

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce



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### Employment and Payrolls at Beginning of November

Moderate increases in employment and payrolls were indicated at the first of November 1944, when the 14,983 firms co-operating in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' monthly survey reported the addition of 5,389 persons to their staffs, which aggregated 1,867,673. The weekly salaries and wages disbursed at November 1 by these establishments amounted to \$60,300,839; as compared with the sum of \$60,258,445 paid on or about October 1, there was an advance of 0.1 per cent. The contents of the average weekly pay envelope of the men and women in recorded employment, however, fell from \$32.36 to \$32.29.

The expansion in employment took place in the non-manufacturing industries, there being considerable curtailment in manufacturing, mainly in the vegetable foods, iron and steel, non-ferrous metal and lumber divisions. This was the seventh monthly decline in manufacturing as a whole since the beginning of 1944. Among the non-manufacturing industries, logging showed substantially greater seasonal activity, some 17,600 men having been taken on by the co-operating camps, in which the advance exceeded the average for the time of year. Building and trade also afforded more employment. In the latter, the reported gain of 4,900 persons was larger-than-normal for November 1; this was no doubt partly due to the employment of unusually large numbers of part-time workers. On the other hand, mining, communications, transportation, highway and railway construction and maintenance and services indicated reduced activity, the losses being seasonal.

Based on the 1926 average as 100, the general index number of employment at the beginning of November was 183.8 as compared with 183.3 at October 1 and 188.7 at November 1, 1943. The decrease of 2.6 per cent in the latter comparison was accompanied by a fractional reduction in the index number of payrolls. The seasonally-adjusted index number of employment rose from 174.4 in the preceding month to 175.9 at the beginning of November.

### Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages in November

Births registered in Canadian cities, towns and villages having a population of 10,000 and over numbered 10,421 in November, deaths 4,730 and marriages 3,759 as compared with 10,396 births, 4,802 deaths and 4,278 marriages in November 1943, showing an increase of 0.2 per cent in births and decreases of 12 per cent in marriages and one per cent in deaths.

### Quebec Housing Data by Electoral Districts

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics announces the publication of a bulletin which gives a summary by electoral districts of 1941 census housing data for the Province of Quebec. In addition to a picture of housing conditions in comparatively small areas, the figures included in the bulletin should provide data useful in the estimation of market potentials. A division has been made between farm and non-farm dwellings, and separate figures are shown for cities and towns with a population of 4,000 persons or more. Percentages and averages have been based upon a sample representing every tenth dwelling. Copies of this bulletin may be obtained on application to the Dominion Statistician, Ottawa.

### Coal Supplies of Canada

Coal production in Canada during November 1944 amounted to 1,637,863 tons as compared with 1,472,424 in the corresponding month of 1943. Output for the first 11 months of 1944 aggregated 15,485,897 tons, a decline of 4.6 per cent from the total of 16,231,847 tons recorded in the similar period of 1943. A recent estimate of Canada's coal output for the calendar year 1944 was published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at 17,118,008 tons as compared with 17,859,057 in the preceding year.

Imports of coal in November were recorded at 2,610,514 tons as compared with 2,835,196 in November, 1943; the 11-month totals were 27,496,455 tons and 26,783,599 tons, respectively. Exports of coal in November amounted to 65,950 tons as compared with 79,609



tons 12 months earlier, with the totals for the 11 months ending November standing at 928,747 tons in 1944 and 1,002,316 in 1943.

November coke production totalled 329,000 tons as compared with 331,000 in October and 339,000 in November, 1943. During the first 11 months of 1944 the total was 3,671,000 tons as compared with 3,205,000 in the comparable period of 1943.

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#### Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers in Canada at the end of November 1944 amounted to 513,110 as compared with 465,493 at the end of the preceding month and 443,556 at the end of November, 1943. Calf and kip skins on hand decreased from 356,420 at the end of October to 354,527 at the end of November. Stocks of other types at the end of November included 108,632 dozen sheep and lamb skins, 136,287 goat and kid skins and 21,064 horse hides.

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#### Sales of Gasoline in October

Sales of motor, tractor and aviation grades of gasoline during October 1944 totalled 100,736,000 gallons as compared with 99,736,000 in the preceding month and 88,250,000 in the corresponding month of 1943. During the first 10 months of 1944 gasoline sales aggregated 837,314,000 gallons as compared with 757,950,000 in the similar period of 1943.

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#### Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways during the week ending January 6 amounted to 49,883 cars as compared with 44,770 cars for the preceding week and 62,411 cars for the corresponding week of last year. The absence of a holiday in the same week of 1944 affects the latter comparison.

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#### Acids, Alkalies and Salts Industry in 1943

Plants comprising Canada's heavy chemical industry continued to operate at capacity during 1943 and increased sales were again recorded for sulphuric acid, carbide, cyanamide, soda ash, caustic soda, chlorine and other basic items. There was some easing in the military requirements for sulphuric acid and ammonium nitrate and large quantities were made available for fertilizer purposes. Tonnage or value figures for the individual items made in this industry are not available for publication.

Since 1939 there has been a three-fold expansion in the Canadian heavy chemical industry. The gross value of products manufactured during 1939 was \$23,057,000, rising to \$31,000,000 in 1940, to \$50,109,000 in 1941, to \$65,124,000 in 1942 and to \$78,359,000 in 1943. The capital investment and the number of employees followed a similar pattern, the former advancing from \$36,978,000 in 1939 to \$102,927,000 in 1943, and the latter from 3,128 in 1939 to 8,045 in 1943.

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#### Paints, Pigments and Varnishes Industry in 1943

Manufacturers of paints, pigments and varnishes reported production at \$45,068,000 in 1943 as compared with \$45,765,000 in 1942, a reduction of 1.5 per cent. The output of some of the leading items, including small amounts from other industries, was as follows in 1943: 8,232,391 gallons of ready-mixed paints at \$18,878,593; 2,673,619 gallons of varnishes at \$4,791,150; 2,245,342 gallons of enamels at \$6,278,761; 1,899,091 gallons of cellulose lacquers at \$4,463,476; 9,038,132 pounds of dry colours at \$1,267,951; 7,133,746 pounds of paste paints and fillers at \$1,208,394; 883,172 pounds of colours in japan or oil at \$203,474; 12,282,549 pounds of water paints and size at \$927,579; 360,208 gallons of stains at \$622,799; 8,955,460 pounds of putty at \$389,095; and 1,231,245 gallons of py-roxylin thinners at \$1,441,317.



### Age Distribution of the Population of Canada

The age distribution of a population is fundamental to most, if not all, other analyses, for the age factor influences employment, marriage, birth rates and death rates, education, immigration, criminology and a multitude of events and activities that are of great importance in the national life. Immigration has been a strong influence on age distributions: it does not directly affect the very young sections of the population except to a very small degree, but it immediately affects the age groups between the 'teens' and 'twenties' and its effects are carried to the older groups as time goes by.

In 1901, 175.1 persons per thousand of the total population of Canada were in the age group 20-29 years and 130.5 persons per thousand in the group 30-39 years: a decade later, 190.3 per thousand were in the former group and 142.6 in the latter. This movement was cut down severely after the outbreak of the war in 1914 and therefore the influence of these earlier accretions to the population would be expected to creep through the upper age groups year by year, and it has already reached those of the population in the 'fifties'.

Between 1931 and 1941 a more pronounced general ageing of the population of Canada is shown, owing to practically non-existent migration and a lower birth rate -- factors that were emphasized during the depression years. In 1921 the number per thousand and of total between 40 and 59 years of age was 183.0; it was 201.2 in 1931 and 209.5 in 1941. Greater proportional increases, however, are shown by the group 60 years of age and over; this group represented 75.1 per thousand of the total population in 1921, 83.8 in 1931 and no less than 102.2 per thousand in 1941.

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### Revenues and Expenses of Railways in October

Canadian railways earned \$68,258,000 in October, an increase of \$1,344,000 or two per cent over October 1943 revenues. Operating expenses increased from \$47,940,000 to \$54,538,000, but this included \$4,585,000 of back pay in 1944, which was partly offset by a decrease of \$1,419,000 in deferred maintenance charges. These charges affected the operating income which declined from \$15,470,000 to \$10,503,000. During the first 10 months of 1944 gross revenues increased to \$657,453,000 from \$635,977,000 in the similar period of 1943, and the operating income declined to \$96,426,000 from \$128,624,000.

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### Stocks and Marketings of Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on January 11 totalled 372,035,401 bushels as compared with 351,608,718 on the corresponding date of last year. This year's total included 330,212,884 bushels in Canadian positions and 41,822,517 bushels in United States positions.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending January 11 amounted to 4,288,507 bushels as compared with 3,515,573 in the preceding week. During the elapsed portion of the present crop year which commenced August 1, 1944 deliveries from western farms totalled 227,799,371 bushels as compared with 127,654,164 in the similar period of 1943-44.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending January 11, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 2,933,925 (3,132,435) bushels; barley, 1,065,714 (565,460); rye, 25,029 (12,603); flaxseed, 25,850 (17,902).

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### Merchandise Export Trade of Canada in 1944

Canada's domestic merchandise exports reached record proportions during the calendar year 1944, the total being \$3,439,953,000 as compared with \$2,971,476,000 in the preceding year, an advance of 15.8 per cent. Increases were recorded in the aggregate value of commodities exported to both Empire and Foreign Countries during the year just ended. Exports to Empire Countries totalled \$1,620,451,000 as compared with \$1,401,662,000 in 1943, an increase of 15.6 per cent, and to Foreign Countries \$1,819,502,000 as compared with \$1,569,813,000 in 1943, an advance of 15.9 per cent.



Domestic merchandise exports to the United States during 1944 were valued at \$,301,-322,000 as compared with \$1,149,232,000 in the preceding year, an increase of 13.2 per cent. The value of exports to the United Kingdom in 1944 amounted to \$1,235,030,000 as compared with \$1,032,647,000, an advance of 19.6 per cent. Exports to British India in 1944 were valued at \$174,794,000 as compared with \$134,576,000 in 1943, to Italy \$160,118,000 as compared with \$8,815,000, to Egypt \$108,290,000 as compared with \$188,-664,000, and to Russia \$103,264,000 as compared with \$57,660,000.

The following were other leading destinations for Canada's domestic exports in 1944, totals for 1943 being in brackets: British South Africa, \$23,597,000 (\$35,611,000); Jamaica, \$13,884,000 (\$8,986,000); Trinidad and Tobago, \$16,474,000 (\$13,706,000); Newfoundland, \$47,950,000 (\$43,473,000); Australia, \$43,513,000 (\$46,686,000); New Zealand, \$11,916,000 (\$28,115,000); Eire, \$11,971,000 (\$4,985,000); China, \$14,901,000 (nil); France, \$15,865,000 (nil); French Possessions, \$33,230,000 (\$27,608,000).

The total value of agricultural products exported during 1944 advanced to \$741,265,000 from the 1943 valuation of \$483,757,000, or by \$257,508,000. Wheat exports rose to \$384,-150,000 from \$234,458,000, wheat flour to \$90,001,000 from \$66,274,000, and barley to \$45,588,000 from \$32,435,000. The aggregate value of animal products exported in 1944 increased to \$372,926,000 from \$289,566,000, meats advancing to \$192,001,000 from \$130,-790,000, and fishery products to \$63,854,000 from \$57,148,000.

Motor vehicles and parts were exported to the value of \$433,247,000 during 1944 as compared with \$507,424,000 in 1943, planks and boards \$90,119,000 as compared with \$74,-182,000, wood pulp \$101,563,000 as compared with \$100,013,000, newsprint paper \$157,191,-000 as compared with \$144,707,000 and pulpwood \$20,012,000 as compared with \$18,565,000. Exports of wool and wool products were valued at \$24,592,000 as compared with \$9,058,000, and fertilizers \$24,000,000 as compared with \$18,144,000.

Other large commodity exports during 1944 were as follows, corresponding totals for 1943 being in brackets: alcoholic beverages, \$21,109,000 (\$17,272,000); seeds, \$27,692,-000 (\$28,935,000); furs, \$27,029,000 (\$26,449,000); cheese, \$27,062,000 (\$26,811,000); eggs, \$21,872,000 (\$15,064,000); rolling mill products, \$10,130,000 (\$4,595,000); farm implements, \$13,434,000 (\$10,284,000); machinery, other than farm, \$24,947,000 (\$10,043,000); petroleum, \$9,057,000 (\$7,346,000).

#### Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres during 1944

The cheques cashed at branch banks in 33 centres during 1944 aggregated \$60,677,-000,000 as compared with \$53,797,000,000 in the preceding year, an increase of \$6,880,-000,000 or 12.8 per cent. Due to the record levels of economic activity and relatively high prices, the amount of cheques cashed in clearing centres was greater in 1944 than in any other year. In 1929, the culmination of the last prosperity period, the cheques cashed amounted to \$46,670,000,000, the increase over that year having been no less than 30 per cent.

Increases were recorded in each of the five economic areas during 1944. The advance in the Maritime Provinces was 6.7 per cent, the amount having been \$1,328,000,000 as compared with \$1,244,000,000 in 1943. The increase in the Province of Quebec was from \$15,374,000,000 to \$17,222,000,000, or by 12 per cent. The increase in Ontario was nine per cent over the high level of the preceding year; the gain was \$2,221,000,000, resulting in a total of \$26,903,000,000 in 1944. The greatest increase among the five economic areas was shown in the Prairie Provinces where the advance was 24.9 per cent to \$11,488,-000,000. Cheques cashed in British Columbia amounted to \$3,736,000,000, an increase of 13.3 per cent.

#### Stocks of United States Grain in Canada

Stocks of United States grain in Canada on January 11 amounted to 398,904 bushels as compared with 1,476,389 on the corresponding date of last year. Stocks of wheat fell to 59,843 bushels from 1,222,252, while soybeans advanced to 86,131 bushels from 29,243, and corn to 252,930 bushels from 224,894 bushels.

### Roofing Paper Industry in 1943

The gross value of products made by firms engaged wholly or chiefly in the manufacture of roofing paper in 1943 amounted to \$10,699,000 as compared with \$10,419,000 in the preceding year. The cost of materials used in the process of manufacture totalled \$5,031,000 as compared with \$5,085,000 in 1942. There were 1,098 persons employed as compared with 1,134 and disbursements in the form of salaries and wages amounted to \$1,878,000 as compared with \$1,894,000 in 1942.

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### Reports Issued during the Week

1. The Roofing Paper Industry, 1943 (10 cents).
  2. Production of Asphalt Roofing, November (10 cents).
  3. Sales of Asphalt Roofing, November (10 cents).
  4. Births, Deaths and Marriages. November (10 cents).
  5. The Acids, Alkalies and Salt Industry, 1943 (15 cents).
  6. The Paints, Pigments and Varnishes Industry, 1943 (25 cents).
  7. Employment Situation at Beginning of November (10 cents).
  8. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, October; and Petroleum Fuels Sales, October (10 cents).
  9. Housing Data by Electoral Districts, Quebec, 1941 (10 cents).
  10. Copper and Nickel Production, October (10 cents).
  11. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, October (10 cents).
  12. Gold Production, October (10 cents).
  13. Coal and Coke Statistics, November (10 cents).
  14. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
  15. Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins, November (10 cents).
  16. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, October (10 cents)
  17. Population of Canada by Age Groups, 1941 (10 cents).
  18. Maritime Provinces Housing Data, by Electoral Districts, 1941 (10 cents).
  19. Summary of Canada's Domestic Exports, December (10 cents).
  20. Canada's Domestic Exports by Principal Countries, December (10 cents).
  21. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, December (10 cents).
  22. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
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