigar Releases	131.6	158.2
Cigarette Releases	151.3	155.0
Boots and Shoes Production*	136.0	128.7
Textiles	134.5	139.0
Cotton Consumption	125.4	142.8
Forestry	121.1	119.3
Newsprint	97.0	98.0
Iron and Steel	590.1	602.8
Pig Iron Production	236.0	241.0
Steel Production	230.2	231.0

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Economic Activity in June compared with the Preceding Month
1935-1939=100

	1944	
	June	May
Construction	111.8	109.2
Contracts Awarded	126.3	121.5
Building Permits	131.2	146.7
Cost of Construction	135.7	135.9
Electric Power	160.2	165.0
Distribution	180.8	178.6
Marketings -		
Grain and Live Stock Marketings	270.4	217.6
Grain Marketings - Country Elevators	307.8	238.8
Wheat	455.4	269.1
Oats	632.3	1099.0
Live Stock Marketings	108.3	125.3
Cattle	109.6	122.7
Calves	83.3	101.3
Hogs	133.3	165.6
Sheep	47.9	58.5
Cold Storage Holdings, 1st of following month	197.3	241.1
Butter	115.5	221.0
Cheese	180.2	205.0
Beef	174.4	193.2
Pork	196.5	206.9
Mutton	385.5	334.0
Poultry	246.9	228.1
Lard	563.7	542.1
Veal	192.7	189.4
* Preceding Month		

Employment Situation at Beginning of June

Industrial employment at the beginning of June showed a general advance, which, however, was decidedly below average for June 1 in the years since 1920. The 14,603 firms co-operating in the June 1 survey reported a combined working force of 1,821,490 men and women as compared with 1,797,873 on May 1, an increase of 23,617 workers or 1.3 per cent. The number of persons taken on was practically the same as the number laid off at May 1, restoring the general index to its April 1 level, which was somewhat lower than in any earlier month since May 1, 1943.

The establishments furnishing returns at the beginning of June disbursed the sum of \$57,950,073 in salaries and wages for services rendered in the week preceding. This aggregate was less by 0.1 per cent than that of \$57,998,385 reported in the eight leading industries at the beginning of May. The decline largely resulted from the loss of working time occasioned by the observance of Victoria Day as a holiday. The per capita average fell from \$32.26 at May 1 to \$31.81 at the beginning of June.

The increase in the number in recorded employment raised the crude index number, on the base 1926=100, from 178.2 at May 1 to 180.5 at the beginning of June as compared with 181.2 at June 1, 1943. Reflecting the smaller-than-average advance, the seasonally-corrected index showed a decline, falling from 185.0 at May 1 to 180.5 at the beginning of June. Since the first of January, there has been a reduction of 2.8 per cent in the unadjusted index.

There was a further, but small contraction in employment in manufacturing as a whole, most of which took place in iron and steel, non-ferrous metals textiles. Mining was also seasonally quieter than at May 1, but the remaining non-manufacturing industries showed heightened activity. The greatest gain, of 17,750 persons, took place in construction; this increase, and those in transportation and services, were below normal for June 1. The additions to the working forces in logging, communications and trade, on the other hand were about average in extent.

The reduction in manufacturing was slight, involving a loss of 0.1 per cent. In the class of durable manufactured goods there was a decline of over 3,000 workers; the non-durable goods industries reported a gain of some 1,900 men and women, while central electric stations increased their personnel by almost 600. Within the light manufacturing group, the most important advances were in animal foods.

Crop Conditions in Canada

Harvesting of grain crops is now underway in many parts of Canada. General conditions for promising crops were well maintained during the past week and some improvement took place in dry sections as the result of timely rains. The outlook in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick was enhanced by excellent rains the past seven days and the drought in Nova Scotia was partially relieved. All grain crops are progressing toward maturity and promise good yields on the whole. Conditions are somewhat mixed in the province of Quebec but the frequent rains on recent days have brought about general improvement, although they have delayed haying operations. The situation in Ontario is still quite promising and the winter wheat harvest is in full swing with big yields reported from a number of areas. Corn and soybean in Essex need more rain and this applies to the soybean crop on Pelee Island. The outlook for white beans is still good and the dry pea crop in Renfrew county is above average.

The cutting of wheat, oats and barley will be fairly general in Manitoba this week, at least in the southern half of the province, but the harvest is still about three weeks away in the northern sections of the province. Some cutting will be done in Saskatchewan this week and the general situation there is good although the dry areas show further deterioration and yields in the extreme west-central and south-western parts of the province will be disappointing. Combining of wheat has commenced east of Lethbridge in southern Alberta and some early coarse grain crops have also been cut in this area but crops are still green in the northern sections except in the Peace River country where dry weather is forcing maturity and reducing crop prospects. Timely rains fell in Alberta the past week and while these were too late for cereal crops in some cases, they will improve the feed situation.

Stocks of Canadian Wheat in Store

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on July 27 totalled 288,997,752 bushels as compared with 401,881,216 on the corresponding date of last year, a decrease of 112,883,464 bushels. Stocks in Canadian positions amounted to 270,636,832 bushels and in United States positions, 18,360,920 bushels.

Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Marketings of wheat from the farms in the three Prairie Provinces during the week ending July 27 amounted to 10,684,007 bushels as compared with 8,763,789 in the previous week. Deliveries during the crop year to July 27 totalled 309,760,592 bushels as compared with 261,871,275 in the corresponding period of the previous crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were delivered from the farms in western Canada during the week ending July 27, totals for the previous week being in brackets: oats, 4,147,468 (2,849,812) bushels; barley, 1,537,459 (1,013,146); rye, 20,730 (22,852); flaxseed, 17,960 (19,425) bushels.

Production of Wheat Flour in June

Wheat flour production in Canada in June amounted to 1,870,349 barrels as compared with 1,855,461 in the corresponding month of last year. Output during the eleven months of the crop year totalled 22,547,313 barrels as compared with 21,604,584 in the similar period of the previous crop year. Wheat used in the production of flour in June amounted to 8,271,401 bushels as compared with 8,255,007 a year ago.

Increased quantities of oats and barley were ground in Canadian mills in June, but a lower trend appeared in corn and mixed grain. Totals were as follows, with those for June of last year in brackets: oats, 1,816,921 (1,250,835) bushels; corn, 132,805 (231,960); barley, 677,115 (467,625); buckwheat, 1,791 (1,909); mixed grain, 1,554,755 (1,811,152).

(SEE OVERLEAF)

Storage Stocks of Butter, Cheese and Eggs

Storage holdings of creamery butter in nine of the principal cities of Canada on August 1 totalled 33,731,558 pounds, according to reports received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was a seasonal increase of 12,013,769 pounds over the July 1 stocks of 21,717,789 pounds. On the corresponding date of last year holdings totalled 39,918,039 pounds. Stocks of cheese amounted to 38,443,223 pounds as compared with 30,635,752 on July 1 and 33,201,611 on August 1, 1943.

Shell eggs in cold and common storage amounted to 7,542,174 dozen. Last month's revised holdings totalled 9,551,526 dozen. A year ago the stocks were 3,266,112 dozen. Frozen egg meats on hand on August 1 were 31,688,730 pounds as compared with 27,161,879 on July 1 and 15,589,068 on the corresponding date of last year.

Second Estimate of Fruit Production and Condition of Vegetable Crops

The second estimate of fruit production in Canada shows an upward trend from last month in all fruits with the exception of strawberries, raspberries and grapes. The apple crop is now estimated at 15,814,000 bushels which is an increase of 1.5 per cent over the June estimate of 15,580,000 bushels and a 23 per cent increase over the 1943 crop of 12,892,200 bushels.

Upward revisions since last month in the estimates of the pear crops in Nova Scotia, Ontario and British Columbia, the three producing provinces, brings the current all-Canada total to 605,300 bushels compared with 517,900 bushels in June. The current estimate, however, is five per cent below the 1943 crop of 636,800 bushels. A slight improvement in the outlook for plums and prunes brings the current crop to an estimated total of 365,700 bushels. The June indications were for a crop of 348,500 bushels. The present estimate is one per cent greater than the 1943 crop of 363,300 bushels.

A substantial increase in the estimate of the peach crop in Ontario brings the Canadian total to 1,712,100 bushels. The somewhat uncertain situation in Ontario at the time of the last report has now been clarified and all indications point to a crop of 1,152,800 bushels in that province. If present indications are maintained throughout the season, the 1944 crop will be the second largest on record, being exceeded only by the very large crop of 1942.

There was a slight improvement in the outlook for the cherry crop since June and the production is now estimated at 214,200 bushels, or two per cent above the June prospects. The present estimate, however, is slightly below the 216,700 bushel crop harvested in 1943. A further upward revision in the estimate for the apricot crop in British Columbia, the only province producing this fruit commercially, now brings the 1944 crop to 122,200 bushels compared with 116,500 bushels a month ago. The latest estimate indicates the crop to be the largest on record.

A reduction in the prospects brings the July estimate for strawberries to 9,516,300 quarts compared with 9,653,300 quarts in June. The crop as estimated at present is 41 per cent smaller than the 1943 harvest of 16,082,400 quarts and 60 per cent below the 10-year, 1933-1942, average of 24,078,100 quarts. A two per cent decrease in the outlook for the raspberry crop brings the anticipated production to 8,242,700 quarts. The June estimate was 8,432,100 quarts, while the 1943 harvest was 9,521,300 quarts.

Grape prospects also declined during the month, due to a somewhat poorer outlook in Ontario. The crop is now expected to amount to 54,913,500 pounds compared with 57,085,000 pounds a month ago. The current estimate is still two per cent larger than the 1943 harvest of 53,924,000 pounds. There is no change in the prospects for the loganberry crop since June when the crop was estimated at 1,278,000 pounds.

Dry weather during the first half of the month considerably affected the quality of vegetables in the eastern part of Canada, particularly the canning crops. Good rains during the last week or 10 days have brightened the prospects, however, and no reduction from the earlier outlook is anticipated.

Production of Copper in May

The production of copper in Canada in May amounted to 48,359,046 pounds as compared with 45,627,239 in the previous month and 50,013,307 in the corresponding month of last year. During the five months ended May, production aggregated 238,972,705 pounds as compared with 250,768,906 in the similar period of last year.

Nickel Production in May

Nickel production in Canada in May was recorded at 24,023,396 pounds as compared with 23,160,550 in the previous month and 24,512,685 in May of last year. Production during the five months ended May totalled 118,400,313 pounds compared with 124,708,247 in the same period of last year, a decrease of 5.1 per cent.

Output of Silver in May

Canada's output of silver in May amounted to 1,029,674 ounces as compared with 1,229,798 in the previous month and 1,462,502 in the corresponding month of last year. During the five months of this year, production totalled 6,105,081 ounces as compared with 8,135,225 in the similar period of last year, a decrease of 25 per cent.

Lead Production in May

Canada produced 20,491,362 pounds of lead in May as compared with 25,270,297 in the previous month and 40,321,245 in the corresponding month of last year. During the five months ended May, production aggregated 132,490,590 pounds as compared with 200,331,351 in the similar period of last year.

Production of Zinc in May

Production of zinc in Canada in May amounted to 45,646,454 pounds compared with 43,359,215 in the preceding month and 53,598,421 in May, 1943. Output during the first five months of this year aggregated 227,300,262 pounds as compared with 258,825,058 in the like period of 1943, a reduction of 12.2 per cent.

Production of Iron and Steel in June

Production of steel ingots and steel castings in June totalled 240,750 tons as compared with 239,501 in the corresponding month of last year. The total for June this year included 228,774 tons of ingots and 11,976 tons of castings. During the first six months of this year production of ingots and castings totalled 1,512,583 tons as compared with 1,499,153 in the similar period of last year.

June production of pig iron amounted to 161,899 tons, including 141,639 tons of basic iron, 11,795 tons of foundry iron and 8,465 tons of malleable iron. In the corresponding month of last year the output totalled 147,889 tons. Production during the first half of this year aggregated 949,523 tons as compared with 867,789 in the comparable period of last year.

Output of ferro-alloys in June amounted to 17,906 tons compared with 15,876 in the previous month and 18,151 in June of last year. During the six months ended June, production totalled 91,242 tons as compared with 111,793 in the like period of last year.

Production of Canada's Leading Minerals

The production of Canada's leading minerals during the five months ended May was as follows, figures for the corresponding period of 1943 being in brackets: asbestos, 170,007 (191,202) tons; cement, 1,783,619 (2,174,353) barrels; clay products, \$2,063,112 (\$2,135,837); coal, 7,152,501 (7,531,355) tons; copper, 238,972,705 (250,768,906) pounds; feldspar, 9,416 (7,676) tons; gold, 1,282,881 (1,646,295) fine ounces; gypsum, 210,704 (132,239) tons; lead, 132,490,590 (200,331,351) pounds; lime, 374,182 (390,797) tons; natural gas, 23,584,804,000 (21,761,044,000) cubic feet; nickel, 118,400,313 (124,708,247) pounds; petroleum, 4,211,330 (4,211,751) barrels; commercial salt, 133,745 (127,139) tons; silver, 6,105,081 (8,135,225) fine ounces; zinc, 227,300,262 (258,825,058) pounds.

Output of Central Electric Stations in June

Central electric stations produced 3,325,525,000 kilowatt hours in June as against 3,362,679,000 in the corresponding month of last year, a reduction of 37,154,000 kilowatt hours. During the first six months of this year, production totalled 20,529,165,000 kilowatt hours compared with 19,674,222,000 in the similar period of last year. The decrease in June was all in primary power which fell from 3,019,462,000 kilowatt hours in June last year to 2,953,019,000, whereas secondary power increased from 343,217,000 to 372,506,000 kilowatt hours.

Consumption of secondary power in Canada increased to 263,938,000 kilowatt hours in June from 239,342,000 a year ago, but, primary power consumption was reduced from 2,899,976,000 to 2,932,960,000 kilowatt hours. This was the first decrease recorded since 1938. Exports of both primary and secondary power to the United States showed increases in June, the total being 228,627,000 kilowatt hours compared with 223,361,000. Although power is exported as secondary it is used in the United States as primary power in lieu of thermal electric energy.

Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries During May

Net sales of securities by Canada to other countries increased in May to \$18,700,000, the highest level of any month since October, 1943. This compares with \$6,600,000 in April and \$10,700,000 in March. Sales of Canadian bonds to the United States were again the principal element in the inflow of capital, net sales of which amounted to \$17,100,000. Net repurchases of \$1,100,000 from the United Kingdom were distributed between stocks and most groups of Canadian bonds. Net sales to other countries amounted to \$100,000.

Sales of securities to all countries in May were valued at \$26,900,000 as compared with \$12,900,000 in the previous month and \$17,600,000 in the corresponding month of last year, while purchases from other countries totalled \$8,200,000 compared with \$6,300,000 in April and \$7,500,000 in May of last year. During the five months ended May, sales amounted to \$93,000,000 as compared with \$113,200,000 in the similar period of last year, purchases amounting to \$43,300,000 as compared with \$42,200,000.

Building Permits in June

The value of building permits issued by municipalities reporting to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics was \$14,274,590 in June as compared with \$17,838,508 in the previous month and \$8,075,997 in the corresponding month of last year. In June this year the valuation included \$11,348,489 for new construction and \$2,926,101 for additions, alterations and repairs. During the six months of this year permits were issued to the value of \$63,105,198 as compared with \$35,275,617 in the similar period of 1943.

Production of Salt in 1943

Production of common salt in Canada during 1943 totalled 687,686 tons valued at \$4,379,378 compared with 653,672 valued at \$3,844,187 in 1942. The quantity and value of the output in 1943 were the greatest ever realized by the Canadian salt industry. The mineral was produced in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta, and of the total output, Ontario accounted for 86.5 per cent. Production represents the recovery of salt from brine wells with the exception of Nova Scotia, where the output comes entirely from the underground mining of rock salt deposits.

Non-Ferrous Smelting and Refining Industry

The net value added by the Canadian non-ferrous smelting and refining industry in the processing of crude or semi-crude material during 1943 totalled \$111,857,020, a decrease of 12.3 per cent from the high record of \$125,881,047 established in 1942. The total cost of both foreign and domestic ores, concentrates, matte, etc., treated in metallurgical plants was estimated at \$317,917,186 as compared with \$258,903,818 in 1942.

Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways during the week ended July 22 increased to 72,552 cars from 70,691 in the previous week and 67,340 in the corresponding week of last year. In the eastern division loadings increased from 43,679 cars in 1943 to 46,025, and in the western division from 23,661 to 26,527.

Grain loadings increased by 1,564 cars in the eastern division and by 3,064 in the western division. Live stock continued heavy in the western division, being up by 329 cars, but coal decreased by 767 cars with an increase of only 56 cars in the eastern division. Sugar increased in both divisions.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
 2. Central Electric Stations, June (10 cents).
 3. Production of Iron and Steel, June (10 cents).
 4. Advance Preliminary Statement of Stocks of Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Nine of the Principal Cities of Canada, August 1 (10 cents).
 5. The Miscellaneous Non-Ferrous Metal Products Industry, 1942 (15 cents).
 6. The Non-Ferrous Smelting and Refining Industry, 1943 (25 cents).
 7. Salt, 1943 (25 cents).
 8. Building Permits, June (10 cents).
 9. Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries, May (10 cents).
 10. Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada (10 cents).
 11. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
 12. Canadian Milling Statistics, June (10 cents).
 13. Canadian Pacific Railway, 1923 - 1943 (25 cents).
 14. Canadian National Railways, 1923 - 1943 (20 cents).
 15. Fruit and Vegetable Crop Report (10 cents).
 16. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, May (10 cents).
 17. Copper and Nickel Production, May (10 cents).
 18. The Employment Situation, June 1 (10 cents).
 20. Deaf-Mutes, 1941 (10 cents).
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