

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce



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Increase in Business Activity in August Over Preceding Month

The volume of production showed a slight increase in August over the preceding month. The index of the physical volume of business after showing a downward trend during the first seven months of the year rose about one point in the month under review, the standing being 233.1 against 232.2 in July. The level was appreciably below that of the same month of last year when the index was 241.0.

The factors indicating the trend of mineral production showed a recession in August from the preceding month. Coal production was 1,377 thousand tons against 1,171 thousand. Gold receipts at the Mint rose from 215,093 fine ounces to 231,918 while shipments of silver showed considerable recession.

Manufacturing production recorded an increase over July but failed to counter-balance the recession of the preceding month. The index was 291.5 against 287.6 in the preceding month. The standing in August last year was 290.8. The flour milling industry was at a somewhat lower position in the latest month for which statistics are available. A marked gain was shown in the release of tobacco, cigarettes made available having been 1,097 million against 882 million. Increase was also shown in the release of cigars which amounted in August to 15.2 million.

The meat packing industry showed a recession in operations during August, the index of slaughtering receding from 187 to 175.8. The output of dairy products on the other hand recorded a minor gain after seasonal adjustment. The index of output in the textile industry was nearly maintained, the use of raw cotton increasing from 11.6 million pounds to 12.9 million. The forestry industry recorded a considerable increase in operations. The output of newsprint rose from 244,406 tons to 262,695 tons. Wood-pulp exports also showed a considerable increase while recessions were shown in the outward movement of planks, boards and shingles.

An increase was shown in the output of steel ingots and castings while the output of pig iron receded to a lower level. The index of operations in the iron and steel industry was 593, a gain of about 10 points over the preceding month. The new business obtained by the construction industry showed decline, the index dropping about 7 points to 91.6. Construction contracts awarded were \$24.2 million against \$32.2 million in July. Electric power production showed a slight gain in August compared with the preceding month but the high levels of May and June were not regained. Retail sales, after the usual adjustment were at a somewhat lower level in the latest available month while gain was shown in the output of sales through wholesale outlets. Imports rose from \$148.5 million to \$157.3 million contrasting with the recession in exports from \$282 million to \$259 million.

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

	1944	
	August	July
Physical Volume of Business .....	233.1	232.2
Industrial Production .....	263.5	262.1
Mineral Production .....	214.5	225.4
Gold Receipts .....	71.2	68.2
Coal Production .....	138.6	123.2
Manufacturing .....	291.5	287.6
Flour Production (x) .....	149.2	168.5
Rolled Oats Production (x) .....	73.9	58.9
Inspected Slaughtering .....	175.8	187.3
Cattle .....	139.7	127.4
Sheep .....	106.4	68.1
Hogs .....	207.1	239.7
Creamery Butter .....	114.2	111.4
Factory Cheese .....	137.4	138.0
Tobacco .....	178.5	131.5
Cigar Releases .....	124.3	108.2
Cigarette Releases .....	182.9	133.4

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Economic Activity in August compared with the Preceding Month - concluded.  
1935-1939=100

	1944	
	August	July
Boots and Shoes Production (x) .....	129.5	142.3
Textiles .....	129.5	130.9
Cotton Consumption .....	121.4	111.5
Forestry .....	121.9	112.8
Newsprint .....	102.1	95.4
Iron and Steel .....	593.2	582.9
Pig Iron Production .....	213.7	250.4
Steel Production .....	227.6	213.1
Construction .....	91.6	92.8
Contracts Awarded .....	81.9	109.7
Building Permits .....	130.4	135.1
Cost of Construction .....	135.6	135.6
Electric Power .....	156.4	154.8
Distribution .....	170.1	170.3
Marketings -		
Grain and Live Stock Marketings .....	101.7	361.7
Grain Marketings - Country Elevators .....	94.8	420.6
Wheat .....	100.2	633.6
Oats .....	458.1	772.0
Live Stock Marketings .....	132.0	106.0
Cattle .....	131.5	107.0
Calves .....	107.6	87.5
Hogs .....	155.4	127.0
Sheep .....	109.9	57.2
Cold Storage Holdings, 1st of following month .....	175.7	187.1
Butter .....	99.7	102.5
Cheese .....	135.0	155.6
Beef .....	176.5	183.3
Pork .....	153.6	188.8
Mutton .....	370.6	371.4
Poultry .....	336.5	282.2
Lard .....	507.1	496.0
Veal .....	197.3	196.1

(x) Preceding Month.

Canada's External Trade in August

Canada's external trade, excluding gold, was valued at \$416,510,000 in August compared with \$430,235,000 in the preceding month and \$444,241,000 in the corresponding month of last year. The aggregate for the first eight months of the current year was \$3,479,990,000 compared with \$3,029,435,000 in the similar period of 1943, an increase of 14.9 per cent.

Domestic merchandise exports in August were of the value of \$257,021,000 compared with \$278,713,000 in July and \$292,861,000 in August of last year. The total for the first eight months of this year advanced to \$2,282,002,000 from last year's corresponding total of \$1,874,269,000, or by 21.8 per cent.

Commodity imports in August were valued at \$157,324,000 compared with \$148,452,000 in the previous month and \$149,135,000 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first eight months of 1944 the value was \$1,170,304,000 compared with \$1,139,702,000 in the comparable period of last year, an increase of 2.7 per cent.

Duties collected on imports in August amounted to \$15,954,000 compared with \$13,278,000 in July and \$16,256,000 in August of last year, the aggregate for the first eight months of this year standing at \$119,890,000 compared with \$110,054,000 in the like period of 1943.



### Canada's Merchandise Imports in August

The value of Canada's merchandise imports in August amounted to \$157,324,000 compared with \$149,135,000 in the corresponding month of last year, an advance of 5.5 per cent. The total for the first eight months of the current year was \$1,170,304,000 compared with \$1,139,702,000 in the similar period of last year, an increase of 2.7 per cent.

The United States was the leading source of supply, August imports from that country amounting to \$138,252,000 compared with \$124,887,000 in August, 1943, and in the first eight months of this year, \$971,217,000 compared with \$933,287,000 in the comparable period of last year. Imports from the United Kingdom in August were valued at \$4,564,000 compared with \$10,893,000 in August 1943, the eight-month figure standing at \$64,889,000 compared with \$90,430,000 a year ago.

August commodity imports from other leading countries were as follows, totals for August 1943 being in brackets: British India, \$1,156,000 (\$655,000); British Guiana, \$961,000 (\$662,000); Jamaica, \$1,413,000 (\$604,000); Newfoundland, \$1,298,000 (\$829,000); Australia, \$915,000 (\$1,409,000); Argentina, \$842,000 (\$1,089,000); Colombia, \$1,631,000 (\$139,000); Venezuela, \$1,349,000 (\$3,000).

The following were amongst the principal commodities imported in August, totals for August 1943 being in brackets: fruits, \$6,403,000 (\$5,109,000); coffee and chicory, \$1,101,000 (\$866,000); raw cotton, \$3,675,000 (\$2,161,000); cotton fabrics, \$3,585,000 (\$2,643,000); rolling mill products, \$4,943,000 (\$6,510,000); engines and boilers, \$13,334,000 (\$4,614,000); farm implements, \$4,685,000 (\$2,247,000); machinery, other than agricultural, \$6,598,000 (\$10,243,000); vehicles, \$7,071,000 (\$7,502,000); electrical apparatus, \$4,377,000 (\$4,316,000); coal, \$10,813,000 (\$10,629,000); petroleum products, \$11,180,000 (\$9,583,000); chemicals, \$6,867,000 (\$6,485,000); glass and glassware, \$1,042,000 (\$920,000).

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### Continuing Committee on Financial Statistics

The Continuing Committee appointed at the 1943 Dominion-Provincial Conference on Provincial Financial Statistics has just concluded its second meeting held in Ottawa on September 25, 26, 27 and 28. The duties of the Committee were to endeavour to standardize definitions and terminology relating to Provincial revenues and expenditures, assets and liabilities and other related matters. The Chairman of the Committee reports considerable progress has been made towards formulating standard classification which will contribute to greater uniformity and comparability in Provincial Financial Statistics.

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### Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on September 21 totalled 303,779,436 bushels, a decrease of 73,592,369 bushels from last year's corresponding total of 377,371,805 bushels. Stocks this year included 278,605,409 bushels in Canadian positions and 25,174,027 in United States positions.

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### Farmers' Marketing of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Farmers in the three Prairie Provinces marketed 13,088,045 bushels of wheat during the week ending September 21 as compared with 15,299,652 in the previous week. During the elapsed portion of the present crop year which commenced August 1, deliveries from the farms totalled 51,962,598 bushels compared with 31,586,191 in the similar period of the previous crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending September 21, totals for the previous week being in brackets: oats, 2,442,649 (2,658,683) bushels; barley, 4,933,567 (5,126,875); rye, 184,555 (286,159); flaxseed, 422,001 (388,261).

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Four-Day Dominion-Provincial  
Conference on Vital Statistics

The Fourth Dominion-Provincial Conference on Vital Statistics, which was called to discuss problems arising out of the collection and tabulation of vital statistics records, was opened on Tuesday, September 26 by S. A. Cudmore, Dominion Statistician, on behalf of The Hon. James A. MacKinnon, Minister of the Department of Trade and Commerce who was unable to be present. Mr. Cudmore was elected Chairman of the conference, while Mr. Donald MacKie, Deputy Registrar General of Alberta was elected Vice-Chairman. A similar conference was held in October of last year.

Following the election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, committees were appointed. Dr. Halbert L. Dunn of Washington, D.C., Chief Statistician for Vital Statistics of the Bureau of the Census, addressed the conference on the "Importance of Balance between Registration Service and Vital Statistics," followed by T.J. Duffield of New York City, President of the American Association of Registration Executive, who spoke on the subject "Vital Records and the Public Health."

The conference dealt with problems in tabulations of births, deaths and marriages by place of residence, including non-resident births, deaths and marriages in Canada, the United States and other countries, as well as place of residence of overseas fatal casualties. The discussion of these problems was led by J. T. Marshall and Miss Ida M. Moffatt of the Vital Statistics Division of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Herbert Marshall, Assistant Dominion Statistician, addressed the conference on "The Collection of Vital Statistics Data in Respect to Racial Origins". Dr. P.E. Moore, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources reported on the progress of Indian registration. The report dealt with the use of special forms for registering vital facts respecting Treaty Indians. It was brought out that in the provinces in which these forms were in use, satisfactory results had been achieved. However, in view of the fact that the scheme has been in operation for a comparatively short period, the conference recommended that an additional trial period be given these forms before final adoption.

The conference discussed reports submitted by the Vital Statistics Section of the Canadian Public Health Association. The proposed Canadian stillbirth code, the revision of the handbook on death registration and certification, current vital statistics data, and the form and content of the annual vital statistics report, were among the subjects dealt with.

With respect to the drafting of a standard form for the collection of divorce statistics, the delegates were provided with a sample form covering the maximum amount of statistical data which would be required on this subject. After some discussion the conference decided the matter should be given further detailed study in consultation with local representatives.

The conference dealt with the report of the special committee on delayed registrations of births. This involved a discussion of the type of form and evidence which should be submitted in connection with this highly important matter. With the submission of the reports of the resolutions and other committees, the general sessions of the conference were concluded.

The following were the official provincial delegates to the conference: Dr. B.C. Keeping, Prince Edward Island; Dr. H. Robertson, Nova Scotia; Dr. C.W. MacMillan, New Brunswick; Dr. Paul Parrot, Quebec; F.V. Johns, Ontario; Miss L. E. Stewart, Manitoba; Dr. F. C. Middleton, Saskatchewan; Donald MacKie, Alberta; J.D.B. Scott, British Columbia; R. A. Gibson, Yukon and Northwest Territories. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics was represented by S. A. Cudmore, Dominion Statistician; Herbert Marshall, Assistant Dominion Statistician; and J. T. Marshall, Chief of the Vital Statistics Division.

Dominion of Canada departmental representatives included the following: R. B. Bryce, Department of Finance; A. D. Watson, Department of Insurance; Eric Stangroom, Department of Labour; Dr. P. E. Moore, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources; C. E. S. Smith, Immigration Branch, Department of Mines and Resources; Dr. J. J. Hoagerty, Department of Pensions and National Health; and Arthur H. Hinds, Senate of Canada.

Other organizations were represented by the following: R. J. Duffield, American Association of Registration Executives; Wing Commander A. H. Sellers, Canadian Medical Association; Dr. M. E. McKinnon, Canadian Public Health Association; Dr. G. J. Wherrett, Canadian Tuberculosis Association; Dr. G. F. Davidson, Canadian Welfare Council; Dr. Ant. B. Valois, Department of Health, City of Montreal; Dr. Gordon Bates, Health League of Canada; and Dr. Halbert L. Dunn, United States Bureau of the Census.



Dr. E. Couture and Dr. F. S. Burke of the Department of Pensions and National Health also attended. Dr. O. A. Lemieux, A. H. LeNeveu, N. Keyfitz, and Dr. Enid Charles of the staff of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics were present, as were A. Packford, Assistant Provincial Registrar of Alberta, and R. B. Wallace, Registrar of Vital Statistics for Ontario.

Members of the administrative staff of the Vital Statistics Division of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics who were present at the conference included: Dr. Mary A. Ross, Miss E. Clarke, Miss R. Blackburn, H. G. Page, Miss I. M. Moffatt, Miss W. O'Brien, and Miss M. A. Charbonneau.

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#### Publication of 1943-44 Edition of Canada Year Book Announced

The 1943-44 edition of the Canada Year Book, published by authorization of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P., Minister of Trade and Commerce, is announced by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. On grounds of war-time economy, the 1943 edition of the Year Book was not published and the present volume has therefore been planned to cover developments over a two-year period, perhaps more important from the standpoint of the changes in our internal economy than any other like period in the Dominion's history. The problem of including all necessary new material and at the same time keeping the volume down to convenient limits has not been an easy one to solve and, whenever possible, space has had to be saved by reference to earlier editions for standard material.

The Canada Year Book is the official statistical annual of the country and contains a thoroughly up-to-date account of the natural resources of the Dominion and their development, the history of the country, its institutions, its demography, the different branches of production, trade, transportation, finance, education, etc. -- in brief a comprehensive study within the limits of a single volume of the social and economic conditions of the Dominion.

The War has now cut deeply into the national economic structure and the statistics of almost every chapter of the present edition of the Year Book reflect the extent to which war production and war-time controls have played their parts in maintaining output and supporting the price structure against growing pressures from all sides. The following are typical of the special war articles included: The War and Canadian Agriculture; The Influence of the War on the Pulp and Paper Industry; the Effects of the War on the Canadian Fisheries; The Influence of the Present War on Manufacturing; Wartime Controls Affecting Distribution and Trade; The Wartime Control of Transportation; and the Activities of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board in Controlling Prices, Rents and Supplies.

Public finance is the backbone of the war effort and the chapter devoted to this highly important subject has been recast to adequately cover the developments taking place. The all-important subject of national income receives new and extended treatment in part I; part II deals with the subject of Dominion, Provincial and Municipal Finance; a new field is covered in part III, where outstanding developments in taxation are discussed. An entirely new section deals with the incidence of succession duties on typical estates.

Attention is called to some of the more important features of the present volume that do not relate specifically to the War. These include the following feature articles: The Canadian Government's Reindeer Experiment; Meteorology Related to the Science of Aviation; Canada's Present Status in the British Commonwealth of Nations; Development of Marshlands in Relation to Fur Production and the Rehabilitation of Fur Bearers. The chapter dealing with population presents as complete a picture of the 1941 Census as will appear in any one edition of the Year Book and includes a very complete analysis of the occupations of the Canadian people.

Recent studies have stimulated the public discussion of questions concerning social welfare and the post-war rehabilitation of personnel from the armed forces to a point where it has been thought desirable to introduce two new chapters. These deal with welfare services and post-war reconstruction and the rehabilitation of ex-service personnel. These chapters bring together the work Canada is already doing in these fields under new chapter headings wherein it is related to the investigations that have been carried on and that point the way to future developments.

The need for war-time economy expresses itself in the smaller number of inserts and charts in this volume as compared with recent editions, and also in the accomplishment in having kept the edition down to within 1,200 pages although it covers a two-year period crowded with events of great significance.



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By a special concession, a limited number of paper-bound copies have been set aside for ministers of religion, bona fide students and school teachers, who may obtain such copies at the nominal price of \$1.00 each. Application with remittance for these special copies must be forwarded to the Dominion Statistician, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The cloth-bound edition of the Canada Year Book is held for sale by the King's Printer, Ottawa, at \$2.00 a copy. Remittance should be made by money order, postal note or accepted cheque payable to the Receiver General of Canada.

#### Applications for Unemployment Insurance Benefit

The number of applications for Unemployment Insurance benefit received by local offices in August was 3,241 compared with 3,226 in June and 3,106 in July. Although the number of applicants each month has not been large, the figures for 1944 continue substantially higher than those for the corresponding months of 1943. During August of last year, 1,370 applications were filed.

A slight increase was recorded in the number of persons who signed the live unemployment register during the last six working days of August when the total was 5,408 compared with 4,488 in July. All persons who report unemployed days in accordance with the provisions of the Act must sign the live unemployment register once a week.

During August, 2,263 claims were considered entitled to benefit, 698 not entitled to benefit. The chief reasons for non-entitlement to benefit were, in order of their importance: voluntarily left employment without just cause, insufficient contributions, refused an offer of work and neglected an opportunity to work.

A total of 4,746 persons received one or more benefit payment during August compared with 4,753 during July and 1,104 during August last year. These beneficiaries were paid a total of \$108,688 for 57,547 unemployed days in August as against \$135,256 for 71,035 days paid the 4,753 persons in July and \$28,393 for 16,467 days paid the 1,104 persons in August, 1943.

The average number of days paid per beneficiary was 12.1 days in August, 14.9 days in July and 14.9 days in August, 1943. The average amount of benefit paid per beneficiary was \$22.90 during August, \$28.46 during July and \$25.72 during August last year. The average amount paid per compensated day of unemployment was \$1.89 in August, \$1.90 in July and \$1.72 last August.

#### Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices

The general index number of Canadian wholesale prices on the base 1926=100 declined 0.2 points during August to 102.3 from the July standing of 102.5. In August of last year it was 100.4. Compared with the preceding month, increases were recorded in wholesale prices for flax, peas, calves, hogs, butter and eggs, while decreases were shown for rye, potatoes, onions, rosin, steers and lambs.

The index for the vegetable products group declined to 94.6 in August from 95.1 in July, while the animal products index rose to 106.0 from 105.9, and that for chemical products to 100.3 from 100.0. Other group indexes remained unchanged as follows: textile products, 91.7; wood products, 118.0; iron products, 117.0; non-ferrous metals, 79.7; and non-metallic minerals 102.3.

The index number for Canadian farm products declined to 101.2 in August from 102.0 in July, or by 0.8 points. The field products index receded to 91.2 from 91.8, and animal products to 117.9 from 119.0.

#### Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways during the week ended September 16 increased to a new high record for the year at 74,864 cars. In the corresponding week of last year the total was 73,411 cars. In the eastern division, loadings increased from 46,529 to 48,427 cars and in the western division the total fell from 26,882 to 26,437 cars, lighter coal shipments being the main cause of the decline.



Total grain shipments increased from 9,693 cars in 1943 to 10,533 cars, both divisions showing increases. Coal decreased from 6,727 to 5,842 cars, logs and other forest products from 2,295 to 1,933 cars and ores and other mine products from 4,199 to 3,701 cars. Hay and straw more than doubled, or from 336 to 717 cars. Fresh fruits and fresh vegetables showed good increases, while sugar rose from 236 to 474 cars. Other groups showed small changes.

#### Canadian Balance of International Payments

Canada's external economic relations are revealed in outline by statements of the Canadian balance of international payments issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The statements present, in a statistical form, a summary of the commercial and financial transactions occurring between Canada and other countries. They furnish, therefore, an overall view of the external relations of the Canadian economy just as national income studies provide an outline of its internal structure. In an economy such as Canada's where external sources of income and demand furnish an important dynamic element to activity within the country, the balance of payments focuses attention upon the impact of external demand upon the Canadian economy, the expenditure of income outside of Canada, and the resulting financial and exchange aspects. During the war transactions on external account have constituted an even larger proportion of the national income than formerly. In 1943, gross credits on current account represented almost one-half of the national income compared with approximately one-third in the period before the war.

In 1943 total credits on current account with all countries of \$4,064 million exceeded total current debits of \$2,858 million by \$1,206 million. This balance compares with credit balances on current account of \$1,101 million in 1942, \$491 million in 1941 and \$126 million in 1939. The moderate increase in the credit balance in 1943 was due to a sharp increase in total debits as well as in credits whereas in the earlier years of the war credits were expanding much more rapidly than debits. The increase in current payments to the Sterling Area which exceeded the gain in credits in the same account, was particularly notable. Credits, debits and balance are, of course, at record levels and reflect the great expansion in the Canadian economy with the export of war production to the many theatres of war throughout the world.

It should be pointed out that the existence of these large credit balances on current account has not turned Canada into a creditor country on international investment account. Canada has, in fact, had credit balances on current account each year since 1933. Large parts of the credit balances in recent years do not give rise to any increases in Canadian assets abroad or decreases in Canadian liabilities abroad because of the nature of the balance of payments with the Sterling Area in recent years. External investments in Canada still exceed Canadian investments abroad by a very large margin.

The dominant characteristic of the balance of payments between Canada and the Sterling Area, a large excess of Canadian exports and other sources of balance of payments credits over imports and other debits, was again pronounced in 1943. But due to the sharp increase in the overseas expenditures of the Dominion government in connection with the Canadian forces overseas the net credits on current account in 1943 were \$1,216 million compared with \$1,269 million in 1942, \$805 million in 1941, \$419 million in 1940 and \$176 million in 1939.

Total credits in the account with Empire countries continued to expand in 1943. The principal change occurred in merchandise exports which again increased considerably, but less rapidly than in 1942. While the gains were distributed among most commodities there was more concentration of the increases in munitions and food than in raw materials or other commodities. It should be noted, however, that these exports did not all give rise to British payments to Canada as the figures include as well as cash purchases the substantial amounts of munitions and food and other commodities which were supplied as Mutual Aid to the United Kingdom and Australia in 1943.

Total debits in the current account with Empire countries increased more sharply in 1943 than in any earlier year being \$850 million compared with \$557 million in 1942 and \$326 million in 1939. The increase was almost entirely due to the expansion in the expenditures overseas on account of the Canadian forces abroad which more than doubled in 1943, being \$499 million compared with \$191 million in 1942.

Developments in the balance of payments with the United States dollar area in 1943 were more diverse. The current account with this area was practically in equilibrium in contrast to the large debit balances in the earlier years of the war. Imports of materials and components necessary for the increased volume of production reached record levels.



There were also large purchases of equipment in the United States for the Canadian armed services. But sales to the United States of Canadian munitions and other commodities were also at higher levels. In part, these represented larger exports of munitions and materials arising from the Hyde Park arrangements, but growing United States demands for grain and other commodities resulting from shortages accompanying the great expansion in war production in the United States, are also reflected in these increased credits.

There were other unusual receipts of United States dollars in 1943 as well. United States government expenditures on defence activities in Canada such as the construction of the Alaska Highway, the Canol project, and the airfields in Northern Canada gave rise to large non-recurring receipts. Then, in addition to these unusual current receipts, there were also extraordinary large imports of capital from the United States from heavy United States purchases of outstanding issues of Canadian bonds. Early in 1943, there was also the special receipt of United States dollars from the United Kingdom in settlement of that part of the British deficit in Canada which was not met by other special means.

It should be noted, however, that although the shortage of United States dollars was alleviated in 1943, Canada's current account with the United States dollar area was only brought relatively close to equilibrium, for the first time since 1937, and the current account with the United States alone still showed a debit balance of \$19 million, since large parts of the receipts of United States dollars were either on capital account or derived from transactions with other countries. This small deficit in 1943 compares with deficits on current account with the United States of \$180 million in 1942 and \$318 million in 1941.

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#### Anticipated Pelt Production of Fur Farms

Preliminary estimates indicate that there were approximately 68,000 standard silver foxes and 21,000 new type foxes on fur farms in Canada at January 1, 1944. It is estimated that approximately 112,000 silver fox pups and 40,000 new type pups were raised this year. The number of standard silver foxes to be pelted in 1944 is estimated at 106,600 and new type foxes to be pelted at 32,500. The total number of adult standard mink on farms at the beginning of the year is estimated at approximately 110,000 with an additional 1,500 new type mink. Standard mink kittens raised in 1944 are estimated at 243,000 and new type kittens at 6,400. The number of standard mink to be pelted in 1944 is estimated at 212,800 and the number of new type mink to be pelted at 930.

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#### Count of Ration Book Number 4 As Indication of Post-Central Migration

A count of the fourth ration book indicates a continuance of the migration within Canada shown by counts of each of the first three books, according to a report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The war has favoured certain provinces with respect to population and to cause others to lose. The largest gain through civilian migration in the three year period since the census of 1941 was shown by British Columbia and the largest loss by Saskatchewan.

The cities of Canada have, in general, gained very greatly and this is most conspicuous in the case of the larger cities. The countries containing Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver seem to have added something of the order of 50,000 persons each through civilian in-movements.

The estimated population of the nine provinces of Canada, based on the count of the fourth ration book was 11,927,000 at April 1, 1944, an increase of 438,000 since June 1941. The population of the province of Ontario recorded an increase by internal migration of 58,000 over 1941 and British Columbia 90,000, while that of Saskatchewan declined 86,000 and Manitoba 25,000; the net change in the numbers of persons actually present involves as well natural increase and enlistments in the armed forces.

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#### Production of Crude Petroleum in July

The Canadian output of crude petroleum and natural gasoline in July totalled 812,083 barrels compared with 824,507 in the preceding month and 847,486 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first seven months of the current year, production aggregated 5,847,920 barrels compared with 5,885,356 in the similar period of 1943.



Alberta's output in July was recorded at 730,184 barrels, including 687,229 barrels from the Turner Valley Field, 1,769 from the Wainwright-Ribstone field, and 41,186 from other fields. Production in New Brunswick in July amounted to 1,855 barrels, in Ontario 11,660, and in the Northwest Territories 68,384 barrels.

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#### Production of Natural Gas in July

Production of natural gas in Canada in July amounted to 2,560,267,000 cubic feet compared with 2,827,485,000 in the preceding month and 2,293,086,000 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first seven months of the present year, production totalled 28,972,556,000 cubic feet compared with 26,567,594,000 in the like period of 1943.

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#### Sales of Gasoline in June

Sales of motor, tractor and aviation grades of gasoline in Canada during June amounted to 94,506,000 gallons compared with 95,994,000 in the preceding month and 88,261,000 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first half of the current year, sales totalled 439,705,000 gallons compared with 386,761,000 in the comparable period of 1943.

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#### Production of Iron and Steel in August

Production of pig iron in Canada in August amounted to 151,452 net tons compared with 164,906 in the corresponding month of last year. The total for the latest month included 123,068 tons of basic iron, 18,034 tons of foundry iron and 10,350 tons of malleable iron. During the first eight months of the current year, production aggregated 1,266,979 tons compared with 1,184,064 in the similar period of 1943.

August production of steel ingots and steel castings totalled 246,755 net tons compared with 246,820 in August, 1943. Output in August this year included 235,556 tons of ingots and 11,199 tons of castings. Production during the first eight months of this year was recorded at 1,993,756 tons compared with 1,996,481 in the same period of last year.

Output of ferro-alloys in August amounted to 18,808 net tons compared with 14,508 in the previous month and with 18,429 in August, 1943, the production for the first eight months of this year totalling 124,558 net tons compared with 151,630 a year ago.

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#### Farm Wage Rates

Although the average rates of wages paid to hired farm workers in Canada show a further increase at August 15, declines in certain provinces are indicated for the first time in some years. The average rate paid for help hired by the day when the employer provided the board of the hired man was \$3.76 at August 15, 1944 compared with \$3.51 at the same date in 1943.

Increases are shown for all provinces except Ontario and Quebec. In these two provinces the rate declined about 75 cents per day from last year. Additional farm labour made available through various schemes such as military leave, prisoners of war, the transfer of western farmers, students and "commando" groups tended to ease the labour situation and the lower rates paid to students resulted in the lower average. Rates in the Prairie Provinces were considerably above those of last year as a result of larger crops being harvested this year. When no board was provided the average rate for day labour was \$4.39 compared with \$4.74 in 1943 with lower rates again indicated for Ontario and Quebec.

When the men were hired by the month the average monthly rate with board was \$67.92 at August 15, 1944 as compared with \$61.26 at the same date in 1943. When the workers provided their own board the average rate for men hired by the month rose from \$84.26 in 1943 to \$87.86 in 1944.

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### Department Store Sales in August

Sales of Canadian department stores in August were 15 per cent higher than in the corresponding month of last year, and gained 19 per cent over the immediately preceding month. Unadjusted index numbers on the base 1935-1939=100 stood at 139.4 for August this year, 116.8 for July and 120.9 for August, 1943. Sales during the first eight months of the current year were nine per cent above sales in the similar period of 1943.

### Building Permits in August

The total value of building permits issued by municipalities reporting to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in August was \$11,131,316 compared with \$13,323,063 in the preceding month and \$7,539,746 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first eight months of the current year, permits were issued to the value of \$87,950,982 compared with \$52,725,667 in the like period of 1943.

### Civil Aviation in June

Civil air carriers transported 36,216 revenue passengers during June compared with 34,778 in May and 28,523 in the corresponding month of last year. The number of passengers per aircraft mile declined from 7.1 in June 1943 to 6.9 and the average journey was reduced from 407 to 324 miles. The amount of freight carried declined from 973,351 pounds in June of last year to 937,324 pounds, and mail from 595,070 to 509,292 pounds.

### Maple Crop in 1944

The 1944 maple crop is estimated at 2,869,600 gallons of maple syrup and 2,207,700 pounds of farm make maple sugar, a total of 3,090,400 gallons expressed as maple syrup. The production this year was larger than in 1943 by 790,600 gallons or 34.3 per cent and exceeds the ten year 1933-42 average production of 2,600,000 gallons by 18.9 per cent. Supplies were inadequate to meet the heavy demand and the bulk of the crop sold rapidly at ceiling prices for all grades. The gross farm value of the crop is estimated at \$9,055,300 or 57.5 per cent over the value of the 1943 crop which had an estimated value of \$5,750,300.

### Reports Issued During the Week

1. Building Permits, August (10 cents).
2. Department Store Sales, August (10 cents).
3. The Compressed Gases Industry, 1943 (15 cents).
4. Canadian Balance of International Payments, 1943 (25 cents).
5. Civil Aviation, June (10 cents).
6. Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales, August (10 cents).
7. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
8. The 1944 Maple Crop (10 cents).
9. Telegraph and Cable Statistics, 1943 (10 cents).
10. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, July; and Petroleum Fuels Sales, June (10 cents).
11. Anticipated Pelt Production of Fur Farms, 1944-1945 (10 cents).
12. Count of Ration Book Number 4 as an Indication of Post-Censal Migration (25 cents).
13. Production of Iron and Steel, August (10 cents).
14. Farm Wages in Canada, August 15, 1944 (10 cents).
15. Summary of Canada's Imports, August (10 cents).
16. Imports by Principal Countries, August (10 cents).
17. Summary of Canada's External Trade, August (10 cents).
18. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
19. Summary of Monthly Indexes of Country General Store Sales, 1943 (25 cents).
20. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
21. Prices and Price Indexes, August (10 cents).
22. Cordage Rope and Twine Industry, 1943 (25 cents).
23. Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, August (10 cents).
24. Railway Revenue Freight Loadings, August (10 cents).
25. The Grain Situation in Argentina (10 cents).





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