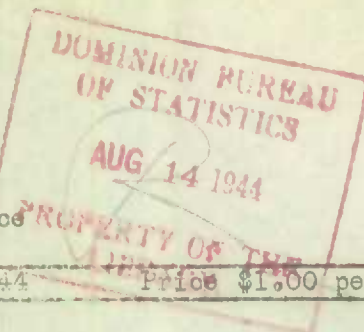


WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Condition of Canada's Field Crops

With the exception of wheat, the principal field crops of Canada at the end of July showed some deterioration from the outlook at June 30. Wheat condition figures for the three Prairie Provinces, based on weather factors, showed marked improvement in Manitoba and Alberta during July, but only slight improvement in Saskatchewan. Feed grains, expressed as a percentage of the long-time average yield per acre, declined in all three provinces from the condition indicated at the end of June.

Spring wheat in Ontario and Prince Edward Island held to the June 30 figure, while in Quebec some improvement took place during the month. Elsewhere there was a moderate recession in the condition of the crop on July 31. Oats and barley lost ground everywhere except in Quebec and Prince Edward Island, while flaxseed deteriorated in Saskatchewan and Alberta, though fairly well maintaining the end of June position in Manitoba and Ontario where the acreage is relatively small.

A substantial crop of winter wheat is estimated for Ontario. The first appraisal of the crop places the outturn at 20,708,000 bushels compared with 13,222,000 bushels harvested in 1943. The acreage remaining for harvest this year is 668,000 acres compared with 601,000 acres in 1943, while yield per acre is placed this year at 31 bushels versus 22 bushels per acre a year ago. During the five years 1936-40, average production of winter wheat in Ontario was 19,070,000 bushels, while in 1942, the year of bumper harvests all over Canada, production totalled 23,391,000 bushels.

Fall rye production in the four provinces growing this crop in 1944 is estimated at 7,276,000 bushels compared with 4,468,000 bushels harvested in 1943. Saskatchewan's share of this year's total is 3,953,000 bushels, while Alberta is next highest producer with 1,512,000 bushels. The Ontario crop is placed at 1,192,000 bushels and in Manitoba the outturn is expected to reach 619,000 bushels. Yield per acre for the whole crop is estimated at 17.5 bushels against 12.7 bushels per acre in 1943.

For all Canada, the condition of field crops at July 31, expressed as percentages of the long-time average yields per acre, was as follows, with the condition at June 30, 1944, and July 31, 1943, within brackets: Spring wheat 128 (113, 111); oats 90 (98, 79); barley 89 (97, 83); spring rye 86 (93, 75); peas 93 (94, 81); beans 93 (97, 79); buckwheat 93 (93, 88); mixed grains 95 (96, 75); flaxseed 81 (91, 71); corn for husking 90 (94, 76); potatoes 96 (98, 90); turnips, etc. 93 (95, 87); hay and clover 88 (89, 101); fodder corn 93 (94, 81); sugar beets 88 (93, 87); pasture 90 (94, 104).

For the Prairie Provinces, the condition of the principal grain crops at the same dates was as follows: Manitoba - wheat 163 (135, 148); oats 96 (97, 93); barley 92 (96, 91); spring rye 91 (92, 84); flaxseed 93 (95, 92). Saskatchewan - wheat 126 (122, 117); oats 93 (104, 79); barley 93 (103, 82); spring rye 89 (98, 74); flaxseed 80 (94, 68). Alberta - wheat 127 (86, 88); oats 80 (90, 76); barley 80 (90, 78); spring rye 75 (78, 70); flaxseed 72 (80, 72).

The condition figure for wheat in the Prairie Provinces is based on an analysis of weather conditions expressed in percentage terms of the long-time average yield per acre, which for Manitoba is 16 bushels, for Saskatchewan 15 bushels, and for Alberta 18 bushels per acre. Condition figures for wheat in the other provinces and for all other crops, as reported by crop correspondents, are based on 100 being equal to the long-time average yield per acre. In the all-Canada figure for wheat, the Prairie Provinces condition figure based on weather data is combined with the other condition figures.

Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on August 3 totalled 297,931,963 bushels as compared with 288,997,752 a week earlier and 399,081,486 on the corresponding date of last year. Stocks on the latest date included 279,746,212 bushels in Canadian positions and 18,185,751 bushels in United States positions.

### Food Holdings on August 1

Stocks of meat held by packers, storages and wholesale butchers on August 1 totalled 89,850,005 pounds as compared with 105,840,184 on July 1 and 66,266,316 on the corresponding date of last year. Stocks of Canadian pork amounted to 60,883,332 pounds, beef 20,195,863, veal 6,363,819, and mutton and lamb 2,112,247. Lard holdings were 16,743,924 pounds as compared with 20,065,545 last month and only 3,837,384 a year ago.

Stocks of frozen fish on August 1 totalled 34,709,175 pounds as compared with 28,590,928 on July 1 and 32,048,436 on August 1 of last year. Cod holdings were 7,551,937 pounds, haddock 867,173, frozen smoked fillets 1,232,047, salmon 2,224,050, sea herring 7,689,480, and other kinds 15,078,530 pounds.

Stocks of apples and pears were negligible on August 1, as were holdings of fresh vegetables. Holdings of frozen fruit and fruit in preservatives amounted to 27,544,106 pounds as compared with 21,867,134 pounds a month ago. Vegetables in preservatives or frozen totalled 2,104,314 pounds, the total last month having been 744,122 pounds.

As is necessary during the summer months in order to accumulate stocks for winter use, creamery butter holdings on August 1 increased by 16.3 million pounds over July 1 to a total of 52,828,936 pounds. In addition there were 1,059,800 pounds in transit in the hands of the railway companies. Thus total stocks of creamery butter on August 1 amounted to 53,888,736 pounds as compared with the five-year 1939-43 average of 51,038,000 pounds, the total of last month of 37,902,728, and the holdings on August 1 last year of 33,933,804 pounds.

Cheese stocks increased to 60,300,406 pounds from 53,074,687 last month and 51,709,552 on August 1 last year. Total shell eggs were 18,764,635 dozen, a decrease from July 1 when the holdings were 21,436,745 dozen, but a large increase over last year's total of 4,654,495 dozen. Frozen eggs totalled 42,630,289 pounds as compared with 36,820,089 on July 1 this year and 18,214,392 pounds on August 1, 1943.

There was a small reduction in holdings of dressed poultry, the stocks of which on August 1 were 9,945,188 pounds compared with 10,235,906 on July 1 and only 1,867,832 on August 1, 1943.

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### Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins in June

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers in Canada at the end of June amounted to 447,620 as compared with 455,737 on the corresponding date of last year. Calf and kip skins totalled 497,397 compared with 641,019, goat and kid skins 127,666 compared with 1,932 and horse hides 24,828 compared with 48,085. There were also 85,220 dozen sheep and lamb skins on hand compared with 76,554 dozen a year ago.

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### July Cost of Living Index

The cost of living index number, on the base 1935-1939=100, stood at 119.0 on July 3, being unchanged from the previous month. In July last year the standing was 118.8. Price increases within the food group were balanced by declines in the fuel and lighting, and the homefurnishings and services groups. Substantial advances in quotations for potatoes, lamb and the higher quality cuts of beef, and lesser ones for carrots and eggs were mainly responsible for a rise in the food index from 131.1 in June to 132.0 in July. Poorer quality cuts of beef and prices of cabbage averaged lower.

The fuel and lighting index dropped from 112.5 in June to 108.9, following general reductions in domestic electricity rates within the Province of Quebec and scattered decreases in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Ontario. Minor declines for cleaning supplies reduced the homefurnishings and services index from 118.4 to 118.3. Other group indexes remained unchanged, rentals at 111.9, clothing at 121.5, and miscellaneous items at 109.0.

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### Wholesale Prices in July

The general index number of Canadian farm product wholesale prices, on the base 1926=100, declined from 102.1 to 101.5 between the weeks ending June 30 and July 28. Declines for cattle, lambs, poultry and onions were mainly responsible for the reduction. The field products group remained unchanged at 91.1, with declines in the last three weeks

balancing gains recorded in the first week. The animal products index, however, fell from 120.4 to 119.0.

After moving above the 1926 average level in June for the first time since 1926, the industrial material index held unchanged throughout the weeks of July at 100.1. This was 0.3 points below the final weekly June index. Comparative June 30 and July 28 group indexes were as follows: stable price materials, 120.0 and 119.9, food materials 100.9 and 100.4, and sensitive price manufacturing materials 84.9 and 84.7.

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#### Indexes of Country General Store Sales

The dollar volume of business transacted by country general stores in June was nine per cent higher than in the corresponding month of last year, the index number of sales, on the base 1935-1939=100, standing at 164.7 as compared with 151.9. Increased sales were recorded in all provinces. During the six months ended June, sales averaged almost 10 per cent heavier than in the similar period of last year.

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#### Retail Sales in Canada in June

Retail sales in June were maintained at the May level but were 11 per cent higher than in the corresponding month of last year. The general index number on the base 1935-1939=100, stood at 176.4 in June compared with 176.7 in May and 158.8 in June, 1943. Sales during the first half of 1944 averaged 7.5 per cent greater than in the comparable period of last year.

All lines of business included in the monthly survey reported increased sales over June of last year. Improvement in available supplies of durable merchandise was reflected in the results for hardware stores and furniture stores, sales averaging 16 per cent and 15 per cent, respectively, above June, 1943.

A marked gain of 26 per cent was recorded by a small group of candy store chains, while increases for the other kinds of business groups ranged from four per cent for radio and electrical shops to 14 per cent for grocery and meat stores.

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#### Wholesale Sales in June

Wholesale sales in June were nine per cent higher than in the corresponding month of last year, according to reports received from approximately 415 of the larger wholesale houses in Canada. The general unadjusted index of sales on the base, 1935-1939=100, stands at 190.3 for June this year, 195.2 for May, and 175.4 for June, 1943. Sales during the first half of this year averaged 11 per cent over the corresponding period of last year.

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#### Production of Butter and Cheese in July

The production of creamery butter in Canada in July amounted to 41,464,961 pounds as compared with 44,523,802 in the corresponding month of last year, a reduction of almost seven per cent. Output during the seven months ended July aggregated 176,658,286 pounds compared with 186,919,249 in the similar period of last year, a decrease of 5.5 per cent.

July production of cheddar cheese totalled 28,056,902 pounds as compared with 26,958,902 in July of last year, an increase of 4.1 per cent. All provinces with the exception of Ontario recorded increases in this comparison. During the seven months ended July, output amounted to 94,562,668 pounds as compared with 80,999,438 in the like period of 1943, an increase of 16.7 per cent.

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#### Production of Nickel in June

Nickel production in Canada in June was recorded at 20,373,599 pounds as compared with 24,023,396 in the previous month and 25,734,494 in June of last year. Output during the first six months of this year totalled 138,773,912 pounds as compared with 150,442,741 in the like period of 1943, a reduction of 7.8 per cent.

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### Copper Production in June

The Canadian production of copper in June amounted to 47,747,056 pounds as compared with 48,359,046 in the previous month and 46,647,568 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first six months of 1944, production aggregated 286,719,761 pounds as compared with 297,416,474 in the similar period of 1943.

### Miscellaneous Chemical Products Industry

Due almost entirely to the expansion in the manufacture of explosives, ammunition and military pyrotechnics, the gross value of products manufactured by establishments included in the Miscellaneous Chemical Products Industry rose to \$251,666,000 in 1942 from \$100,422,000 in 1941. Other products manufactured in 1942 included the following: insecticides, disinfectants, plastics, boiler compounds, sweeping compounds, matches, cellophane and sulphated oils. The capital employed in the industry was increased to \$250,336,000 in 1942 from \$162,561,000 in 1941.

### Printing Trades in Canada in 1942

Total production in the printing trades in Canada during 1942 reached a value of \$146,129,000, an increase of more than four million dollars over the 1941 valuation of \$141,698,000. The value of finished printed matter and other products amounted to \$136,248,000 in 1942 as compared with \$131,172,000, and of trade work done \$9,881,000 as compared with \$10,526,000.

Periodicals were printed by the publishers in 1942 to the value of \$58,126,264, of which daily newspapers alone accounted for \$42,177,211. Printed and bound books were valued at \$7,696,797, other printed advertising \$14,147,084, bound blank books \$3,732,450, miscellaneous printed goods and printed stationery \$48,120,697, and other products \$4,--

The raw materials used by the printing trades in 1942 cost \$43,538,000 as compared with \$42,676,000 in 1941, representing about one-third of the total value of the finished products in both years. The value of book, bond and writing paper used was \$12,461,537, and of newsprint paper \$11,031,564.

With 989 plants, Ontario accounted for 56.1 per cent of the total value of production in 1942. The 547 establishments in Quebec produced 23.4 per cent of the total. In British Columbia and the Yukon 219 plants produced 6.2 per cent, followed by Manitoba's 178 establishments with 5.8 per cent and Alberta's 150 plants with 2.9 per cent. There were 163 plants in Saskatchewan, 72 in Nova Scotia, 49 in New Brunswick and eight in Prince Edward Island.

### Railway Revenues in May

Canadian railways earned \$66,598,556 in May as compared with \$64,366,068 in the corresponding month of last year, an increase of 3.5 per cent. Operating expenses rose to \$50,862,564 from \$44,656,267 a year ago, while the operating income declined from \$14,445,267 to \$11,204,016. The number of employees increased from 157,584 in 1943 to 162,850, or by 3.3 per cent, for an increase in the pay roll of \$1,381,286 or 7.4 per cent. During the five months ended May, operating revenues increased from \$296,219,557 in 1943 to \$316,007,170, but the operating income declined from \$53,604,952 to \$49,576,565.

### Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways during the week ended July 29 totalled 71,114 cars, an increase of 2,288 cars over last year's loadings of 68,826 cars. In the eastern division 44,412 cars were loaded as compared with 44,523 a year ago, and in the western division 26,702 cars as compared with 24,303. Loadings of grain in the western division increased from 6,002 cars in 1943 to 8,483.

Reports Issued Today

1. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
  2. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, May (10 cents).
  3. Current Trends in Food Distribution, June (10 cents).
  4. Indexes of Wholesale Sales, June (10 cents).
  5. Indexes of Retail Sales, June (10 cents).
  6. Indexes of Country General Stores Sales, June (10 cents).
  7. Price Movements, July (10 cents).
  8. Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins, June (10 cents).
  9. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
  10. Sales of Asphalt Roofing, June (10 cents).
  11. Production of Asphalt Roofing, June (10 cents).
  12. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, August 1 (10 cents).
  13. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, August 1 (10 cents).
  14. Cold Storage Holdings of Meat and Lard, August 1 (10 cents).
  15. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, August 1 (10 cents).
  16. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
  17. Monthly Dairy Review, July (10 cents).
  18. The Miscellaneous Chemical Products Industry, 1942 (15 cents).
  19. Copper and Nickel Production, June (10 cents).
  20. The Printing Trades in Canada, 1942 (35 cents).
  21. First Estimate of Production of Fall Wheat, Fall Rye and Alfalfa.  
    Condition of Field Crops at July 31 (10 cents).
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