

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce



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Facts of Interest from Bureau Records

Although Canada produces both fibre flax and flax for oil, the principal production is flaxseed for oil. This crop was produced extensively in Western Canada when the prairie regions were being opened up for settlement prior to the first Great War. More than 2,000,000 acres were planted to flaxseed for oil in 1912 and a crop of more than 26,000,000 bushels was produced. This proved to be the peak for both acreage and production until wartime developments necessitated the expansion of acreage in 1943, although production fell short of the 1912 crop despite greater seed acreage. The acreage seeded to flaxseed in 1943 was 2,947,800, falling to 1,323,100 in 1944. Production in 1943 was 17,911,000 bushels and in 1944, 9,668,000 bushels.

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The production of paper in Canada dates from 1803, but very little information is available concerning this industry until the beginning of the present century. Paper made chiefly from rags and without labour-saving machinery was an expensive commodity. On the basis of census figures, the production of paper does not appear to have exceeded 10,000 tons in 1871. At the close of the 19th century, however, the production of paper and "cardboard" - as it was then called - appears to have been close to 100,000 tons. By 1917, when accurate statistics of paper production were compiled for the first time, the output of paper of all kinds totalled 856,000 tons. In 1941 a high record was established at 4,525,000 tons, but decreases in 1942 and 1943 brought the figure down to 3,966,000 tons.

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Some authorities suggest that barley is the oldest of all cultivated cereal crops. At one time it constituted an important part of the diet of people of southern Europe, but like oats it has been largely a feed grain for live stock in Canada during the history of grain growing in the Dominion. A small percentage of the Canadian barley crop goes into the production of malt products, and some is consumed as human food, chiefly in soups, but the crop as a whole is considered a feed for live stock and its use in Canada has greatly expanded with the growing hog population of the present war period. Production in Canada in 1944 amounted to 194,712,000 bushels as compared with 103,147,000 in 1939.

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Canada has been exporting rye in varying amounts since Confederation. As early as 1882 more than 1,000,000 bushels of Canadian rye were exported but the period of greatest export was between the two wars. During the second World War most of the rye exported from Canada has found its way to the United States, but in normal times Canadian rye would be exported to several European countries. It is apparent from Canadian statistics, however, that a large part of the rye crop produced in Canada never leaves the farms. Some of this is consumed as live stock feed but doubtless a good deal also disappears as food in the homes of farmers who came to Canada from European countries where rye flour was heavily consumed.

Fur Farms of Canada in 1943

Total revenues from the sale of pelts and live animals from fur farms amounted to \$9,846,005 in 1943, an increase of \$2,690,006 or 38 per cent over that of 1942. Pelt sales had a total value of \$8,958,662 as compared with \$6,739,103 in 1942, and the sale of live fur-bearing animals a value of \$887,343 as compared with \$416,896 in 1942. Silver fox accounted for 46 per cent of the total revenue, platinum and white marked for 11 per cent and mink 41 per cent. Average values for all pelts and for most live animals sold showed marked increases in 1943 over comparable quotations for 1942.

The number of fur farms in operation in 1943 was 6,973 and the value of property was recorded at \$17,403,149, compared with 7,835 farms and a property value of \$13,912,835 in the preceding year. Revenues of farms were as follows by provinces, totals for 1942 being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, \$808,861 (\$613,329); Nova Scotia, \$441,960 (\$326,207); New Brunswick, \$679,263 (\$553,750); Quebec, \$2,030,060 (\$1,414,470); Ontario, \$2,039,123 (\$1,384,588); Manitoba, \$1,223,722 (\$1,024,528); Saskatchewan, \$711,318 (\$482,996); Alberta, \$1,447,599 (\$1,072,262); British Columbia, \$462,356 (\$296,728); Yukon, \$1,743 (\$7,141).



## Business Advance in March

The index of the physical volume of business, according to preliminary calculations, recorded an increase in March over the preceding month. Gold receipts at the Mint were 211,957 fine ounces against 208,270. A recession was shown in shipments of silver from Canadian mines.

The operations of the flour milling industry were at a slightly lower position in the latest month for which statistics are available. Greater activity was registered by the meat packing industry, the index of slaughterings advancing from 183 to 186.2. The increase in the output of dairy products was much greater than normal for the season. The production of butter was 14.5 million pounds against 10.6 million in the preceding month. The exports of canned salmon rose from 939,000 pounds to 1,461,000. A considerable increase was shown in the raw cotton used by the textile industry. As an advance was recorded for the third consecutive month, a revival in textile operations was indicated. The paper and lumber industries were more active in March. The output of newsprint was 263,776 tons as against 239,661. Advances were shown in the exports of wood pulp and planks and boards. The gain in construction contracts awarded was much greater than normal for the season, the index rising from 104 to 152.6.

Commodity distribution through retail and wholesale outlets showed further expansion in the latest month for which statistics are available. Domestic merchandise exports rose from \$282.7 million in March last year to \$301.2 million, an increase of 6.5 per cent. The total for the first quarter was \$768 million, showing a slight increase over the same period of last year.

### Business Indicators for March 1945 compared with the preceding month and March 1944

		March 1945	March 1944	February 1945
Physical Volume of Business ... 1935-1939=100	(x)	247.8	216.7	
Cost of Living ..... 1935-1939=100	118.7	119.0	118.6	
Factory Cheese Production ..... pounds	3,532,325	3,170,667	2,071,077	
Creamery Butter Production ..... pounds	14,524,825	14,144,204	10,600,609	
Newsprint Production ..... tons	263,776	252,092	239,661	
Contracts Awarded ..... \$	10,651,400	31,019,300	12,932,500	
Exports, domestic ..... \$000	301,175	282,682	236,364	
Raw Cotton Consumption ..... pounds	14,987,978	16,303,542	13,544,532	
Gold Receipts at Mint ..... fine ounces	211,957	266,365	208,270	
Inspected Slaughterings				
Cattle and Calves ..... No.	198,137	156,995	162,282	
Sheep and Lambs ..... No.	45,158	74,660	56,755	
Hogs ..... No.	601,317	932,306	562,718	
Wood Pulp Exports ..... Cwt.	2,616,523	2,353,229	2,075,608	
Shingles Exported ..... Squares	165,548	130,073	145,162	
Bank Debits ..... \$000	5,328,959	4,773,277	4,433,511	
Canned Salmon Exports ..... Cwt.	14,609	9,637	9,391	

(x) The index of the physical volume of business according to preliminary calculations showed an increase over the preceding month.

## Cultural Differences in Family Size

Cultural differences in family size are discussed in the second in a series of studies of the typical Canadian family issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The first in the present series provided an analysis of trends in Canadian family size in which it was shown that the Canadian family tends to become smaller. Despite this tendency, Canada is still a country of large families. The 1941 Census of Canada provided the basic material for these studies.

Rising standards of living, higher money incomes, concentration in large urban communities, transference of labour from primary production to white-collar occupations, are all found to be associated with a reduction in the average size of the family. Yet the social environment of parents during their adult life does not account completely for the size of their family. Habits of living and modes of thought, the social heritage of many generations, are also powerful determinants of reproductive behaviour.



Canada is a particularly rich field for studying differences of this sort.

Two principal centres of high fertility have emerged in Canada - rural French speaking Catholics in Quebec and New Brunswick and the European language group in the Prairies. The French Catholic culture can be traced without break to the seventeenth century. It is easy to see how large families became established under conditions of unlimited room for expansion and under the auspices of a religion which set a high value on family life. In later years, both language and religion combined to maintain intact a closed culture. The family attitudes associated with this culture complex have been greatly modified in three directions, first, by residence in cities, second, by breaking up of compact settlements as the people spread out into other parts of Canada, and third, to a somewhat smaller degree, by higher education and its associated higher social and financial status.

At the period of this study the traditional French Canadian family was seen only in rural populations living in a comparatively primitive economy. The seventeenth century family could still be found in the parts of Quebec and New Brunswick most remote from large cities. It finally disappeared only during the last thirty years. The persistence of the French Canadian family is based primarily on a traditional agriculture and secondarily on closeness of settlement. The latter feature is perhaps seen in the high fertility of the predominantly French-Canadian cities. The economic characteristics of these cities may, however, provide an alternative explanation. The transitional character of family behaviour is seen in the wide and rather inexplicable variations in urban fertility of French Catholic towns.

The Prairies, likewise, provided conditions propitious to large families. High fertility rates were found in all culture groups but more especially in the European language speaking groups, who brought with them a large family tradition rooted in the peasant agriculture of Southern and Eastern Europe and not dissimilar from the French-Canadian. Decline in the size of the family was retarded by the barriers of language and often by sectarian religions. Since their language habits were more incompatible with social and economic advancement than those of the French-speaking, differences in size of family associated with educational differences were abrupt and the subsequent decline in fertility speedy.

High fertility among the English-speaking groups was found in the Maritimes and these provinces have in recent years shown a slower decline in fertility. Barriers of language and religion have never been so prominent in the Maritimes as in the more economically advanced regions. Perhaps as a result of the equality of poverty, they have not been intensified to the same degree by class conflicts. So in the Maritimes smaller primary cultural differences at a high level of fertility are associated with lower money incomes and the absence of a metropolitan city. Though Halifax and Saint John are large cities they are rather different from the streamlined cities of the West, and perhaps less effective as centres of ostentatious expenditure.

Everywhere in Canada, English-speaking Protestant families tend to be small, and are especially so in the provinces of Ontario and British Columbia, where they are in the majority. For the most part, such people trace their origins from a highly industrialised country, and the varieties of religion most popular have proved especially adapted to reinforce the values of an acquisitive society. The primary social heritage associated with differences in language and religion still leads to different family attitudes. Not only is the size of family different in apparently similar circumstances, but the social heritage affects the ease of entry into the more typically acquisitive pursuits. Although these cultural differences exist and are likely to persist for some time, they are not as large as superficial view suggests. The most significant result obtained has been the similarity of response of all cultures to higher standards of living and a greater variety of material wants. The ultimate reproductive destiny of all appears to be the same. In Vancouver, the most metropolitan city of Canada, the obliteration of all cultural difference at a level of fertility insufficient to maintain a stationary population has been nearly reached. The social heritage operates as a time factor determining the stages of development of family attitudes. The basic problem of population policy is independent of all such transitory cultural time lags. We have yet to discover how to exploit to the full the resources of scientific technology without at the same time committing ourselves to sterility and a declining population.

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## Revenues and Expenses of Railways in 1944

Canadian railways earned \$789,851,409 during 1944. This was an increase of \$18,192,677 or 2.4 per cent over 1943, and was the largest revenue earned in any year. Each of the sub-divisions showed advances, freight revenue increasing by \$8,402,017 or 1.5 per cent, passenger revenue by \$8,117,182 or 6.6 per cent, and other passenger train revenue by \$1,448,643 or 13.6 per cent.

Operating expenses increased to \$627,028,129 in 1944 from \$554,289,701 in the preceding year, or by \$72,738,428, or 13.1 per cent. Here also all items showed increases, ranging from 5.3 per cent for traffic expenses to 14.1 per cent for maintenance of way and structure, and 14.9 per cent for miscellaneous operations. Tax accruals declined from \$43,485,492 to \$34,104,503. Hire of equipment and joint facilities rentals also declined, and the operating income declined from \$158,696,605 to \$118,323,486, or by \$40,373,119.

The average number of employees increased from 160,089 in 1943 to 165,049 or by 3.1 per cent, and the pay roll increased from \$309,929,401 to \$331,233,369. The 1944 pay roll includes the increases made in rates of pay but the 1943 total does not include the increases awarded in 1944 but earned in 1943, amounting to \$9,941,429.

The Canadian lines of the Canadian National Railways earned \$391,585,902 in 1944 as compared with \$391,084,485 in 1943. Freight revenues declined by \$2,183,273 or 0.77 per cent, but passenger revenues increased by \$1,875,181 or three per cent. Operating expenses increased from \$268,335,053 to \$323,335,615 or by 12.1 per cent. Taxes increased from \$3,604,124 to \$3,847,404 and the operating income decreased from \$93,628,520 to \$62,404,410, exclusive of an appropriation of \$19,069,000 for pension reserve in 1943.

The United States lines of the Canadian National Railways showed an increase in operating revenues of only \$30,089, but operating expenses increased by \$3,070,812, raising the system revenue to \$441,147,510 and operating expenses to \$362,547,043 as compared with \$440,615,954 and \$324,475,669, respectively, in 1943. The operating income declined from \$100,702,936, exclusive of the appropriation for pension reserve, to \$67,724,644.

Operating revenues of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for 1944 amounted to \$320,262,132 as against \$299,023,042 in 1943. This was an increase of \$21,239,090 or 7.1 per cent. Freight revenues increased by \$15,116,089 or 7.0 per cent and passenger revenues increased by \$5,063,413 or 9.9 per cent. Operating expenses increased from \$216,347,579 to \$251,646,915 or by 16.3 per cent. Taxes were reduced from \$31,548,645 to \$24,064,455 and the operating income was reduced from \$49,211,567 to \$43,159,664. Freight traffic measured in ton miles increased by 10.2 per cent and passenger traffic by 9.9 per cent.

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## Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended April 14 increased to 70,690 cars from 67,797 cars for the preceding week and 68,037 for the corresponding week of last year. In the eastern division, loadings increased from 41,825 cars in 1944 to 46,478 cars, but in the western the total declined from 26,212 to 24,212 cars. The decrease in loadings in the western division was due mainly to lighter loadings of grain, live stock, and gasoline and petroleum oils.

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## Mental Institutions of Canada in 1943

There were 51,071 persons on the books of the 59 mental institutions of Canada at the close of 1943, an increase of 893 over the preceding year, according to a report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The total for 1943 included 46,631 persons in residence, 541 under care in boarding homes, and 3,899 on parole. The resident population rose by 1.4 per cent during the year. Of the resident patients in 1943, 35,515 were classified as insane, 10,135 as mental defectives, 681 as epileptics and 300 all other types.

Admissions in 1943, which include first admissions, readmissions and transfers totalled 11,710. Of these admissions, 9,587 or 81.9 per cent were classified as having mental psychoses, 1,323 or 11.3 per cent were mental defectives without psychoses, 153 or 1.3 per cent epileptics without psychoses, and 647 or 5.5 per cent were other types without psychoses.



Separations during 1943, including direct discharges, deaths and transfers, totalled 10,937, of which total 3,339 were deaths and 764 were transfers to other mental institutions. Of the 6,834 direct discharges, 1,813 or 26.5 per cent were discharged as recovered, 3,371 or 49.3 per cent as improved, 1,090 or 15.9 per cent as unimproved and 560 or 8.2 per cent as unclassified and without psychoses. The number of readmissions in 1943 was 2,390.

The normal bed capacity of mental institutions rose in 1943 to 42,454 from the 1931 figure of 31,832, a percentage increase of 33.4 per cent, while the resident population at the end of 1943 increased to 46,631 from 31,686 in 1931, a percentage advance of 47.2. On December 31, 1943, the excess of resident patients over normal bed capacity was 4,177 or 9.8 per cent.

Total receipts of mental institutions during 1943 amounted to \$19,215,436, an increase of \$678,281 over the figure for the preceding year. Of total receipts in 1943, \$12,502,685 was received from the provincial governments, \$1,960,505 from the Dominion government, \$1,013,073 from municipalities, \$2,625,219 from paying patients and \$1,113,956 from all other sources. Total expenditures in 1943 amounted to \$19,199,206.

#### Stocks and Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on April 19 totalled 332,925,293 bushels as compared with 324,134,006 bushels on the corresponding date of last year. Stocks on the latest date included 311,856,992 bushels in Canadian positions and 21,068,301 bushels in United States positions.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending April 19 amounted to 3,718,410 bushels as compared with 4,706,206 in the preceding week. During the elapsed portion of the present crop year, 283,081,685 bushels of wheat were marketed as compared with 214,341,418 in the similar period of 1942-43.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending April 19, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 4,167,636 (3,968,936) bushels; barley, 410,490 (521,435); rye, 63,631 (93,148); flaxseed, 13,373 (27,976).

#### Building Permits in March

The value of building permits issued in March by municipalities reporting to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics amounted to \$12,421,167 as compared with \$7,224,639 in the preceding month and \$7,101,903 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first three months of the current year, the value of permits issued was \$25,036,833 as compared with \$17,389,359 in the first quarter of 1944. Of the total for March, new construction of all types accounted for 78.9 per cent of the permits issued, while the percentage of new residential construction was 49.6.

#### Cement Products Industry in 1943

Production of manufactured cement products in Canada during 1943 was valued at \$5,639,000 as compared with \$7,315,000 in the preceding year, a reduction of almost 23 per cent. Output in 1943 included the following, totals for 1942 being in brackets: ready mixed concrete, \$1,873,000 (\$3,117,000); cement pipe, \$1,283,000 (\$1,242,000); hollow building blocks of cement, \$722,000 (\$907,000); cinder blocks, \$165,000 (\$210,000); artificial stone, \$171,000 (\$173,000); cement bricks, \$97,000 (\$42,000).

A total of 140 plants operated in this industry during 1943, of which 72 were located in Ontario, 37 in Quebec, 10 in British Columbia, eight in Alberta, two in Nova Scotia, two in New Brunswick, four in Manitoba and five in Saskatchewan. Plants in Ontario accounted for 47 per cent of the total production; establishments in Quebec contributed 36 per cent, and works in British Columbia accounted for seven per cent, the remaining 10 per cent being distributed among New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.



### Production of Raw Furs in 1943-44

The value of pelts of fur bearing animals taken by trappers or sold from fur farms during the year ending June 30, 1944, reached a new high point at \$32,364,000, representing an increase of 13.5 per cent over the previous high recorded in the preceding season. Higher prices for almost all types of furs were largely responsible for the increase in the total value, although the take of certain classes of animals was also higher.

Pelts of mink contributed the largest amount to the total value of raw furs produced in 1943-44 with a valuation of \$7,115,000. Silver fox furs, including the new types, were in second place at \$5,071,000. Beaver and muskrat, largely taken by trappers, ranked third and fourth according to the value of pelts taken, with totals of \$4,774,000 and \$4,546,000, respectively. Other principal types were as follows: squirrel, \$818,000; marten, \$903,000; cross fox, \$770,000; ermine, \$1,741,000; and coyote, \$950,000.

The highest value of single pelts was again that of the fisher at \$76.21 per pelt. The average value of new type fox pelts at \$58.95 and lynx at \$51.96 ranked second and third, respectively. The only pelts showing declines in value in 1943-44 were those of muskrat which declined from \$2.74 to \$2.29 and those of badger from \$6.91 to \$4.14. The value of mink pelts, including new type, increased sharply from an average of \$11.08 in 1942-43 to an average of \$19.55 in 1943-44.

On a provincial basis, Ontario was the leader with total value of \$7,130,000, followed by Quebec with \$6,168,000, Alberta \$4,686,000, Manitoba \$3,833,000, Saskatchewan \$3,438,000, British Columbia \$2,737,000, Northwest Territories \$1,511,000, New Brunswick \$835,000, Prince Edward Island \$795,000, Nova Scotia \$765,000, and Yukon Territory \$467,000. All provinces except Nova Scotia and New Brunswick reported higher values in 1943-44 than in the preceding twelve-month period.

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### Wholesale Prices in March

The general index number of wholesale prices, on the base 1926=100 advanced to 103.0 in March from 102.9 in the preceding month, but remained unchanged from the March 1944 standing. The sub-group index for vegetable products moved up to 96.0 from 95.8 in February, animal products to 107.0 from 106.9, and non-metallic minerals to 103.1 from 102.7. Textile products at 91.7, wood products at 118.3, iron products at 117.2, non-ferrous metals at 79.7, and chemical products at 100.1 were unchanged.

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### Manufacturing Industries of Canada

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has published the printed report "The Manufacturing Industries of Canada, 1942". This publication which serves as the official record of manufacturing in Canada, contains detailed information on production, employment, capital investment, size of establishment, earnings of employees, etc. The alphabetical list of products, which is one of the main features of the report, should prove most valuable in the making of market analyses.

The following are some of the main topics treated in the report: principal statistics of each industry in Canada; principal statistics of leading industries in each province; principal statistics of each county and census division; principal statistics of all cities and towns with a production of \$1,000,000 or over; principal statistics of the industries located in the cities of Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Windsor, Winnipeg and Vancouver; statistics of annual, weekly and hourly earnings of wage-earners employed in the 40 leading industries; and alphabetical list of all the products manufactured in Canada.

The price of this publication, which may be obtained from the King's Printer, Ottawa, is 50 cents.

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### Department Store Sales in March

Department store sales in Canada were almost 25 per cent higher in March of this year than last and were 49 per cent higher than the volume of business transacted in February. The marked increase in sales over March a year ago may be attributed to two factors. The early date of Easter in 1945 was such that the entire pre-Easter business this year was transacted in March, whereas in 1944 the corresponding pre-Easter trade occurred partly in March and partly in April. The early spring conditions and unseasonably warm weather prevailing in March this year also stimulated retail purchases, especially in the clothing and shoe trades. Unadjusted indexes, on the base 1935-1939=100 stood

at 203.5 for March, 136.2 for February and at 163.2 for March a year ago.

Results on a regional basis indicated that March increases over a year ago were greater in Ontario and Quebec than in other parts of the country. Percentage gains for March with cumulative gains for the first three months of the year in brackets follow: Maritime Provinces, 16 per cent (12 per cent); Quebec, 31 per cent (21 per cent); Ontario, 28 per cent (20 per cent); Prairie Provinces, 23 per cent (15 per cent); British Columbia, 20 per cent (12 per cent).

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Reports Issued During the Week

1. Preliminary Report on Department Store Sales, March (10 cents).
  2. Advance Report on the Fur Farms of Canada, 1943 (10 cents).
  3. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
  4. Cultural Differences in Family Size, Canada, 1941 (50 cents).
  5. Preliminary Report on the Fur Production of Canada, 1943-44 (10 cents).
  6. Prices and Price Indexes, March (10 cents).
  7. Building Permits, March (10 cents).
  8. Twelfth Annual Report of Mental Institutions, 1943 (25 cents).
  9. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
  10. The Manufacturing Industries of Canada, 1942 (50 cents).
  11. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, 1944 (10 cents).
  12. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, December (10 cents).
  13. Cement Products Industry, 1943 (25 cents).
  14. Miscellaneous Wood-Using Industries, 1943 (10 cents).
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