

## Employmont Situation at May 1

The monthly survey of tho employment situation as at May 1, $1945-$ depioting the situation oxisting just before VaE Day .- shows that for tho fifth sucoessive month there was a feneral downward trend in industrial aotivity. The Dominion Bureau of Statistios tabulatod data from 15,232 establishments in whioh the employees numbered 1,789,970; this was $10 s 8$ by 14,234 , or 0.8 pur oent than the porsonnol roported at the beginning of itril. Although the loss is contra-soasonal according to the experionce of pre-war yoars, it repuats the muvement indicatod at May I in 1944 and 1943, in each of whioh the goneral oontraotion was on a larger soale. The shrinkago in employment at tho dato under review was accompanied by a moderato inoroase in the payrolls disbursod as compared with April 1 , whon tho obsorvance of tho Eastar holidays had resulted in lower oarnlngs.

Basod on the 1926 avorage as 100 , the index number of employment at May 1, 1945, whs 175.5 as oomparod with 176.3 in the precoding month and 178.2 at May 1 in 1944 and also in 1943. With the oxception of these two years, employment at the date under reviow was at a hicher lovel than in any othor May on rooord. Since the latest doolino was oontrary to the usual trend at the time of year, there was a falling-off in the soasonally-adjusted index, whioh fell from 187.4 at the first of April to 182.2 at the botinning of May.

A briof review of the situation at May 1 as oompared with April 1 shows ourtailment in all provinoes exoopt Nova Sootia and New Brunswick. The declines in Ontario were most notoworthy, over 12,000 persons having been released by the firms furnishing information in this provinoe. The reductions in Quebeo and the Yestern Provinees were conurally modurate.

In the Dominion as a whole, there was a substantial recession in manufacturine. from whioh 12,233 mon and women wore laid of $f$ by tho co-operating establishments. The tendonoy in the produotion of durable and of non-durable manufactured goods was unfavourable, some 7,400 persons being released from the formor and over 5,100 from the latter: centrul olootrio stations, however, showed heichtonod activity. Employment in iron and stool plants was partioularly affeoted by the curtailment in operations, over 6,700 omployees having boen reloased therofrom. In this group, which for over five yuars has been almost exclusively engagod on war production, the indox, at 291.6, was 12.7 per oont lower than a yoar ago, being aloo tho lowest indloated sinco the early summer of 1942. Howevor, employment in thoso industrios at the date under review was atill some three times as creat as at September 1, 1939.

Within tho non-durablo goods industries, the largest roduction at the first of May as ocmpared with April 1 took plaoe in the ohemical industrios, from which nearly 2,300 porsuns woro roloasod. Toxtiles also showed a oonsidorablo decline of a seasonal charaotor.

Among the non-manufoturing industrios, there was a marked reduction in logging, the oo-operating oamps reloasing 18,718 persons in a suasonal movement whioh considerably exovodod the avorago in the experionoo of the yoars sinco 1920, although it was on a smallur sonlo than at May 1, 1944. Mining was slacker, the largest loss taking pla0e In tho production of metallic ores; a falling-off was also indioatod in retall trado. On tho uthur hand, omployment inoreased in services, comnunioations, transportation and construction and maintenance. The expansion in the last-namod was substantial, nearly 15,200 persuns boing added to the staffs of the oontraotors making roturns. Most of the gain was in work on the roads.

The odrotion on por oont in tho number in roourded omploynont at May 1 as ocmparod with April 1 was aocompanied by an inorease of 0.9 per cont in the disbursements in salarios and wages. Theso rose from $\$ 57,739,543$ in the last return to $\$ 58,262,067$ at tho boginning of May. The highor payrolls accompanying lowored omnloyment were largely duo to tho resumption of operations on a more usual scale following the lose of timu during Easter woek, whioh had fallon within the precoding puriod of observation.

The uxturnal trado of Canada, exoludine gold, was valuur at $\$ 462,568,000$ in ifay as oompurud with $529,837,000$ in tho oorrosponding month of last your, a reduution of $\$ 67$, 319,000, or 12.7 per oent. Tho agerogato for tho first fivo months of the ourrent yoar was $\frac{4}{2}, 070,281,000$ as comparod with $32,134,780,000$ in tho comparablo leriod of tho proceding yoar, a docruaso of $\$ 64,499,000$.

Tho valuo of domestic morchand iso exports in May was $\$ 315,192,000$, a doolino of 14.4 par oont from tho May 1944 total of $\$ 368,357,000$, whon a now hich monthly rooord had boon astablishod. The dooroaso in the oxport of supplios intendod mainiy for wer purposos accountod fur tho large bulk of the doolino in total exports; tho expert of commodities in this catogory dooreased from $\$ 170,074,000$ a year ago to $\$ 127,672,000$. Durine tho first fivo months of this year, the value of all commoditios exported was $3,355,552,000$ is comprod with $1,403,110,000$ in the same period of 1944.

In orts of morohandiso in May woro lower at $\$ 143,844,000$ as omps red vith $\$ 150,038$, 600 in tho corrosponding month of last yoar, a decrease of 9,6 por oert. Aggroguto imports for tho first fivo months of this yoar woro valuod at $\hat{\psi} 652,215,000$ an comparod with \$712,050,000 in tho similar poriod of 1944, a doolino of 8.4 por oont.

ForoiEn oummoditios were ro-exported in May to the valuo of $33,531,000$ as oompared with $5,738,000$ in the proooding month and $\$ 2,492,000$ in May. 1944. The total for the first five months of this yoar was $\$ 22,513,000$ as omparod with $\$ 19,620,000$ in tho samo prioc of 1944.

Murchind iso Imports in Miay
Imports of mu rchandiso into Canada in May were valuod at $\$ 143,845,000$ as oompared Wth $3159,038,000$ in the oorrosponding month of last year, a deolino of 906 por oont. Tho total for the first fivo months of the curront year was $\$ 652,215,000$ as comparod with $\$ 712,050,000$ in the liko period of 1944, a reduction of 8.4 por cont.

Tho Unitod Statos acoounted for a largo poroentage of Canada's nnports; the May valuation boing $104,753,000$ as compared with $127,041,000$ a year aco, and in the five months unded May, $\$ 507,406,000$ as comparod with $\$ 536,721,000$ in the samo period of 1944 . The United Kingdom contributed the nort largest amount -- $\$ 15,179,000$ in May as oompared with $\$ 13,044,000$, and in the fivemonth period, $\$ 52,570,000$ as oomparod with $\$ 45,050,000$. British India was next in ordar with a total of $\$ 4,400,000$ in May as camparad with $\$ 3.957,000$, and in tho five months ondod May, $\$ 16,667,000$ as comparod with $\$ 12,943,000$.

The following wero amongst the prinoipal itoms importod in May totals for iay 1944 being in parentheses: fruits, $\$ 6,351,000(\$ 6,217,000)$; tua. $\$ 3,243,000(31,777,000)$; outton and products, $\$ 6,203,000(\$ 8,356,000)$; wool and products, $34,089,000(\$ 2,879,000)$; rolling mill products, \$4;618,000 ( $\$ 4,328,000)$; farm implomonts; \$4,328,000(33,704,000); machinery, exoopt agricultural, $\$ 8,971,000(\$ 7,560,000)$; vehiolos, $\$ 7,175,000(\$ 10,112,-$ 000); olootrical apparatus, $\$ 3,964,000(\$ 6,817,000)$; coal, $\$ 7,151,000(\$ 8,964,00$ )! putrolum produots, $\$ 5,527,000(39,535,000)$; chemioals, $\$ 7,010,000(\$ 8,043,000)$.

Trace Bosorts for Calondar Yaer 1944
Yow Availanlo for Furohase by Fublio
As from July lst 1945 the followine reports of the Dominion buroau of Statistios on Exturnal Trado for tho oalondar yoar 1944 are released fram oonsorship restrictions and ur available for purohase by the public:
(1) Erintod Iublications -- Volume II of the 1944 Annual Report of the Tradu of Cfinada doaling with oxports is now availablo and may be purchasod at the privo of $\$ 2.00$. Volumos I and III are in the press. Volume I consists of summary and anilytioal taivies; Volume III doals with imports. Theso may also be purohased whon available at $\$ 2.00$ each, or tho throo Volumos will be sent when available for $\$ 5.00$.
(2) Rotaprinted Iublications doaling, rospootively: with imports and with exports of Canadian products by oomnodities in Dooembor 1944 and in tho calondur yrar 1944 may be furohesed at 25 conts onoh and may bo froely usod. Furthor, rotaprintod roports doaling with artiolos importod from and exported to eaoh country durine the colondar yoar i 944 nay now bu purchasod at tho prioo of 25 oents oach and may be froeiy nopr! by all inter.


## Crop Conditions in Erairio Provincas

Frospoots for tho grain crons in the Prairie Irovinces were grently improved during the past wook by widoly soattered rains whioh ranged up to threo inohos at several points. Tomperatures wero bolow averago and the imponding damago from droubht was oheoked in south-oontral and wost-oentrai Saskatchowan and in central ilberta. Although tho Edmonton arou roooivad soatterod showers it still requiros furthor rains.

Tho ourly plantod whoat is now hoading out in some distriots and coarso grains are making fair progross. Most of the late sown erain is still in the shotblade stago and warm woathor is roquirod to hasten maturity. Crops are nevertheless still from ton daya to two wooks late and aro competing with a vigorous growth of woods.

Molsturo conditions may be Enorally desoribod as satisfaotory in Manitoba with the avora ei hel ht of whoat about eight inchos and ooarse grains about six inches. Conditions horo aro satisfaotory dospito tho hoavy wood growth. The dry aroa in south-oentral and south westorn Saskatohowan has rocoivod from fair to good rainfall and it is possible that whont may avorago 15 bushols to tho acre in tho Rosetown area. In the extreme south-west further rains in a wook or ton days will be nocossary as reserve moisture moisture supplies aro low. Wheat has stcciud olit fairly woll in the provinoe and also averages about oight inohes in hoight.

Widospread rains improvod conditions in oentral and south-eastern filborta which had boen suffering from dry weather, inthough some rain was reooivod in south-western hlborta orops in this aroa wero alruady makine excollent progress. A large seotion of oontral Alburta rooolved frum good to hoavy rains but theso tapored off farther north and the Edmonton arou still nuuds huavy rain. Early sown wheat is in the shotblade stage in tho Donou River district and somo of it is begimnine to hoad out. Although insoot damage has so for not boon too sovoro, sewfilios aro now in flight. Hall damago is reported over a wido arun betwoon Caleary and Medicino Hat.

## Stocke nnd Markotines of that and Coarsu Grains

Stocks of Canadian what in store or in transit in North Amerioa at midnieht on Junc 28 totallod $254,375,770$ bushels as oampered with $282,502,419$ on the oorresponding cuto of last yoar a coclino of $28,126,649$ bushols. Stooks on the latest date inoludod 239,037,187 bushels in Canadian positions and $15,338,583$ bushols in United States positions.

Deliveries of whont from farms in the Frairie Frovinoes during the woek ended Juno 28 amountod to $5,228,722$ bushols as oompared with $4,647,495$ in the precoding wook. Durine the olapsod portion of the prosont crop yoar whioh oommenocd kugust 1, 1944, doliverios agero gated $322,126,068$ bushuls as ocmpared with $272,491,792$ in the oorrespondine period of tho orop year 1943~44.

The following quantitios of coarse erains also wore dellvered from farms in western Cenada durinc tho weok endod June 28, totals for the proooding week boing in parenthesess oats, $3,321,051(3,063,745)$ bushols; barley, $676,506(662,239)$; ryo, $34,159(21,542)$; flaxsood, $43,374(46,405)$.

## Iroduotion of Whoat Flour in May

What flour produotion in Canadian mills during May amountod to 2,107,944 barrels as oompared with $1,962,264$ in the corresponding month of last year. Plour produotion for the ton months onding with May totalled 20,728,684 barrols as oampared with 20,676, . 864 in tho similur poriod of tho proouling orop your. Tho avorago monthly output for tho prosont orop yoar has boon slichtly better than $2,000,000$ barrels.

Tho quantity of whuat millod in May was $9,318,762$ bushols as ocmpared with $8,619,952$ in the samo month of last yoar. The erind of other grains in May was as follows, totals for May 1044 boing in paruthoses; onts: $1,896,984(2,052,368)$ bushels; oorn, 174,392 (176,500); barloy, 592.531 (703,250); buckwheat, 529 (1,230); mixed erain, 2,006,803 $(1,920,593)$.

## Fruit Crop Outlook

The total produotion of tree fruits in Canada this soeson will bo much bolow normal. Dospito oxcollent prospocts in British Columbia, the poor orops in eastern Canada, the rusult of advorse weathor during the oritioal period, havo brought anticipatod suppiies to an unusually low lovol. The first ostimate of the applo crop indioatos a roduction from the very larco orop in 1944 of 52 por oent. The prosont outlook is for a harvost of $8,133,000$ bushols as compared with $16,879,000$ bushols last soason. If the presont prospects continue, the orop will be the smallest sinco 1926. Doolinos aro reported in 011 provincos, but the groatost reduction took place in oastern Canadi. Whilo tho British Culumbia orcn is below that of last season, it is still about averace for the provinoo.

Faar production is also down sharply from last season, this yoar's crop beinc ostimated at 557,000 bushels as compared with 895,000 bushels. This year's anticipated harVust will bo the smallost since 1935. Flum and prune prospocts are also down sharply from lust soason at 376,000 bushels. This is a reduction of 24 per oent. The crop in British Columbia is ractically tho samo as that of last year, but a rooord suall crop is anticipated in Ontario. Foach production will bo 24 per cent lightor than in 194\%o Horo acain, tho doclino is due to the poor prospeots in Ontario. The orop is currently estimatod at $1,313,000$ bushols as compared with $1,720,000$ bushels. Cherries also will bo a smallor orop this soason, cospite the unusually largo orop in British Columbin. The sharp drop in the outlook in Ortario brings the Canadian total to 172,000 bushols as compared with 263,000 bushols in 1944. hprioots, which are grown in commercial quantitios only in British Culumbie, show an improvement over the previous orop. The curront astimato of produation is 142,000 bushols, whilo the 1944 or op amounted to 115,00 bushelso

Tho small fruit orops, unliko the tree fruits, are all substantially above tho 1944 luvol. Strawburry production is up 31 per cent over last yoar, with increases roported in all rovinoos. The crop is at presont ostimated at $14,060,000$ quarts as oumparod with 10,736,000 quarts last soason. Total raspborry production is also abovo that of a yoar aco. Incruasos in Nova Sootia, Ontario and British Columbia more than offsot tho slicht doclinos in quoboc and Now Brunswick, to bring the total to $11,313,000$ quarts as compared with the 1944 crop of $9,25,000$ quarts. The antioppated grape harvest will be the third lareest on rocord, exceodod only by the very large or ops in 1928 and 1942. Increases ovor tho provious orop are expocted in Ontario and British Columbia, to bring tha total to $67,839,000$ pounds, an increase of 13 per oont over tho 1944 harvest of $60,235,000$ pounds. Locanborrios are grown only in Britioh Columbia and production this soason is 20 por cont abovo the 1944 level. The orop is currently estimated at $1,538,000$ founds.

## Sulus of Parm Imnlomonts and Equipment

Dollar salos of farm implomonts and equipment in Canada rogistered a markud inoroaso in 1944 ovor 1943, acoording to rosuits of the annual survoy of this trado mado by tho Dominion Buruau of Statistics. Domestic salos of implements and equirment, mainly at wholosalo pricus to donlors or acents, totalled $\$ 54,616,657$ in 1944, up 84,7 por cont ovor tho $\$ 2,562,493$ rooordod for 1943 and a sumowhat highor figure than the $\$ 52,106,069$ and $\$ 50,461,523$ reported for 1941 and 1942 , rospectively. These figures relato to tho salo of new equipment and machinery only and do not inolude the salo of parts, bindar twine or motor truoks.

Sumplomontary information regarding average mark-u? peroentaces as roported by the various firms indicate that the total sales figure quoted for 1944 should bo increased by 18.3 por oont to bring it to a rotail basis. It would, thorofore, appoar that canadian farmurs spont apnroximatoly $\$ 64,600,000$ for now equipment and machinery in 1944. Information rolatine to thu salo of ropair parts was oolleoted in comootion with this amual survoy for the first time for 1944. Salos thus reported, again ohiefly at whalesais pricos, totallod $\$ 18,136,701$. On applying an average mark-up of 31 per oont as roportod by tho various fims to this total, a retail value for ropair parts amounting to $\$ 23,825,000$ was obtainod.

## Fowor inssoncer Cars Rogistered in 1944

Thore wero 16,290 fewer passonger cars rejistered in Canada in 1944 than in the procoding your, uooording to figuros reloased by the Dominion Buroau of Statistios, the totals hivine boon $1,177,557$ and $1,193,847$, respeotively. Tho number of truoks rocisturudi incrousud by 3,034, or from 294,176 in 1943 to 302,810 , whilo motor bus registrations inoreasod by 374 , or from 4,302 to 4,676. Motor oycle rogistrations wor ruchooci by 1,351 . and othor tyics of motor vehicles by 857. Tho net decreaso in total regisirations of motor vohiolos in 1.44 was 9,490 , or from $1,511,845$ in 1943 to $1,502,355$ in 1944.

## Eroduction of Electrio Enarey in May

Contral eloctrio stations produooi $3_{5} 593,074,000$ kilowatt hours in May as acmpazad with $3,584,515,000$ in tho oorrosponding month of Last yoar, the advanoo boing in saoondary fow r. Durine tho fiest fivo months of the curront your thu output totalled 17, 260,660,000 kilowatt hours as sompared with $17,203,640,000$ in tho simitar pericd of 1944.

Consumption of primury powor, incliiding linu iossos docinnod irrom 3,022,813,000 kilowatt hours in May last yoar to $2,819,019,000$, or by 6.7 por cont. The total for the first five months of this year wes roduacd from $15,225,338,000$ kilowatt hours to 13,744 , $06!, 000$, or by 9.7 per cont.

Exports to the Unitod States in May incronsud from $242,128,000$ kilowatt hours to $243,421,000$, the advance being all. In scoondary power. During the first five montrs of this yoar 1,007,551,000 kilowatt hours woro oxportod as oumparod with $1,050,300,000$ in the samo poriod of 2944 .

## Cointry Genoral Stor Salus in May

Cuntry cunoral storu salus in May avcraged two per ount highor tran in the corrosponding month of last yure according to roports roseivod from 750 stores doaline in a conuril lino of morchandiau cnci inoctod ir plecos of loss than 2,000 population. The V-E Day colobrations on Way 7 th and 8th were markod by thi cicsing of many businoss 11. cus, thus ruciucine tho number of deys on which businoss was transuctude ith is faotor wolld havo had somo fferst in ruaring tho volume of May salosa Tho uradjusted index of seilos on thy base $1935-193.100$, ow at 182, for May this yoar, 160 ol for hpril.
 4.9 por cont highop thin in the similner ortuo of the procoting yoar.

## May 1 Cost-of-Livinc Indux

The Dominion Buroau of Statistius costoon Iiving indux number on the base 1935-1939 100 advanood from 119 o on Nry 2 to 119 on Juns $1_{8} 19 \% 5$. Further increasos in frosh vorotablos wero minly rusfunsibiu for this ohangu. Thu food index ruse from 131.7 to 133.4 botwuon May and Juno, wich substentiai inoreases in frosh vegetal los and lesser 010 amon: fresh firits, ergs, ard ments, fur cutwighing a decline for buttor. The olothing indox ros, fraotion ily from 122,0 to 122.1 , but uther eroup indexes romained unchanged as follows: runt, 112,1: fuol and Iight; 10;,6; homefurnishings and services, 118.9; and miscelianeous itums, 109.40

## Stocks of Buttor, Cheoso and EGE:

Stocks of cromery butter in nine of the rinoipal oitios of Canads at the boginninc of July totallod $22,382,417$ pounds as compared with $21,697,989$ pounds on the corrosponding dato of last yoar, and $10,528,755$ pounds on Juilo 1 . Chuose stoaks totallod 38,592,308 pounds, whilo last yuar unu totrii was $30,635,752$ pounds. Last month tho amount was 21 , 254,215 pounds. Sheli oecs on hand wero 11, 734,133 dozon as oumpared with $3,550,326$ a yoar 0,60 and $9,393,896$ last month. Frozon 0,6 s in stook amonntud to $27,637,183$ pounds as oomparod with 27,271. 107 lasi year and 11,609,694 a month a,50.

Irun and Stool and Thoir roducts
According to final data compilod from the Consus of Indusiry roports for 1043, the production valus of iron and stesi and the ir manfacturos amountod to $\$ 2,575,977,000$ at factory prioos as cornparod with \$2,112, 822,000 in tho prooudine yoar, an advanoo of 22 por oent.

## Finanous of Irovincial Govormonts.

Tho agerogato of ordinary and oapital rovenues and uxprsos of provincial governmonts of Canada reachod a nuw hich point in thoir ruspoctivo fiscal yuars undod noarost Dooombor 31, 1943. The total of orinary and capital revendes advancod from $\$ 347,088,000$ in 1942 to $\$ 360,623,000$ in 1043 , or by 5.6 por cont, and ordinury and sapitel exponsos from 300 , 780,000 to $\$ 310,181,000$, or $3 y 301$ por osnt. For the suoond consocutive year the rovonue of every provincu oxcuedud the total of its orilnary and capitai expendituroo Over-all surnluses of the nrovinues neere gated $\$ 50,40,000$ in 19,3 as oumparod with $\$ 46,300,000$ in tho moooding yrain,

There was no major ohange in the provinoial rovenue structure duririb 1943. Fur ther doolines in eusolino tax rovenue and in amounts colloctod on arrears of provincial inoume and ourporation taxas were offsct by increasos in the amounts receivad from the Fudural Goverment undor the turms of the Dominion-Provinoial Taxatiun Agroemont nota Tho rovenue from liquor control, wioh wos seoond in important only to tho tax abroomont subsidios, increased by 8.2 por oent to a now high of $\$ 64,986,000-\ldots$ elmost doublo the 1939 yield. Increases wore rooordod in ovory provinoo exoupt British Columbia whero thoro was a murked dualino of 14.7 per cont. Queboo's "Retail Salos" tax and Sackatohowan's "Dduoation" tax both produoed inoroasod revenue in 1943. Revenue frum tho Saskutohowan Eduoation tax, which is oar-marked for oducational purposes, oxoeeded that Province's total uducational expenditure.

The duoline of $2,122,000$ or 3.3 per oent, in net debt charges, exciusivu of debt retiremont, from tho proouding yuar's rocord high of $\$ 64,140,000$ reflocted the iriprovement in provincial finances. This reversal of a consistent long-torm rising trond has boon duo for the most part to dobt retiremont and a roduotion in the averago rato of inturast paid, In Saskatohowan, however, gross debt charges wore slightly highor but net dubt chargos deolined by $\$ 616,000$ us a result of an inorease of $\$ 736,000$ in interost roouived from the Farm Lomn Board. Increased oxponditures for education and fublio welfare were quite eunoral and aooountod for almost all of tho rise in provinoial oxpondituro in 1913. Not oducational expondituro doclinod only in Manitoba und welfaro oxponditure, oxclusive of reliof, inoruased in all provinous. The marked incruasu of $3,162,000$, or 25.4 pur ount, in the cost of old $a_{6} \theta$ and hlind pensions wes ciuo more to the fact that pensions were inoroused to offsut the rise in the cost of living, than to tho natural inorease in the number of pensions paid.

In the yoar under review total gross provincial direot liabilitios, oxclusivo of rusurves and deforrud orudits, decreased by $47,182,000$, or 2.3 per oont. ist tho same time oish and invostments held in oapital, revenue and sinking funds incroscod by \$41,808,000, or 18.4 pur ount. This genural strengthoning of the provincial balanou shout position was duo not only to the existonoe of reoord over-all surplusos but also to the faot that the oollootion of loans and receivables was facilitated by improveri ocunom oonditions. Gross inciroot liabilitios dooreasod by $3,462,000$, or 1.8 ner cont.

Tho totals of not oombinod revonuos in 1943 wero as follows by provincess with net combined exponditures in parentiosos: Prinoe Edward Island, $32,617_{5} 000(2,546,000)$; Nova Soutia, $\$ 16,937,000(\$ 13,429,000)$; Now Brunswiok, $\$ 13,724,000(12,137,000)$; Queboc, \$99,997,000 ( $\mathbf{~} 94,701,000$ ); Ontario, $\$ 117,483,000(\$ 102,292,000)$; Manitoba, $19,995,000$ (\$14,465,000); Saskatchowan, \$30,931,000 ( $\$ 20,219,000$ ); Alberta, $\$ 25,920,000(\hat{3} 19,890,-$ $000)$ : British Culumbia, $839,019,000(\$ 30,505,000)$. Figures for Princo Edverà Island rofur to a $15-$ month period.

Clams for Unemployment Insurance in May
Tho number of claims for Unumployment Insuranoe benufit reooived at looal officos of the Unamployment Insuranoe Comission in May totallod 8,825 as oumpared with 8,430 in April and 4,654 in May, 1944. Persons signing the live unemployment registur during tho last six workine days of May numbered 16,645 as compared with 19,197 in April and 7,329 in May last your.

Of the 8,013 olaims adjudionted at insuranoe offioes during May, 6,148 weru conFiderod ontitlod to benefit and 1,865 not entitled to bonofit. The chief reasons for non-entitioment wuros "insuffioient contributions whilo in insurable omployment" with 731 oases; "voluntarily luft employment without just cuuse" with 700 aases, and "Cisohargod for misconduot" with 190 oases.

During May, 21,294 pursons roouivod bonofit payments totalling 1372,859 for 349,996 conpensatod unomiloyed days as oompared with 22,995 persons who we:c paid \$591,265 for 304,102 days in April und 14,095 pursons paid $\$ 473,709$ for 240,232 days in Mays 1044 。

Tho avorago curation of the unomployment oumponsated was 16.4 days in May, 13.2 days in April and 17 days in May, 1944. Tho ave raco amount of benufit paid por boneficiury was $\$ 31.60$ in May, 25.71 in April and $\$ 33.61$ in May, 1944. The averace amolint of benofit paid por compensated day of unumployment was $\$ 1.92$ in May, 11 , in heril and $\mathbf{1} .97$ in May, 1944.

Froduction of pic iron in Canada in May amounted to 165,574 not tons as comparod with 175,207 tons in the oorrosponding month of last yeart The total for the latest month includod 128,959 tons of basio iron, 13,654 tons of foundry iron and 12,961 tons of mallaable iron. During the fivo months ondod May the output of all grades totalled 782,917 tons as oompared with 627,343 tons in the same porlod of 1944.

May production of stoel ingots and stosl oastings was reoorded at 267,643 net tons as oomparod with 263,431 in May of last year, the total for May this yoar including 254, \% 629 tons of ingots and 13,014 tons of oastings. Output of ingots and oastings during tho first five months of this year aggregated $1,333,503$ tons as ompared with $1,271,833$ in the similar poriod of 1944.

Output of forro-alloys in May amountod to 19,883 tons as oompared with 18,350 in the proooding month and 17,906 in May, 1944; the total for the five months endod May was 80,199 tons as compared with 60,316 a year ago.

## Index Numbers of Wholosalo Irious

The cenoral wholusalo prioo indox number, on the base $1926 \mathbf{1 0 0}$, stood at 103.0 for Nay, as ompared with 103.4 for April and 102.5 for May, 1944. Amonest the sub-groups oomprisine the genoral indox, vegetable produots advenced from 96.0 in April to 97.0 , and animal products from 106.9 to 107.2. Wood products fell from 120.5 to 117.6 , iron produots from 117.2 to 115.3 , non-metallio minerals from 103.1 to 102.6 , and ohemioal [roduots from 100.0 to 93.6 . Textiles and non-ferrous metals were unchane ed at 91.7 and 79.7 , ruspootively.

## Car Loadings un Canadian Railways

Car loadines on Canadian railways for the weok ended June 28 inoreased to 74,459 oars from 74,302 oars for the preoeding weok and 72,677 oars for the corresponding week of last year. Loadings in the eastern division inoreased from 46,061 cars in 194s to 47,371 oars and in tho wostorn division from 26,616 to 27,088 cars.

Reports Issued During the Wook

1. Iron and Stool and Their Eroduots, 1943 (10 oents).
2. Irioes and Frioe Indexes, May ( 10 oents).
3. Froduction of Ir on and Stool, May (10 conts).
4. Trade of Canada, May (10 oents).
5. Summary of Camada's Imports, May ( 10 oents).
6. Irports by Frinoipal Countries, May (10 oents) .
7. Fruit and Vagotablo Crop Report (10 conts).
8. Advanoe freliminary Statement of Stooks of Buttor, Cheose and Eggs in Nino of tho Prinoipal Citios of Canada, July ( 10 oents).
9. Price Novements, Juno (10 oents).
10. Finanoial Statistios of Provinoial Goverrments, 1943 ( 25 oents).
11. Monthly Indexes of Country General Store Sales, May (10 cents).
12. Statistioal Roport on the Operation of the Unomployment Insuranoe Aot. May ( 10 oonts).
13. Telegraphio Crop Report, Irairio Provinoos (10 oents).
14. Salos of Farm Imploments and Equipment, 1944 ( 25 aents).
15. Central Electrio Stations, May ( 10 oents).
16. Canadian Milling Statistios, May (10 oents).
17. Canadian Grair Statistios (10 oents).
18. Salos of Asphalt Roofing, May ( 10 cents).
19. Iroduotion of isphalt Roofing, May ( 10 conts).
20. Grain Situation in irgentina ( 10 cents).
21. Car Loadines on Canadian Railways ( 10 oentb).
22. Registrations of Motor Vehioles, 1944 ( 10 oents).
23. Employment Situation at Boginning of May (10 oents).
