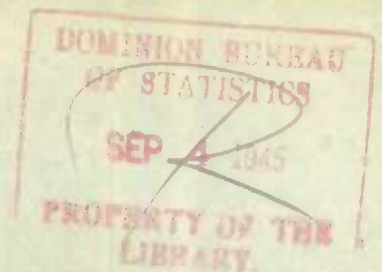


WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce



Vol. XIII - No. 34

Ottawa, Saturday, September 1, 1945

Price \$1.00 per annum

Feed Situation in Canada

Crop prospects for coarse grains in Canada are decidedly poorer this year than last, especially in the important grain-growing areas of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Drought and cool weather in most of Alberta and south-western Saskatchewan have resulted in serious deterioration of grain crops. Most of the land in south-eastern Alberta is yielding from one to five bushels per acre. Irrigated lands in this area will help to offset threatened feed shortages. While crop conditions are much more favourable in south-eastern Alberta, a higher proportion of the land in this area is devoted to the production of wheat, rather than oats and barley. In south-western Saskatchewan much of the crop is being abandoned as not worth threshing. To help alleviate the seriousness of the situation in these stricken areas, the Canadian Wheat Board issued an order on July 26, 1945 which prohibited the shipping of wheat grading No. 4 Northern and lower from these areas. Some of the Saskatchewan municipalities are preparing to take steps to purchase coarse grain stocks. The apparent shortage has necessitated the suspension of eastern shipments of coarse grains from the Prairie Provinces until after the middle of September.

Crop prospects in Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan have been favourable during most of the growing season and indications are that production will be good. Although harvesting in British Columbia promises good yields of oats and wheat and a light crop of barley, feeders in that province, especially poultrymen, are concerned over prospective shipments of feed grains which usually move into British Columbia from Alberta.

At the present time it is estimated that production of oats in the Prairie Provinces will be about 100 million bushels less than a year ago, while the barley crop in Western Canada is expected to be some 30 million bushels smaller. Fortunately, Ontario has harvested an excellent crop of winter wheat which should yield close to the 1944 outturn of 20.9 million bushels; of this total all but 7 or 8 million bushels will be fed on farms. Barley in Ontario and Quebec promises to yield well, while prospects for oats are no better than average.

Coupled with the prospect of lower production Canada's back-log of grain carry-over supplies is the smallest since 1940. In view of their productive capacity, farm carry-over of coarse grains in Eastern Canada on July 31 was quite insignificant and the carry-over in Western Canada was 30 per cent smaller than a year ago.

While it is conceded that serious feed shortages do exist in certain areas the overall picture is not as pessimistic as first sight might indicate. Although supplies are down, indications are that requirements will also be smaller. Numbers of hogs on farms at June 1, 1945 were some 20 per cent less than a year ago, while the fall pig crop is expected to be about 15 per cent below that of 1944. This year returns from hatcheries indicate some reduction in poultry production which, during the past few years, consumed substantial amounts of feed grains. Uneven distribution of feed supplies will present difficulties, but it is expected that total supplies will be sufficient to at least meet domestic requirements.

During 1944-45 exports, mainly to the United States, amounted to 75 million bushels of oats and 40 million of barley and exceeded those of a year ago. The Feeds Administration has now placed rigid restrictions on the export of barley from Canada. Although oat exports are restricted at present this restriction may be lifted in the event of surplus supplies becoming available at a later date.

Stocks and Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on August 23 totalled 199,568,300 bushels as compared with 291,660,542 on the corresponding date of last year, a reduction of 92,092,242 bushels. Stocks on the latest date included 176,916,019 bushels in Canadian positions and 22,652,281 bushels in United States positions.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the three Prairie Provinces during the week ended August 23 amounted to 1,599,628 bushels as compared with 382,341 in the preceding week. Marketings of wheat from western farms during the period August 1 to August 23 totalled 2,340,725 bushels as compared with 8,773,912 in the same period of the crop year 1944-45.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the three Prairie Provinces during the week ended August 23, totals for the preceding week being in parentheses: oats, 1,634,650 (451,699) bushels; barley, 1,409,553 (250,888); rye, 155,248 (42,135); flaxseed, 21,774 (8,641).

Department Store Sales in July

Department store sales in Canada for July stood 14 per cent higher than in July 1944, but declined 21 per cent below the June volume. The increase over July last year exceeded the 10 per cent gain in sales for the first seven months of this year over last. Unadjusted indexes of sales, on the base 1935-1939=100, stood at 133.0 for July, 169.1 for June, and 116.8 for July, 1944.

The substantial reduction below June is not unusual, since sales normally decline between these two months. In fact, when allowance is made for differences in number of business days and for normal seasonal variations, the index moved upwards to 178.7 in July from 160.6 recorded in June and 157.3 in May of this year. The adjusted index for July was slightly above the average for the year to date.

Quebec led other sections of the country with a 20 per cent increase in July sales over the same month of 1944. The advance was about on a par with the increase recorded in June for that province and was far in excess of the 12 per cent gain shown for the first seven months of 1945 over 1944. Increases in other regions also exceeded the cumulative gains for the seven-month period. July increases, with those for the year-to-date in brackets, were as follows: Maritime Provinces, 8 per cent (7 per cent); Ontario, 15 per cent (11 per cent); Prairie Provinces, 10 per cent (7 per cent); and British Columbia, 15 per cent (10 per cent).

Output in Central Electric Stations in July

Electric energy produced by central electric stations in July amounted to 3,284,950,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 3,411,673,000 in the preceding month and 3,149,361,000 in the corresponding month of last year. For the first seven months of the current year, production was recorded at 23,957,283,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 23,678,526,000 in the comparable period of 1944.

Consumption of primary power in July totalled 2,595,376,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 2,679,249,000 in June and 2,789,125,000 in July, 1944. For the first seven months of this year, consumption amounted to 19,018,695,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 20,847,374,000 in the like period of 1944.

July exports of electric energy to the United States amounted to 263,776,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 253,872,000 in June and 236,514,000 in July, 1944. Exports during the first seven months of this year totalled 1,525,209,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 1,515,490,000 in the same period of 1944.

Building Permits in July

The value of building permits issued by municipalities reporting to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics was \$18,777,266 in July as compared with \$19,573,902 in June and \$13,350,358 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first seven months of this year, building permits were issued to the value of \$99,329,112 as compared with \$76,885,201 in the similar period of 1944. In July of this year, permits were issued for new construction to the value of \$14,715,603, and additions, alterations, and repairs, \$4,061,663.

Production of Motor Vehicles in July

Production of motor vehicles in Canada in July totalled 11,093 units as compared with 14,532 in the preceding month and 12,132 in the corresponding month of last year. During the first seven months of the current year there were 96,768 units produced as compared with 92,070 in the comparable period of 1944.

Canadian National Railways in 1944

Operating revenues of the Canadian National Railways reached a new high point in 1944, aggregating \$441,148,000 as compared with \$440,616,000 in the preceding year, and \$203,820,000 in 1939, according to a report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Revenues of Canadian lines advanced from \$391,084,000 in 1943 to \$391,586,000, and United States lines from \$49,532,000 to \$49,562,000. System operating expenses rose from \$324,476,000 in 1943 to \$362,547,000, and the operating net income fell from \$116,140,000 to \$78,600,000.

The number of persons employed increased from 101,126 in 1943 to 102,764 in 1944, and the pay roll was increased from \$195,555,000 to \$222,649,000. The tonnage of revenue freight transported in 1944 amounted to 80,851,000 as compared with 80,427,000 in 1943, and 45,691,000 in 1939. The number of passengers carried was 35,928,000 as compared with 34,501,000 in 1943 and 10,145,000 in 1939. The average miles of road operated during 1944 was 23,496.

Canadian Pacific Railway Company in 1944

The operating revenues of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company were the highest on record in 1944, amounting to \$337,111,000 as compared with \$314,332,000 in the preceding year, and \$159,863,000 in 1939. Operating expenses in 1944 totalled \$266,773,000 as compared with \$229,513,000 in 1943, and the net operating revenues amounted to \$70,337,000 as compared with \$84,819,000. These data have been adjusted to be as nearly comparable as feasible with similar figures for the Canadian National Railways.

There were 67,528 persons employed in 1944 as compared with 64,387 in 1943, and the aggregate of salaries and wages was \$148,015,000 as compared with \$125,216,000. Freight traffic amounted to 55,679,000 tons as compared with 52,552,000 in 1943, and 33,030,000 tons in 1939. The number of passengers carried was 18,461,000 as compared with 17,597,000 in 1943 and 7,255,000 in 1939. The mileage of road operated during 1944 was 17,030, a reduction of five miles from the 1943 total.

Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended August 18 dropped to 60,683 cars from 68,628 in the preceding week and 69,660 in the corresponding week of last year. The holiday on V-J Day was the main factor in the decrease. Compared with the corresponding week of last year, loadings in the eastern division decreased from 44,552 to 39,571 cars, and in the western division from 25,108 to 21,112 cars.

Total grain loadings dropped from 9,383 cars in 1944 to 7,892 cars; coal from 5,145 to 3,473 cars; ores and concentrates from 3,785 to 3,379 cars; lumber, lath and shingles from 3,840 to 3,375 cars; wood pulp and paper from 3,251 to 2,807 cars; and merchandise from 15,075 to 12,701 cars.

Contract Drilling in Canadian Mining Industry

There were 34 firms engaged in contract diamond drilling of Canadian mineral deposits, other than fuels, during 1944 compared with 27 in 1943. The income received from drilling operations completed by these firms in 1944 totalled \$4,970,247 against \$3,072,481. The footage drilled by contractors in 1944, in the entire Dominion, aggregated 3,468,797 feet, of which approximately 39 per cent was completed in Ontario, 38 per cent in Quebec and 16 per cent in British Columbia.

In 1944, 46 contractors reported drilling for petroleum, natural gas or for other purposes. The footage drilled totalled 583,155 and the income from operations amounted to \$5,353,845; of the footage drilled, 230,519 feet were completed by cable drill, 3,000 feet by diamond drill and 349,636 feet by rotary.

Not included in this summary are statistics relating to drilling conducted by Canadian mining or oil companies with their own personnel and equipment.

Production of Asphalt Roofing in July

Production of asphalt shingles, siding and roofing in July included the following categories, totals for July 1944 being in brackets: asphalt shingles, 117,007 (93,986) squares; asphalt siding, 3,560 (2,087) squares; smooth surfaced roofing, 70,611 (66,445) squares; mineral surfaced roofing, 96,264 (76,045) squares; tar and asphalt felts, 2,202 (1,821) tons; and tar and asphalt sheathing, 704 (959) tons.

Stocks of United States Corn in Canada

Stocks of United States corn in Canada continue at a low level, the figure for August 23 this year standing at 30,750 bushels as compared with 450,615 on the corresponding date of last year. Stocks on the latest date were located at the following points: Sarnia, 25,600 bushels; Midland, 4,258; and Montreal, 892 bushels.

Press Fills from Bureau Records

The ironwood is a small tree found from Nova Scotia to Ontario, and is associated with such hardwoods as beech, sugar maple, white ash and white elm. It reaches the height of 25 to 35 feet and the diameter of 12 inches. The fruit is hop-like in appearance and each contains a small seed-like nut. The fruit remains on the tree during the winter. Its wood is one of the hardest and toughest of native woods and is used locally for vehicle stock, handles and spring-poles. Owing to the small size usually attained, the tree is not important as a lumber producer, but is used for wood distillation when available.

.

The glove is a hand covering which most Canadians appreciate to the full during the cold, snappy winter months, especially when the thermometer slips well below the zero point. But the fashion of wearing gloves is by no means a recent acquisition. They were used by the Persians in ancient times. Gloves have had their symbolic meaning. It was customary to wear gloves in the hat for the memory of a friend. And again, a glove was thrown down as a challenge to an enemy, who accepted battle by retrieving it. Gloves, mittens and gauntlets of all kinds were produced in Canada in 1943 to the value of \$13,115,000, according to the records of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Reports Issued Today

1. Central Electric Stations, July (10 cents).
 2. Building Permits, July (10 cents).
 3. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
 4. Automobile Production, July (10 cents).
 5. Contract Drilling in the Canadian Mining Industry, 1944 (25 cents).
 6. Department Store Sales, July (10 cents).
 7. Monthly Review of Business Statistics, July (10 cents).
 8. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
 9. Canadian Coarse Grains - Quarterly Review (25 cents).
 10. Canadian Pacific Railways, 1944 (25 cents).
 11. Canadian National Railways, 1944 (25 cents).
 12. Production of Asphalt Roofing, July (10 cents).
 13. Sales of Asphalt Roofing, July (10 cents).
-



1010771127