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Inventories of Food Commodities on November 1

At the opening of business on November 1 the stocks on hand of creamery butter totalled 63,071,367 pounds as compared with 72,012,485 a year ago and 66,819,719 last month. The seasonal reduction from last month was 3.7 million pounds as compared with a reduction of 4.1 million pounds during October, 1943. In addition there were 735,000 pounds in transit on Canadian railways as compared with 560,000 on November 1, 1943, and 1,174,600 pounds on October 1 this year.

Stocks of cheese were quite close to those of a year ago, being 53,353,065 pounds as compared with 53,181,949 on November 1 last year, but were somewhat lower than the 64,601,983 pounds a month ago. Not included in these figures were 3,338,000 pounds in transit on railways, which information was not obtained in 1943. There were also, however, 26,591 pounds of imported cheese on hand as compared with 75,365 pounds a year ago and 35,086 pounds last month.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk were down from last month, being 35,502,566 pounds as compared with 36,062,714 pounds on October 1, both showing vast increases over the stocks of November 1, 1943, which were only 11,224,588 pounds. Skim milk powder holdings were 3,799,169 pounds compared with 3,915,068 on October 1 and 2,107,289 a year ago.

Shell egg stocks have been considerably reduced during the month of October, November 1 stocks having been 4,865,826 dozen compared with 10,784,697 dozen on October 1. November 1 stocks, however, were four times those of November 1, 1943 which were 1,272,064 dozen. Frozen eggs were 43,706,813 pounds, a reduction of 700,000 pounds from the stocks a month ago which were 44,429,454 pounds. On November 1, 1943, stocks totalled 13,538,512 pounds.

Stocks of chicken and fowl increased during the month, the total of all poultry being 14,025,972 pounds as compared with 11,871,990 pounds a month ago and 7,626,030 pounds last year. Stocks of chickens, which were 4,375,788 pounds, recorded an increase over October holdings which were 3,323,624 pounds and also over last year's stocks which were 2,744,344 pounds. Stocks of fowl were 7,235,395 pounds on November 1, 5,847,939 pounds on October 1 and 3,916,255 pounds on November 1, 1943. Turkey stocks were less than half the October 1 total. On November 1 there were 566,143 pounds on hand, while on October 1 the total was 1,238,964. Stocks were still, however, much greater than those of last year which were only 139,298 pounds.

Stocks of all meat, Canadian and imported, were 78,728,483 pounds, a decrease from last year when they were 91,928,532 pounds. Stocks have increased, however, over last month when there were 70,756,696 pounds in storage. Canadian pork totalled 42,596,784 pounds, a reduction from last year when they were 58,930,419 pounds but an increase over last month's stocks of 36,522,899 pounds. Canadian beef increased 100,000 pounds over the stocks of October 1. On November 1 they were 24,724,858 pounds compared with 21,992,647 a year ago. Veal holdings were 6,762,527 pounds as compared with 6,583,284 a month ago and 6,036,856 last year. Mutton and lamb stocks were somewhat higher than last year but decidedly greater than last month. On November 1 this year stocks were 4,633,721 pounds compared with 4,481,877 on November 1, 1943, and 2,856,921 on October 1.

Lard stocks have been reduced considerably from the preceding month. On November 1 there were 4,454,066 pounds in store as compared with 7,279,005 on October 1. On November 1, 1943, the stocks were 2,557,082 pounds. Stocks of frozen fish in Canada amounted to 41,551,133 pounds as compared with 44.9 million a month ago and 37.9 million a year ago. Of this quantity on November 1, frozen cod totalled 7.9 million pounds, haddock 0.8 million, salmon nine million, and sea herring 8.1 million.

Canadian apples at distributing centres totalled 2,074,814 bushels as compared with 1,791,715 bushels a year ago. Pears totalled 49,258 bushels as compared with only 9,099 bushels last year. Stocks of all fruit, frozen and in preservatives, totalled 33,910,544 pounds. This was a small reduction from last month when stocks were 34,675,345 pounds. Stocks of vegetables, frozen and in brine, amounted to 5,640,084 pounds, a reduction from last month when stocks amounted to 8,680,715 pounds.

Second Estimate 1944 Field Crops of Canada

The second estimate of the production of field crops in Canada issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, places all wheat at 453.2 million bushels, oats at 522 million, barley at 199.1 million and flaxseed at 9.7 million bushels. As compared with the first estimate, which was released on September 12, the production of wheat has been raised by 5.6 million bushels; oats and barley have been lowered by 4.2 and 4.6 million bushels, respectively, and flaxseed has been lowered by 0.4 million bushels. The estimate of the rye crop has been reduced to 8.3 million bushels from the first estimate of 10.6 million bushels.

The estimated output of wheat has been raised by 6.5 million bushels in Saskatchewan despite a reduction in seeded acreage from 13.8 to 13.2 million acres. Manitoba wheat production has been raised by 0.9 million bushels, while Alberta's wheat crop has been reduced by 2.1 million bushels. The oat crop has been lowered by 1.2 and 4.3 million bushels in Manitoba and Alberta, respectively, and shows virtually no change in Saskatchewan. The estimated barley production is also down in Manitoba and Alberta by 1.6 and 2.9 million bushels, respectively, while exhibiting no significant change in Saskatchewan.

The estimate of the rye crop has been lowered right across the board in the Prairie Provinces, with Manitoba's production down 184,000 bushels; Saskatchewan's down 1,807,000 bushels; and Alberta's down by 498,000 bushels. The flaxseed crop has been raised by 50,000 bushels in Manitoba and lowered by 389,000 bushels in Saskatchewan and 77,000 bushels in Alberta.

The second estimates of the production of peas and corn for husking show little change from the figures released last month. Pea production is now estimated to be down to 1,313,000 bushels as compared with the first estimate of 1,488,000 bushels. The crop of mixed grains has proved larger than shown by the first estimate, being now placed at 57.6 million bushels.

Among the root crops, potatoes and turnips exhibit little change while the production of sugar beets has been scaled down to 578,000 tons from the previous estimate of 608,000 tons. The greatest reduction is in Quebec where yields were disappointing and where some farmers also held their beets for feed.

Only minor revisions have been made in the production of forage crops. Hay and clover is now placed at 15.6 million tons which is well below the 17.2 million tons in 1943. The fodder corn and alfalfa crops are about on a par with those of 1943.

Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on November 9 totalled 356,043,302 bushels compared with 363,006,637 on the corresponding date of last year. Stocks this year included 328,697,564 bushels in Canadian positions and 27,345,738 bushels in United States positions.

Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Farmers in the three Prairie Provinces marketed 12,981,245 bushels of wheat during the week ending November 9, compared with 15,885,916 in the preceding week. During the elapsed portion of the present crop year which commenced August 1, western deliveries of wheat totalled 155,401,427 bushels compared with 66,415,895 in the corresponding period of the previous crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from Prairie farms during the week ending November 9, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 1,252,204 (1,955,064) bushels; barley, 966,882 (1,844,006); rye, 50,717 (109,887); flaxseed, 53,088 (296,701).

Heating Systems and Heating Fuels in Canadian Homes

The 1941 housing census showed that 38.6 per cent of Canadian homes were furnace heated while 61.4 per cent were heated by stoves. Provincial percentages of homes using stoves for heating were: New Brunswick 79.2, Prince Edward Island 78.8, Quebec 74.4, Saskatchewan 73.4, Nova Scotia 70.4, Alberta 69.5, British Columbia 57.4, Manitoba 54.6, and Ontario 46.4.

The predominant type of heating system varied with the kind of community. In general, the greater the population concentration, the higher the percentage of homes with furnace heating. In farm areas 13.2 per cent of homes were heated by furnaces, in rural non-farm areas 25.5 per cent, while in cities of 30,000 population and over, the percentage was 64.4. In urban areas, as the size of community increased, the popularity of steam or hot water heating also increased relative to hot air heating.

The smaller communities and rural areas presented a more homogeneous aspect than the cities. In cities of 30,000 population or over the provincial percentages of homes with stove heating ranged from 16.4 in Manitoba to 76.0 in New Brunswick. In rural non-farm areas the range was from 62.4 in Ontario to 91.9 in Saskatchewan, and in farm areas from 81.5 per cent in Ontario to 91.6 per cent in British Columbia.

In 13 of the 27 cities with more than 30,000 population, at least 30 per cent of the homes were stove heated. The proportion of stove heated homes to total homes, among the 27 cities ranged from 83.8 in Hull to 5.0 in Kitchener. Stoves predominated in Saint John, N.B., and in all Quebec cities with the exception of Outremont, while in the cities of other provinces, furnaces heated over half the homes. Ontario cities showed the widest variation in proportion of dwellings with stove heating.

Coal was used as a heating fuel by 42.1 per cent of households and wood by 46.0 per cent. Coke, fuel oil, gas, electricity and sawdust were reported by remaining households as their principal heating fuel. The percentage of homes using wood as principal heating fuel varied inversely with the size of community. In cities of 30,000 population, 13.5 per cent of homes used wood compared with 51.9 per cent in communities of under 1,000 population. In farm areas, the proportion increased to 78.5. There is undoubtedly a relationship between proportions of homes with stove-heating and proportions using wood as principal fuel. In smaller communities and rural areas, wood and coal were by far the most important heating fuels, although gas and sawdust were extensively used in certain localities, mainly in Alberta and British Columbia.

Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways during the week ended November 4 declined to 73,267 cars from 78,535 in the preceding week, but increased by 1,235 cars over loadings of 72,032 cars in the corresponding week last year. Grain loading has probably passed its peak; the total of which declined to 10,030 cars from 10,968 and 11,275 cars for the two previous weeks, and was down by 156 cars from last year. Coal, pulp wood, logs and other forest products, hay and straw, fresh fruits and merchandise, all showed increases over 1943. Live Stock was down by 226 cars from 1943, ores by 466 cars, automobiles and parts by 467, and miscellaneous by 416 cars.

Revenues and Expenses of Railways in August

Canadian railways earned \$68,899,784 in August as compared with \$69,814,918 in August, 1943. Passenger revenues continued to show increases over the corresponding month of the preceding year, the record being unbroken since April 1940. Freight revenues, however, have shown decreases for the last three months; the total in 1944 for the period from January to August, was above the 1943 revenue by \$9,725,123. Operating expenses increased from \$48,415,074 in August 1943 to \$63,580,609, or by \$15,165,535. Exclusive of charges for back pay for 1943 and previous months in 1944, the operating expenses would have shown a small decrease. August freight traffic decreased by 2.5 per cent and passenger traffic, measured in passenger miles, increased by six per cent. For the first eight months of the current year, operating revenues increased from \$502,443,191 in 1943 to \$520,942,993, but, because of heavier expenses, the operating income was reduced from \$100,119,399 to \$76,938,282.

Trends in Canadian Family size

In view of the substantial decline in birthrates during the depression, it was decided that at the Decennial Census of 1941 the phenomena of declining fertility should be more carefully examined than ever before. Accordingly, new questions were introduced into the Census questionnaires to be asked of all women who, as of the Census date, either were or had been married, viz:- (a) age at first marriage: (b) total children born alive to this mother: (c) number of these children alive at the Census date. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has published a preliminary account of some of the results of this investigation.

The Census data on size of family and marriage age illuminate the trend towards smaller families in two ways, first by a comparison of completed family size of women of different ages or marriages of different periods, and secondly, by a comparison of regions which through varying social traditions and varying economic environments, represent stages in the evolution of the small family pattern. Completed families recorded in the 1941 Census were at a high level of fertility. The average number of children now living to each woman aged 55-64 years, including both married and single, is a rough measure of the rate at which the female population has been replacing itself in a generation. In Canada as a whole this group of women had just over three living children apiece at the time of the Census. In the different provinces the average number ranged from 3.9 in Saskatchewan to 2.35 in British Columbia.

Comparing two groups of women, those over 65 years at the time of the Census and those aged 45-54 years, the average number of legitimate children born to all women was 4.30 for the older women, and 3.73 for the younger women, a fall of 13.2 per cent. The rate of fall was slow compared with that observed in other countries over a similar period of time. The rate of fall in the families of married women was slightly higher, 13.7 per cent, and for a given age of marriage was higher still. The reduction in married fertility was to some extent masked by fewer spinsters and earlier marriage in Canada as a whole. Although women under 45 years at the time of the Census had not completed their families, the data indicate sufficiently clearly that the decline in size of family proceeded at an accelerated pace during the years between the two World Wars.

Among the older women, families were largest in Quebec and the Prairie Provinces. At all times completed families were lowest in Ontario and British Columbia. Total effective fertility was particularly high in the Prairies on account of almost universal and very early marriages and relatively lower mortality. Early marriage was found to be associated with a low educational level and European birthplace. British birthplace on the other hand was associated with late marriage. The marriage and family patterns of the earlier period which were associated with a persistent European tradition rapidly became less prominent and the Prairie provinces have experienced particularly rapid declines in family size. In the Maritimes, on the other hand, the decline in fertility has been relatively slow. In Quebec total fertility has fallen rapidly in recent years. In contradistinction to the rest of the country, the fall in fertility has been associated with a trend toward later marriage. Everywhere size of family was less in urban than in rural localities and less in large cities and metropolitan areas than in smaller towns. The metropolitan small family pattern was established early in Toronto and Vancouver but appeared later in Winnipeg and Montreal. The change to the urban small family was particularly marked in some Quebec cities. The wide divergencies in urban fertility in Quebec, together with the rapid fall in mortality rates in recent years, suggest that the birth rate will decline rapidly in the near future in that province.

Age at marriage is associated with large differences in size of completed families. For those marrying over 20, postponement of marriage for 5 years meant on the average about one child less. The difference was even greater between those marrying under and over the age of 18 years. While family size has declined among women marrying at all ages, there is some reason to believe that women marrying young are less disposed to limit their families severely than those marrying at older ages. The influence of early marriage age on size of family appears to be exerted in three ways, in order of importance:- (a) longer reproductive period, (b) fewer childless marriages, (c) more rapid production of children within a given period of married life.

In Canada as a whole, there was some increase in the proportion of childless women during the period studied, but such marriages were still comparatively infrequent except in the metropolitan areas of Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver. It is also true that Canada is still a country of large families. Among women 35-39 years at the time of the Census, more than half of the children had been born into families which eventually reached a size of 5 or more children. Examination of more recent incomplete families

suggests (a) that the proportion of childless marriages is rapidly increasing, and (b) that the two-child family is becoming the modal family over an increasingly wider area. Changes in the modal size of the family in all marriage age groups and all regions indicate the rapid spread of family attitudes favouring the small family.

Subsequent reports will present various aspects of Canadian family size in greater detail. Analysis of economic, regional, and cultural factors affecting fertility is in progress and will serve to elucidate the provincial and other differences mentioned in the present report.

Distilled Liquor Industry in 1943

Whiskies and other potable spirits produced in Canada during the year 1943 and put in bond for maturing totalled 2,699,050 proof gallons with an inventory value of \$1,506,619, while whiskies and other potable spirits bottled or shipped in bulk totalled 6,407,571 proof gallons valued at \$27,104,237. Other important products included unmaturing alcohol, denatured 7,985,816 proof gallons valued at \$4,013,340 and unmaturing alcohol, not denatured 12,339,713 proof gallons valued at \$6,097,265.

The exigencies of war had a profound effect on the operations of this industry during 1943. Due to the great demands for industrial alcohol, the production of potable alcohol had to be curtailed, with the result that the quantity of spirits produced during the year and placed in bond for maturing declined from 9,009,874 proof gallons in 1942 to 2,699,050 gallons in 1943. On the other hand the output of unmaturing alcohol jumped from 9,761,725 proof gallons to 20,325,529 proof gallons.

There were also changes in the nature of the materials used for distilling. The use of wheat increased from 65,744,706 pounds in 1942 to 319,647,661 pounds in 1943, while the consumption of corn and rye both declined by 72,275,492 pounds and 15,897,480 pounds, respectively. The use of molasses was practically nil, dropping from 93,895,056 pounds in 1942 to 622,951 pounds in 1943.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
2. Heating Systems and Heating Fuels in Canadian Homes, 1941 (10 cents).
3. Production of Asphalt Roofing, September (10 cents).
4. Sales of Asphalt Roofing, September (10 cents).
5. Stocks of Fruits and Vegetables, November 1 (10 cents).
6. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, November 1 (10 cents).
7. Cold Storage Holdings of Meat and Lard, November 1 (10 cents).
8. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, November 1 (10 cents).
9. Second Estimate of Production of Grain, Root and Fodder Crops. Area and Condition of Fall Wheat and Fall Rye. Progress of Fall Ploughing (10 cents)
10. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
11. Statistics of Steam Railways, 1943 (10 cents).
12. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, August (10 cents).
13. Manitoba Housing Data, Electoral Districts, 1941 (10 cents).
14. The Distilled Liquor Industry, 1943 (25 cents).
15. Trends in Canadian Family Size (50 cents).

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