

Feed Situation in Canada

The supply of feed grains in Canada in relation to live-stock numbers is adequate to maintain a continued high level of production of meats, dairy products and eggs in the crop year 1944-45. The supply of high protein supplements also appears fairly adequate. Hay supplies in eastern Canada are less satisfactory.

Total supplies of feed grains available in Canada during the current crop year total 14,500,000 tons, which is 80 per cent higher than available supplies during the 1936-40 period. At the same time the number of grain-consuming animal units has increased by 32 per cent. Since 1942 we have been drawing upon the substantial carry-over of oats and barley provided by the bumper crops of that year. Domestic utilization, plus exports of oats and barley, exceeded production in 1943-44, and are expected to do so again in the current crop year.

During the war, feed grain reserves have also been built up to a much safer level than existed in the pre-war period. The maintenance of these reserves has been made possible by the large volume of wheat which has moved into feed channels during the last two years. In this connection it is noteworthy that the consumption of grain, including wheat, per grain-consuming animal unit in 1943-44 was only slightly less than the available supply, excluding wheat.

The outturn of the 1943 grain crops has not only proved exceptionally favourable, but the geographical distribution of these crops has been such as to ease the transportation problem created by the necessity of moving feed to deficit areas. During the crop year 1943-44 some 29,000,000 bushels of wheat, 52,000,000 bushels of oats and 38,000,000 bushels of barley were moved to the eastern provinces and to British Columbia under the Freight Assistance Policy. The better crops harvested in the East, and particularly in Ontario, this year will permit a reduction in the volume of these shipments in 1944-45. The record of claims made under Freight Assistance indicates that a substantial reduction has already taken place.

The numbers of live stock and poultry on farms as at June 1 of this year, with the exception of hogs, show a generally upward trend. Cattle numbers are seven per cent higher than in 1943 with the largest increases occurring in the Prairie Provinces. Poultry numbers are up by 16 per cent while the sheep population has also increased by about eight per cent.

Hog numbers, on the other hand, exhibit a downward trend with a further decrease in prospect. Numbers on farms at June 1 of this year were down five per cent from June numbers in 1943. However, the numbers of sows expected to farrow in the last half of 1944 show a decline of 22 per cent as compared with the last half of 1943, this prospective decrease being most severe in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Although the annual December survey of sows expected to farrow in the first half of 1945 has not yet been made, there are indications that farrowings may decrease by 20 per cent in the West, as compared with the first half of 1944.

Should these indications of a decline in hog production be substantiated, the domestic utilization of wheat and barley for feeding purposes in 1945 will likely be reduced. The supply of grain available per grain-consuming animal unit in 1944-45 is lower than during the two preceding years, but substantially higher than the average for the 1936-40 period. This calculation of available feed supplies excludes wheat and makes an allowance for exports of coarse grains at the approximate levels prevailing in 1943-44. Canada's feed supply position is further strengthened by a substantial carry-over of wheat, the feeding value of which has been amply demonstrated by wartime experience.

Although the movement of grain on the lakes during the current navigation season has achieved record proportions, the movement east from Fort William has been small. The reason is to be found in shortage of railway moving stock. Since the movement of grain from country points to the Lakehead terminals has been given priority, cars are not available for the Eastern rail haul. With the close of navigation, however, cars are expected to be available to facilitate the movement of coarse grains to eastern Canada.

Canada's External Trade in October

Canada's external trade, excluding gold, was valued at \$478,500,000 in October as compared with \$425,795,000 in the corresponding month of last year, an increase of 12.4 per cent. During the first 10 months of the current year the aggregate value was \$4,385,541,000 as compared with \$3,839,870,000 in the similar period of the preceding year, an advance of 14.2 per cent.

Merchandise imports in October were valued at \$160,050,000 as compared with \$162,921,000 in the corresponding month of 1943. During the first 10 months of this year imports were valued at \$1,490,065,000 as compared with \$1,439,894,000 in the comparable period of 1943, an increase of 3.5 per cent.

Commodity exports in October were of the value of \$313,962,000 as compared with \$259,808,000 in October, 1943, an advance of 20.8 per cent. During the 10 months ended October the value of merchandise exported was \$2,860,583,000 as compared with \$2,378,992,000 in the same period of 1943, an increase of 20.2 per cent.

Foreign commodities were exported in October to the value of \$4,487,000 as compared with \$3,066,000 a year ago, the total for the 10 months ending October amounting to \$34,893,000 compared with \$20,985,000 in the like period of 1943.

Duties collected during October amounted to \$15,461,000 as compared with \$18,177,000 in October of last year, the ten-month total standing at \$150,779,000 as compared with \$142,818,000 in the corresponding period of last year.

Merchandise Imports in October

A minor decline was recorded in the value of Canada's merchandise imports in October when the total was \$160,050,000 as compared with \$162,921,000 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first 10 months of the current year the aggregate value was \$1,490,065,000 as compared with \$1,439,894,000 in the similar period of 1943, an advance of 3.5 per cent.

The United States supplied the bulk of imported commodities, the October valuation standing at \$121,389,000 as compared with \$134,470,000 in October of last year, and during the 10 months ending October, \$1,228,194,000 as compared with \$1,181,232,000. October imports from the United Kingdom were valued at \$18,086,000 as compared with \$13,294,000, and during the 10 months ending October, \$90,067,000 as compared with \$113,595,000.

Other leading sources of supply of imports in October were as follows, totals for October, 1943 being in brackets: British India, \$3,015,000 (\$1,290,000); Australia, \$2,466,000 (\$2,966,000); Colombia, \$2,039,000 (\$618,000); Jamaica, \$1,890,000 (\$768,000); Venezuela, \$1,859,000 (\$572,000); New Zealand, \$1,687,000 (\$1,842,000); Barbados, \$1,438,000 (\$443,000).

The following were amongst the chief commodities imported in October, values for October, 1943, being in brackets: fruits, \$5,436,000 (\$4,353,000); vegetable oils, \$1,264,000 (\$520,000); coffee and chicory, \$1,120,000 (\$794,000); tea, \$1,529,000 (\$708,000); furs, \$1,314,000 (\$950,000); cotton, \$7,029,000 (\$7,232,000); flax, hemp and jute, \$1,726,000 (\$1,104,000); wool, \$6,886,000 (\$6,009,000); rolling mill products, \$5,449,000 (\$5,277,000).

Other leading products imported in October included: engines and boilers, \$5,311,000 (\$8,344,000); farm implements, \$3,594,000 (\$2,487,000); machinery, other than agricultural, \$5,352,000 (\$7,149,000); vehicles, \$8,408,000 (\$7,926,000); electrical apparatus, \$4,149,000 (\$4,409,000); coal, \$10,604,000 (\$10,566,000); glass and glassware, \$1,713,000 (\$875,000); petroleum products, \$10,413,000 (\$7,962,000); chemicals, \$7,086,000 (\$5,998,000).

Stocks of United States Grain in Canada

Stocks of United States grain in Canada on November 23 amounted to 678,572 bushels as compared with 412,911 on the corresponding date last year. This year's stocks included 59,843 bushels of wheat, 443,421 bushels of corn, and 175,308 bushels of soybeans.

Estimate of Production of Oil Bearing Seeds

A preliminary estimate of the production of principal oil bearing seeds in Canada places the 1944 sunflower seed crop at 8,500,000 pounds as compared with 5,302,500 in 1943, rapeseed at 6,600,000 pounds compared with 2,822,900, and soybeans for beans at 681,820 bushels compared with 569,100. The flaxseed crop, as announced earlier by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, stands at 9,668,000 bushels compared with 17,911,000 in 1943.

Commercial production of sunflower seed in 1944 was confined to the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, the acreage under crop having been 17,300 as compared with 12,370 in 1943. The acreage of rapeseed this year was increased to 12,030 from 4,051 in 1943, Manitoba and Saskatchewan being the largest growers. The estimated acreage of soybeans for beans advanced to 36,200 from 35,550. Ontario's acreage in 1944 was 35,800.

Dairy Factories' Production in 1943

The value of all products of dairy factories in Canada in 1943 amounted to \$243,843,000 as compared with \$236,110,000 in 1942, an increase of \$7,733,000. The number of factories in operation during the year was 2,340, of which 1,148 were creameries, 919 were cheese factories, 247 were combined butter and cheese factories and 26 were concentrated milk plants.

The production of creamery butter in 1943 amounted to 311,709,476 pounds valued at \$105,103,734 compared with 284,591,372 pounds valued at \$97,740,910 in the preceding year. The quantity made in 1943 was the highest in the history of the industry, while the value exceeded that of any other year. The average price per pound was 33.72 cents, a decrease from 1942 of 0.62 cents. With the exception of British Columbia all provinces showed increased production.

The production of factory cheese in 1943 amounted to 165,527,733 pounds valued at \$33,550,326, a decrease in quantity from the preceding year of 41,407,731 pounds and a decrease in value of \$7,723,920. The average price per pound in 1943 was 20.27 cents compared with 19.95 in 1942. The production of cheese in Ontario represents 64 per cent and that of Quebec 31 per cent of the total production from the Dominion.

Production of Iron and Steel in October

The production of steel ingots and steel castings during October totalled 275,524 net tons compared with 271,976 in the corresponding month of last year, output in the latest month including 263,263 tons of ingots and 12,261 tons of castings. During the first 10 months of the current year, production of steel ingots and castings amounted to 2,512,005 net tons compared with 2,509,712 in the comparable period of 1943.

Production of pig iron in October was recorded at 154,119 net tons compared with 146,794 in October of last year, an increase of approximately five per cent. The total for October this year included 123,076 tons of basic iron, 9,916 tons of foundry iron and 21,127 tons of malleable iron. During the first 10 months of this year, production of pig iron totalled 1,566,504 net tons compared with 1,478,760 in the like period of 1943.

Ferro-alloys output in October amounted to 15,631 net tons compared with 14,568 in the preceding month and 16,843 in October 1943, the total for the ten months ending October standing at 154,757 net tons compared with 185,480 a year ago.

Department Store Sales in October

Dollar sales of Canadian department stores in October, including the mail order business of departmental firms, were nine per cent greater than in the corresponding month of last year, and five per cent above the preceding month. Unadjusted index numbers of sales, on the base 1935-1939=100, stood at 193.0 for October this year, 183.8 for September and 177.8 for October, 1943. The increase in sales during the first 10 months of the current year over the similar period of 1943 was 10 per cent.

Canal Traffic in October

Total traffic passing through Canadian and United States locks of the Sault Ste. Marie Canals in October declined to 14,862,627 tons from the October 1943 tonnage of 16,502,690. Downbound iron ore decreased from 11,862,249 to 10,706,867 tons and bituminous coal from 2,826,477 to 1,935,561 tons. Shipments of wheat increased from 32,388,878 to 45,758,608 bushels and other grains from 3,036,652 to 15,673,549 bushels.

Total traffic on the Welland Ship Canal in October increased to 1,352,109 tons from 1,241,183 in October, 1943. Wheat increased by 63,987 tons, gasoline by 33,888 tons, pulpwood by 45,480 tons and iron ore by 70,013 tons. Petroleum and other oils declined by 48,740 tons and bituminous coal by 89,832 tons.

Despite an increase in wheat shipments of 81,999 tons, in barley of 11,786 tons, gasoline of 18,454 tons, pulpwood of 43,086 tons and anthracite coal of 16,723 tons, total traffic on the St. Lawrence Canals in October declined from 393,631 tons in 1943 to 827,475 tons. Bituminous coal declined by 175,794 tons, petroleum and other oils by 27,814 tons and other ore (bauxite) by 43,265 tons.

Cheques Cashed Against Individual Accounts in October

The amount of cheques cashed in clearing centres recorded an increase of six per cent in October over the corresponding month of last year, the total having been \$4,232,000,000 as compared with \$4,354,000,000. Advances were recorded in each of the five economic areas. During the first ten months of the current year the aggregate of cheques cashed was \$48,943,000,000 as compared with \$43,033,000,000 in the similar period of 1943, an increase of 13.7 per cent.

The October total for the Maritime Provinces advanced to \$114,758,000 from last year's corresponding figure of \$105,678,000, increases having been recorded in Halifax and Moncton, while a comparatively small reduction was shown in the total for Saint John. Debits for the Province of Quebec at \$1,291,000,000 revealed an increase of 1.5 per cent. The city of Quebec recorded an increase, while the total for Montreal was nearly maintained.

Nine of the clearing centres of Ontario recorded increases in October over the same month of last year. Cheques cashed in Toronto rose from \$965,000,000 to \$994,000,000. Ottawa transactions were \$805,000,000 in October compared with \$732,000,000 one year ago. The aggregate for the province rose to \$2,191,000,000 from \$2,093,000,000 or by 4.7 per cent.

Nine of the ten centres of the Prairie Provinces were at a higher position in October. The total for Winnipeg rose from \$546,000,000 to \$647,000,000. The increase in the three provinces was 16.7 per cent, the total for the month having been \$1,043,000,000 compared with \$894,000,000.

Victoria and New Westminster of the three clearing centres in British Columbia recorded increases. The total for the province amounted to \$291,000,000 compared with \$290,000,000 in October 1943, an advance of one-half per cent.

Building Permits Issued in October

The value in building permits issued by municipalities reporting to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in October was \$11,122,400 compared with \$10,767,315 in the preceding month and \$6,880,889 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first 10 months of the present year, permits were issued to the value of \$110,823,254 compared with \$67,320,482 in the corresponding period of 1943.

Sales of Fertilizers in Canada

Sales of fertilizer materials and mixed fertilizers during the twelve months ending June 30, 1944, totalled 1,056,941 short tons as compared with 701,039 in the preceding twelve month period. These figures include exports except those for cyanamide. Sales in the latest period included 79,100 tons of fertilizer materials and 460,699 tons of mixtures for consumption in Canada as compared with 72,162 tons of materials and 417,699 tons of mixtures a year ago. Exports consisted of 34,679 tons of mixtures and 432,463 tons of materials -- excluding calcium cyanamide. Exports of materials were 173 per

cent greater than those in the previous year. Ammonium nitrate exports contributed greatly to the advance.

Stocks and Marketings of Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on November 23 totalled 362,388,324 bushels compared with 365,343,774 on the corresponding date of last year. Stocks on the latest date included 328,749,925 bushels in Canadian positions and 33,638,399 in United States positions.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending November 23 amounted to 10,999,115 bushels compared with 12,283,855 in the preceding week, the aggregate for the elapsed portion of the present crop year totalling 179,858,739 bushels compared with 86,444,843 in the similar period of 1943-44

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from prairie farms during the week ending November 23, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 955,918 (1,144,610) bushels; barley, 874,966 (879,538); rye, 66,576 (52,400); flaxseed, 68,597 (71,987).

Claims for Unemployment Insurance in October

Local offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission received 6,222 claims for Unemployment Insurance benefit during October as compared with 3,715 in the preceding month and 1,475 in the corresponding month of last year. A seasonal rise in the number of claims filed is expected during the winter months and October is usually the month in which the upswing first becomes apparent.

Of the 4,910 claims adjudicated at insurance offices during October, 3,950 were considered entitled to benefit and 960 not entitled to benefit. The chief reasons for non-entitlement to benefit were 'voluntarily left employment without just cause' with 571 cases; 'insufficient contributions and not in insurable employment' with 239 cases; and 'discharged for misconduct' with 65 cases.

A total of 5,735 persons, 2,458 of whom commenced a series of benefit payments during the month, received one or more benefit cheques during October. These 5,735 persons were paid a total of \$132,467 as compensation for 70,552 unemployed days. This compares with 4,625 persons who received \$117,008 for 61,917 days in September and 1,025 persons paid \$24,308 for 13,782 days last October.

During October of this year the average number of days paid per beneficiary was 12.3 compared with 13.4 in September and 13.4 in October of last year. The average amount of benefit paid per beneficiary was \$23.10 in October as compared with \$25.30 in September and \$23.72 last October. The average amount paid per compensated day of unemployment was \$1.88 during October, \$1.89 in September and \$1.78 in October, 1943.

Freight Traffic on Railways in August

Revenue freight loaded at Canadian stations and received from foreign connections during August declined to 13,396,189 tons from 13,873,204 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first eight months of the current year the tonnage of freight was 103,188,669 tons, an increase of 3,865,023 tons over the similar period of 1943.

Sales of Electric Storage Batteries

Sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal Canadian producers were valued at \$2,409,278 during the third quarter of 1944 compared with \$2,525,998 in the preceding three months and with \$1,955,123 in the corresponding period of 1943. Sales for the latest period included 283,207 batteries at \$1,602,116 for the ignition of internal combustion engines; 1,026 batteries at \$3,806 for motor cycle starting; 17,833 cells at \$100,251 for farm lighting plants; 1,296 cells at \$26,993 for railway service; batteries valued at \$428,625 for other purposes, including those for telephone switchboards, and miscellaneous parts and supplies for batteries valued at \$247,487.

Country General Store Sales in October

Sales of merchandise by country general stores in October advanced six per cent over the dollar volume of business transacted in the corresponding month of last year, the general unadjusted index number on the base 1935-1939=100, standing at 174.6 as compared with 163.5. Aggregate figures for the first ten months of 1944 stand 10 per cent higher than in the similar period of 1943.

Increases ranging from one to 15 per cent were reported in October by all regions of the country except in the eastern and western sections of Ontario. Sales declined by three per cent in eastern Ontario, while western Ontario business remained on a par with October, 1943. Percentage increases in sales by provinces follow: Maritimes, seven; Quebec, six; Manitoba, four; Saskatchewan, 13; Alberta, five; British Columbia, 14. Ontario sales decreased by one per cent.

Civil Aviation in July

Civil air carriers transported 38,046 revenue passengers during July as compared with 30,889 in July, 1943. Freight and mail declined, the former to 1,013,428 pounds from 1,023,424 and the latter to 505,724 pounds from 612,072. However, mail ton miles increased to 165,253 from 127,862, or 29 per cent. The total mileage flown by aircraft in July declined to 1,471,855 from 1,502,720, and the gallonage of gasoline consumed dropped to 601,586 from 606,842.

Operating revenues of Canadian licensed carriers decreased to \$1,493,061 from \$1,583,573, but operating expenses increased to \$1,530,180 from \$1,380,483, reducing the net operating revenue from a credit of \$203,090 to a debit of \$37,119. The average speed of aircraft in revenue transportation service for Canadian licensed carriers increased from 144 to 150 miles per hour and the average number of revenue passengers per aircraft mile increased from 6.8 to 7.2. Mail increased from 184 to 248 pounds per aircraft mile, while the average passenger journey declined from 400 to 341 miles.

Central Electric Stations in October

Central electric stations produced 3,482,045,000 kilowatt hours in October as compared with 3,458,568,000 in October of last year; the previous four months had shown decreases from 1943 outputs. The increase was all in secondary power which advanced from 205,703,600 to 374,410,000 kilowatt hours. Total output for the 10 months ended October amounted to 33,669,980,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 33,357,403,000 in the like period of 1943.

The consumption of primary power in October, including losses, declined to 2,995,137,000 kilowatt hours from 3,131,693,000 in October, 1943 and secondary power increased from 136,424,000 to 267,605,000 kilowatt hours. Exports to the United States in October increased from 190,451,000 to 219,303,000 kilowatt hours. Here also, all the increase was in secondary power.

Milling Activity in October

Production of wheat flour amounting to 2,048,508 barrels for the month of October was the highest monthly production so far this crop year. However, this figure fell below last year's October production of 2,118,409 barrels. Flour produced during the first quarter of the present crop year amounted to 6,036,995 barrels compared with 6,020,694 in the corresponding period of last year.

Wheat processed during the month amounted to 9,104,936 bushels compared with 9,349,024 in October, 1943. Ontario winter wheat included in the October grind amounted to 431,697 bushels, while for October last year the amount was 169,458 bushels. Coarse grains milled and ground fell below last October in every item except oats.

Beekeepers' and Poultrymen's Supply Industry

There were nine establishments engaged wholly or chiefly in the manufacture of incubators, hives, and other supplies for poultrymen and beekeepers in Canada in 1943, and the gross value of products made was \$415,013 as compared with \$334,415 in the preceding year.

Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways during the week ended November 18 increased to 77,433 cars from 74,835 for the preceding week and 74,070 cars for the corresponding week last year. In the eastern division, loadings increased from 45,099 cars in 1943 to 48,317 and in the western division from 28,971 to 29,116 cars.

Grain increased in both divisions, the total being 1,699 cars over last year's loadings. Automobiles increased by 727 cars, merchandise by 1,061 cars, miscellaneous by 940 cars, live stock by 284 cars, pulp and paper by 327 cars, fresh fruits by 367 cars and implements, tractors and machinery by 200 cars. Coal decreased by 920 cars, ores by 460 cars, sand, stone, gravel, etc. by 379 cars.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Production of Dairy Factories, 1943 (10 cents).
 2. Production of Oil Bearing Seeds, 1944 (10 cents).
 3. Production of Iron and Steel, October (10 cents).
 4. Department Store Sales, October (10 cents).
 5. Canadian Coarse Grains, Quarterly Review (25 cents).
 6. Summary of Canal Traffic, October (10 cents).
 7. Monthly Traffic Report of Railways, August (10 cents).
 8. Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, October (10 cents).
 9. Feldspar and Quartz Mining Industry, 1943 (25 cents).
 10. Sales of Fertilizers in Canada, Year Ended June 30, 1944 (25 cents).
 11. Beekeepers' and Poultrymen's Supply Industry, 1943 (10 cents).
 12. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
 13. Building Permits, October (10 cents).
 14. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, October (10 cents).
 15. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
 16. Canadian Milling Statistics, October (10 cents).
 17. Summary of Canada's Imports, October (10 cents).
 18. Imports of Principal Countries, October (10 cents).
 19. Trade of Canada, October (10 cents).
 20. Indexes of Country General Store Sales, October (10 cents).
 21. Civil Aviation, July (10 cents).
 22. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, Third Quarter, 1944 (10 cents).
 23. Central Electric Statistics, October (10 cents).
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