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World Wheat Situation

The first official estimate of Canada's 1944 wheat crop is placed at 447.7 million bushels compared with 293.7 million bushels in 1943. This new crop, when combined with an estimated carry-over at July 31, of 355.2 million bushels of old wheat, gives a total available supply of 802.9 million bushels. While this is less than the total available supply in either 1942-43 or 1943-44 it remains sufficient to meet domestic requirements, provide for all prospective export demands and still leave a substantial carry-over as of July 31, 1945.

When the Canadian wheat supply is considered in addition to that of the United States, the North American supply position is seen to be exceptionally favourable. By harvesting a record wheat crop of 1,132 million bushels the United States was able to maintain its wheat stockpile at a level only 11 million bushels below the preceding crop year, despite the fact that its carry-over of old wheat was halved.

Present indications are that the domestic disappearance of wheat in the United States during the present crop year may be less than in 1943-44. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics foresees slightly larger quantities of wheat being used for food, seed and alcohol, but a sharply reduced use of wheat for feed. With a corn crop of 3.1 billion bushels, together with reduced numbers of hogs and poultry on farms, wheat used for feed may drop to 250 million bushels or about half of the quantity used for feed during the past crop year.

A sharp reduction in the quantity of wheat used for feed in the United States will likely curtail purchases made by the Commodity Credit Corporation for this purpose in Canada. Although detailed figures are not as yet available it appears that some 150-160 million bushels of Canada's total exports of about 344 million bushels went to the United States. Although the volume of purchases which will be made by UNRRA and liberated European nations during the coming crop year is not known, Canada is in a position to export some 400 million bushels of wheat and still retain a carry-over of about 200 million bushels on July 31, 1945.

Argentina's stocks of grain are comparatively high. After deducting domestic requirements, allocations for relief shipments and wheat now under contract to Spain and other importers, the Argentine Republic still has about 146 million bushels available for export and carry-over. So far this year, her export shipments have been principally to Brazil with some to Spain and Greece and the United Kingdom taking the occasional cargo. Offsetting the rather heavy storage position is the current unfavourable condition of the present wheat crop, which is on a reduced acreage. The area planted to wheat is now estimated at 15.6 million acres and there may be considerable abandonment as the result of drought in the northern areas.

Australia's position is similar in some respects to that of her South American competitor. While possessed on September 21 of a wheatpile of 122 million bushels, the present planted acreage is down to 8.2 million acres as compared with a pre-war average of 13 million acres. This year's crop which is estimated at 66 million bushels is 4 million bushels below domestic requirements and the smallest in 25 years. With 32 million bushels earmarked for stock feed and prospects of increased exports bright, Australia's stockpile will likely be reduced considerably in the coming crop year.

The rapid gains which the allied armies have made in western and south-eastern Europe have prevented wholesale destruction of food crops by the Germans. Large areas of France are reported practically untouched and yielding a fairly good crop of grain. Wheat over and above local requirements from these areas is expected to move into deficit regions including, possibly, parts of Belgium and Holland. The timely Russian advance into Roumania and Bulgaria will permit shipment of any wheat surpluses to Russia rather than to Germany.

The rapidly contracting borders of the German Reich are including less and less of the foodstuffs which she has been appropriating, but good crops within her frontiers appear to preclude any possibility of a collapse from lack of food alone, although it may well result in a reduction of rations. A large part of Germany's milling capacity is along the Rhine River and, consequently, an increasing proportion of these facilities are probably being destroyed by the present allied offensive. Soaking rains are reported to have delayed harvesting in the United Kingdom and have possibly

resulted in a reduction of yield. Although no estimates are available it seems to be the consensus of opinion that this year's crop is smaller than that of last year.

Live Stock on Farms on June 1

A new high record of numbers of cattle on farms was established at June 1 of this year. The total of 10,346,000 head represents an increase of seven per cent over numbers on farms on June 1, 1943. Numbers of sheep on farms also show a substantial increase over the previous year, reaching a total of 3,726,000, or nearly eight per cent above those on hand at June 1, 1943. The downward trend in evidence in numbers of horses continued into 1944 with 2,735,300 reported on farms, a decline of 40,000 from June 1, 1943. Another sharp increase in numbers of hens and chickens on farms at June 1 was reported this year, the total reaching 86,792,000 or nearly 16 per cent above the previous year.

The increase in numbers of cattle on farms was common to all provinces and was most marked in Saskatchewan where herds showed an increase of almost 18 per cent. Of the total of 10,346,000 cattle on farms, milk cows account for 3,930,000, an increase of 135,000 head during the past year. Numbers of cattle on farms have been increasing gradually throughout the war period and this increase is now being reflected in increased marketings of cattle and calves as well as an increase in total milk production.

The decline in numbers of horses on farms was common to all provinces except Nova Scotia and Quebec and although the percentage declines were relatively small in all other provinces the reduction represents a continuation of the long-time trend. Sheep numbers show an increase for all provinces except Nova Scotia, Ontario and Manitoba. The declines in these provinces were of a minor nature and were more than offset by increases in the other provinces. The most substantial increases occurred in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

As reported earlier, numbers of hogs on farms at June 1, 1944, showed a decline of five per cent from the same date of 1943. The increase in numbers of hens and chickens on farms was common to all provinces and was particularly substantial in Saskatchewan, Quebec, Nova Scotia and Alberta. The continued demand for large quantities of eggs for export to the United Kingdom in dried form has encouraged the rapid expansion of the poultry industry. Final figures for numbers of turkeys on farms are not yet available for all provinces, but indications are that supplies will be somewhat higher than in 1943 when numbers were relatively low.

With the exception of a few areas, the production of fodder and grain crops has been average or better in 1944. Feed supplies should, therefore, be satisfactory for the coming winter in most sections. The movement of feed grains from western to eastern Canada is expected to be on a substantially smaller scale as compared with 1943-44.

August Employment Situation

Industrial activity showed a further upward movement at August 1, when the number of persons added to the payrolls was rather above-normal according to pre-war experience, although it was smaller than at the beginning of August in any of the last five years; the latest percentage increase was also less than the average in the years since 1920. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics received information from 14,725 establishments employing 1,864,925 men and women; this number exceeded by 10,537 persons, or 0.6 per cent, the total reported at the beginning of July. The amounts disbursed in weekly payrolls were greater by 0.3 per cent.

Based on the 1926 averaged as 100, the index of employment at 184.6, was a little higher than that of 183.5 in July, but was slightly below the August 1, 1943, index of 185.9, the maximum for midsummer. Since the increase in the index between the first of July and the first of August was below normal, the seasonally-adjusted index showed a decline, falling from 180.0 at the former date to 179.6 at August 1.

The increase in recorded employment at the date under review took place among the non-manufacturing industries, which ordinarily are responsible for most but not all of the expansion at midsummer; however, there was contra-seasonal curtailment in manufacturing at August 1, 1944. This largely resulted from curtailment in iron and steel, from which some 6,500 persons were released. Textiles and non-ferrous metal plants also showed reduced activity, the loss in the former being seasonal in character. On the other hand, food, lumber, pulp and paper, beverage and chemical factories afforded more employment.

In some cases, the gains were seasonal; those in animal food, lumber and pulp and paper were above the average, while the expansion in vegetable foods was less than usual at midsummer.

With the exception of logging, the trend in the non-manufacturing industries was favourable. The seasonal decline in bush work was somewhat below-average in extent. The increases in services were slight; those in trade, communications, transportation and mining were also moderate. Construction reported the largest gain, that of 17,295 persons. This increase of 12.4 per cent, which exceeded that reported at August 1 in any preceding year since 1931, took place largely in highway construction and maintenance in Quebec.

The amounts expended by the co-operating employers in salaries and wages at August 1 were given as \$58,969,610, an average of \$31.62 per employee. At July 1, these firms had reported the disbursement of \$58,808,956, a per capita figure of \$31.72. The mean at August 1, 1943, had been \$31.06, and that at August 1, 1942, \$28.62. It is probable that under normal circumstances, there is a falling-off in the general average per employee at midsummer, partly because of vacations, and partly because the considerable increase in the number in recorded employment ordinarily takes place in the industries in which the earnings tend to be less-than-average. Loss of working time as a result of vacations affected the latest payrolls to a greater extent than at August 1 in any other year for which the payroll statistics are available, i.e., since the spring of 1941.

Estimate of Fruit and Vegetable Crops

In general, the prospects for fruit production in Canada improved somewhat during the past month. The current estimates of all crops still not completely harvested, show a slight upward revision with the exception of apples. A reduction in the anticipated apple harvest in Nova Scotia and Western Ontario slightly offset the improved outlook in New Brunswick, Quebec and British Columbia, bringing the Canadian total to 15,339,100 bushels, compared with the August estimate of 15,391,600 bushels. This year's crop, however, is still 19 per cent larger than that of the 1943 season, which was estimated at 12,892,200 bushels.

The total pear crop improved some 7 per cent during the month to bring the current estimate to 671,300 bushels compared with the previous estimate of 627,900 bushels and the 1943 final estimate of 636,800 bushels. The greatest improvement took place in Ontario, where the prospects are 20 per cent above the August outlook. A slight increase in the British Columbia estimate was also made while the Nova Scotia crop remains unchanged. A slight increase was made in the August estimate of the total plum and prune crop to bring production this year to 391,000 bushels, compared with 379,200 bushels.

The estimate of the Canadian peach crop remains practically unchanged at 1,714,400 bushels. This year's crop is 171 per cent larger than the very small crop of 633,000 bushels produced last season. The prospects for the grape crop this season advanced slightly during the month and the current estimate is now set at 55,083,500 pounds or 2 per cent larger than that of the 1943 season.

The vegetable crops, particularly in Eastern Canada greatly benefitted by the frequent rains during the month of September. With few exceptions the crops will exceed early expectations. According to the first estimate, the area planted to potatoes in 1944 is 534,900 acres, which is only slightly more than the 1943 area of 532,700 acres. Increases are shown in the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario acreages, with declines indicated in Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. The greatest increases are reported in New Brunswick, where the acreage is 66,900 acres this season compared with 60,300 in 1943, and in Ontario where the acreage increased 4,000 acres to 120,000 acres. The greatest decline in area is shown in Saskatchewan, where the acreage is estimated at 41,600 acres compared with 46,500 acres last season.

Stocks of Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Nine Principal Cities

Stocks of creamery butter in nine of the principal cities of Canada as at the opening of business on October 2 amounted to 45,576,886 pounds compared with 42,314,743 on September 1 and 50,957,606 on October 1, 1943. Cheese stocks were increased to 46,158,449 pounds from the September 1 total of 40,764,370 pounds, and the October 1, 1943, stocks of 40,378,958 pounds.

Shell eggs on hand came to a total of 5,806,257 dozen compared with 7,633,310 dozen on September 1 and 1,868,799 on the corresponding date of last year. Frozen eggs on hand decreased slightly from last month but were more than twice as heavy as last year. The total for October 1 this year was 33,319,707 pounds compared with 33,544,880 on September 1 and 14,030,876 on October 1, 1943.

Owing to Thanksgiving Day falling on October 9th, the Cold Storage Reports usually published on the 10th of each month will be issued on October 11th.

Visible Supply of Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on September 28 amounted to 310,231,130 bushels compared with 374,058,254 on the corresponding date of last year. This year's visible supply included 284,118,238 bushels in Canadian positions and 26,112,892 bushels in United States positions.

Marketings of Wheat from the Farms

Deliveries of wheat from the farms in the three Prairie Provinces during the week ending September 28 amounted to 12,689,848 bushels compared with 14,544,855 in the previous week. During the elapsed portion of the crop year marketings totalled 66,109,256 bushels compared with 36,534,919 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 28, totals for the previous week being in brackets: oats, 2,505,660 (2,797,043) bushels, barley, 5,774,895 (5,480,074), rye, 129,151 (217,487); flaxseed, 444,425 (440,211).

Production of Wheat Flour in August

Following a quieter tone in the milling industry at the close of the old crop year, August opened the crop year 1944-45 with a firm trend in wheat flour production, the output amounting to 2,015,866 barrels compared with 1,888,030 in August, 1943. The quantity of wheat ground during the month was 8,936,210 bushels compared with 8,341,270 in August of last year. The grind of oats was higher than in August 1943, while corn was lower and barley and mixed grain were fairly level.

Hay and Pasture Seeds

The 1944 crop of alsike clover seed is currently estimated at 1,240,000 pounds, according to a recent survey. The crop this year is some 3,520,000 pounds or 74 per cent smaller than that of the 1943 season, and some 57 per cent smaller than the ten-year 1934-43 average of 2,882,600 pounds.

The seed crop in Ontario, the main producing province, was unusually light, the outcome of the extremely hot, dry weather throughout most of the season. In addition, the acreage cut for seed was greatly reduced from that of the previous season, with the result that the crop in Ontario this year amounted to only 490,000 pounds compared with 4,117,000 pounds in 1943. Conditions in Alberta were somewhat better than in 1943, and the crop is estimated at 400,000 pounds, or approximately 45 per cent greater than the 275,000 pound crop produced last season. The prospective harvest in all other provinces combined is estimated at 350,000 pounds, or slightly below the 1943 crop of 368,000 pounds.

The bulk of the Ontario crop is now in the hands of the dealers, which is normal for this season of the year. In Alberta, however, only small lots have, so far, moved into commercial channels. Movement of seed in British Columbia is also somewhat behind that of Ontario, as threshing in that province is still underway. Prices being paid to Ontario growers, on the basis of clean seed, average \$21.29 per hundredweight, or \$12.77 per bushel. The returns to growers this season are somewhat higher than in 1943, when they received an average of \$20.00 per hundredweight.

Stocks of Hides and Skins

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers in Canada at the end of August amounted to 425,904 compared with 486,557 on the corresponding date of last year. Calf and kip skins on hand totalled 426,973 compared with 633,352, goat and kid skins 55,893 compared with 56,338, horse hides 16,486 compared with 42,459. There were also 83,483 dozen sheep and lamb skins on hand compared with 68,055 on the same date of last year.

September 1 Cost of Living Index

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost of living index on the base 1935-39=100 declined from 118.9 for August 1 to 118.8 for September 1, 1944. On September 1 last year it was 119.4. Further seasonal declines in prices for potatoes and other fresh vegetables were largely responsible for the fractional decrease from August 1.

The food index fell from 131.5 in August to 131.2 in September, as lower prices for potatoes, carrots, onions, cabbage, and turnips overbalanced increases in eggs and butter. The homefurnishings and services index, down from 118.5 to 118.4, was the only other group index to show movement.

Other indexes remained unchanged at the following levels: rentals, 111.9; fuel and light, 108.7; clothing, 121.5; and miscellaneous items, 109.0.

Teaching Staffs in Eight Provinces in Canada

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has issued a report on the teaching staffs of schools in eight provinces of Canada, Quebec being excepted. There has been a sharp reduction in the number of male teachers during the first four war years, the total of which dropped to 10,290 in 1943 from 14,718 in 1939. The decline in the number of male teachers reflects enlistment in the armed forces as well as numerous resignations in favour of more remunerative positions. The number of female teachers increased to 38,913 in 1943 from 35,400 in 1939. A special feature of the situation has been the large number of married women, former teachers, returning to the schools.

In 1939 there were 8,739 university graduates among the approximately 50,000 teachers and in 1943 there were only 7,883. In pre-war years there were comparatively few teachers who did not hold either a first or second class professional certificate or a certificate representing special qualifications in a certain field. The number of first-class teachers has nominally remained about the same although requirements have generally been relaxed for those who have obtained certificates within the period. The number of second-class teachers has fallen by about 5,000, the compensatory increase having been largely in the personnel with lower qualifications, especially holders of temporary permits to teach.

The level of experience of teachers in seven of the eight provinces, Ontario and Quebec being excepted, has on the whole been maintained, though not among teachers in rural schools. The average teacher had had 7.7 years experience in 1939 and in 1943 the average stood at 7.9. Teachers in city schools in 1939 had had, on the average, 15.7 years of experience, and in 1943 the figure was 17.5. In one-room rural schools the average number of years experience fell from 4.7 in 1939 to 3.3 in 1943.

There has been a pronounced increase in the movement of teachers from school to school, except in cities, and especially in towns and villages. In June 1939, the average teacher had been teaching in the same place for almost three years, and in June 1943 for about two years. The average tenure of teachers in city schools rose from 11.3 years in 1939 to 12 years in 1943. The tenure of teachers in town and village schools declined from an average of four years in 1939 to 2.5 years in 1943, while in one-room rural schools the average declined from 1.9 years to 1.6 years.

A factor in the increased movement of teachers is undoubtedly their scarcity, with the consequent higher bidding of school boards for their services. The overall increase in annual salary in the four years has been \$200, and the differential as between rural and urban salaries has been appreciably reduced. The average teacher received a salary of \$254 in 1939 and by 1943 the figure had been increased to \$1,057. The average salary of teachers in city schools rose to \$1,784 in 1943 from \$1,613 in 1939, in town and village schools to \$1,113 from \$960, in rural schools of more than one room to \$1,039 from \$839, and in one-room rural schools to \$853 from \$607.

Canadian Pulp and Paper Industry in 1943.

The gross value of products manufactured by the Canadian pulp and paper industry continued the advance in evidence since the outbreak of the war, the 1943 valuation standing at \$345,653,000 compared with \$336,697,000 in 1942, representing an increase of 2.7 per cent. The 1943 valuation was a new high record for the industry, and was the fourth successive year in which new high marks were posted. The increase over the 1939 total was 71.8 per cent.

One hundred and six mills were operated in 1943, of which 50 made pulp and paper, 28 made pulp only and 28 made paper only. The capital investment in 1943 was \$667,450,000, an increase of 1.8 per cent over 1942. Employment was provided for an average of 37,020 persons compared with 38,002 in 1942, and the salary and wage disbursements amounted to \$71,199,000 compared with \$69,656,000.

The 78 mills manufacturing pulp produced 5,272,830 tons valued at \$194,434,202 in 1943 compared with 5,606,461 tons valued at \$192,145,062 in 1942, a decrease in quantity of six per cent but an increase in value of 1.2 per cent. Of the 1943 total, 3,575,915 tons were produced by combined pulp and paper mills for their own use in paper-making. The remainder was made for export and for sale in Canada, with tonnage 3.5 per cent lower but value 2.3 per cent higher than in 1942.

The 78 mills making paper in 1943 produced 3,966,344 tons of paper and other products valued at \$235,362,958 compared with 4,231,767 tons with a value of \$230,269,512 in the preceding year, showing a decrease of 6.3 per cent in quantity but an increase of 2.2 per cent in value. Decreases in the quantity of paper produced were shown in all provinces concerned, with the exception of the group of provinces comprising Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Manitoba which showed an increase of 1.7 per cent; British Columbia was down 10.3 per cent, and Ontario and Quebec were down 3.7 and 8.9 per cent, respectively.

Newsprint made up 76.8 per cent of the total reported tonnage of paper manufactured in 1943. Newsprint produced amounted to 3,046,442 tons with a value of \$154,290,163 compared with 3,257,180 tons valued at \$147,074,109 in 1942, representing a decrease of 6.5 per cent in tonnage but an increase in value of 4.9 per cent. According to the Newsprint Service Bureau, the Canadian production of standard newsprint was over three times that of the United States in 1943 and formed 74.1 per cent of the total North American production of 4,023,857 tons. The Newsprint Association of Canada has estimated the Canadian output for the first seven months of 1944 at 1,724,845 tons, an increase of 18,852 tons, or 1.1 per cent more than during the same period in 1943.

On the whole, production of all other kinds of paper decreased in volume and in value: the tonnage of wrapping paper dropped 12.3 per cent and its value decreased 9.3 per cent; boards showed decreases in quantity and value of 6.8 and 2.9 per cent, respectively; book, writing and other fine papers rose 0.6 per cent in volume but decreased 0.7 per cent in value; tissue paper showed gains of 12.8 per cent in tonnage and 11.9 per cent in value; miscellaneous papers increased in quantity by 2.9 per cent and in value by 4.3 per cent.

Consumption of Coke in Canada in 1942.

The apparent consumption of coke in Canada during 1942 amounted to 4,406,123 tons compared with 4,092,027 in 1941. Consumption records show that 2,417,001 tons were used in blast furnaces and cupolas, 634,240 tons as raw materials in manufacturing, and 387,832 tons as fuel in manufacturing, mining and smelting industries. Thus a total of 3,449,073 tons has been accounted for and the difference of 957,050 tons must represent the quantity available for use as domestic fuel or in commercial establishments.

Production of coke, including petroleum and pitch coke, during 1942 totalled 3,356,194 tons and imports entered for consumption amounted to 1,088,312 tons, making a total supply of 4,444,506 tons. However, exports and re-exports totalled 97,846 tons and producers' stocks decreased 59,463 tons, leaving 4,406,123 tons as the quantity made available for use in Canada during the year. The distribution of this tonnage, by areas, was as follows: Maritimes, 641,878 tons; Quebec, 701,505; Ontario, 2,771,644; and the Western Provinces, 291,096.

Country General Store Sales in August

Sales of merchandise by country general stores in August were 11 per cent higher than in the corresponding month of last year. All regions of the country shared in the advance, increases ranging from five per cent in the southern areas of Quebec to 21 per cent in the northern part of Alberta.

The general unadjusted index of sales, on the base 1935-1939=100, stands at 174.2 for August this year, 170.5 for July and 157.2 for August, 1943. Aggregate figures for the first eight months of the current year reveal a 10 per cent increase in dollar value of sales over the similar period of 1943.

Output of Central Electric Stations in August

Central electric stations produced 3,275,010,000 kilowatt hours in August compared with 3,149,361,000 in the preceding month and 3,436,141,000 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first eight months of the current year, production totalled 26,953,536,000 kilowatt hours compared with 26,522,060,000 in the similar period of 1943.

Macaroni and Kindred Products in 1943

The production of macaroni, spaghetti, vermicelli and noodles in Canada continues to increase. The 1943 output of these commodities by the 16 establishments engaged chiefly in their manufacture advanced to 60,435,568 pounds compared with 48,957,265 in the preceding year, an increase of 11,478,303 pounds.

Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways during the week ended September 23 amounted to 74,397 cars compared with 74,871 in the previous week and 72,874 in the corresponding week of last year. Loadings in the eastern division increased from 46,712 cars in 1943 to 47,824, and in the western division from 26,162 cars to 26,573.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Advance Preliminary Statement of Stocks of Canadian Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Principal Cities of Canada, October 1 (10 cents).
 2. The Vegetable Oil Industry, 1943 (15 cents).
 3. Population of Quebec by Age, Sex, Conjugal Condition, 1941 (10 cents).
 4. The Employment Situation (10 cents).
 5. Live Stock Survey, June 1 (10 cents).
 6. Fruit and Vegetable Crop Report (10 cents).
 7. Macaroni and Kindred Products Industry, 1943 (10 cents).
 8. Stocks of Hides and Skins, August (10 cents).
 9. Production of Asphalt Roofing, August (10 cents).
 10. Sales of Asphalt Roofing, August (10 cents).
 11. Price Movements, September (10 cents).
 12. Consumption of Coke in Canada, 1942 (25 cents).
 13. Indexes of Country General Store Sales, August (10 cents).
 14. Canadian Milling Statistics, August (10 cents).
 15. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
 16. Pulp and Paper Industry, 1943 (30 cents).
 17. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
 18. Central Electric Stations, August (10 cents).
 19. The Wooden Refrigerator Industry, 1943 (10 cents).
 20. Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation (10 cents).
 21. Teachers' Salaries and Qualifications in Eight Provinces, 1943 (25 cents).
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