

Crop Conditions in the Prairie Provinces

Cold, wet weather has delayed the 1945 harvest in the Prairie Provinces. Reports from all sections indicate an appreciable postponement of the harvest owing to light and heavy rains and, in some districts, snow. Frosts have occurred in the northern parts of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, but the damage reported to date has not been extensive. Some sprouting is reported and in those areas where the harvest is late, it is expected that grades will be slightly lowered owing to bleaching. Late crops, such as corn, potatoes and sugar beets in Manitoba are being retarded through cold weather. Market garden crops are likewise adversely affected.

Unless a period of good drying weather occurs within the next few days damage may be much more extensive than now expected. Late reports indicate that the wet, cool weather is continuing. Pastures have benefited and live stock are reported to be in good condition. The feed grain crop, however, is disappointing and the delay in the harvest will further aggravate this situation through deterioration in quality.

Cool, wet weather has delayed threshing of the 1945 Manitoba crops. Approximately 50 per cent of the crop is threshed to date in the eastern and southern sections of the province with less than 25 per cent in the central and northern sections. Some sprouting has occurred. Market gardeners and sugar beet growers have been adversely affected by the backward weather. Grain yields in the province appear to be lower than expected in the earlier part of the season. Pastures are in good condition. Frost has checked the growth of corn in the western and southwestern areas. Some lowering of grades will occur through bleaching and sprouting, but the full extent of the damage cannot be determined until threshing has progressed further.

In Saskatchewan, harvesting operations during the past week were delayed over the whole of the province. Records of precipitation show that practically all areas were affected with very heavy rainfall in the southwestern part of the province. Threshing cannot be resumed generally until a period of good drying weather occurs. It is likely that wheat grades will be reduced as a result of bleaching. In the south-western section some damage has occurred from sawfly and grasshoppers are reported to be numerous. The cool, wet weather has resulted in an improvement of pastures.

A combination of rain and snow over the past 10 days has delayed threshing operations for at least another week in Alberta. In the Peace River District, threshing is near completion and is well advanced in the southern area. In the central areas threshing has just started. Some deterioration is expected in wheat grades. On the other hand, the wet weather has been beneficial to the sugar beet crop in the south-western portion of the province. Feed grains are reported to be light in the central area and the sample poor. In the Peace River area, snow, which stopped threshing operations, was still falling on the 22nd of September. Yields of grain threshed to date have been fully up to expectations.

Stocks and Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on September 20 totalled 204,932,409 bushels as compared with 303,779,436 bushels on the corresponding date of last year, a reduction of 32.5 per cent. Stocks on the latest date included 183,890,860 bushels in Canadian positions and 21,041,549 bushels in United States positions.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ended September 20 amounted to 11,388,614 bushels as compared with 15,644,666 in the preceding week. For the elapsed portion of the present crop year, which commenced August 1, deliveries of wheat aggregated 46,118,412 bushels as compared with 53,411,361 in the corresponding period of 1944-45.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending September 20, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 3,247,506 (3,742,610) bushels; barley, 2,367,577 (3,896,165); rye, 163,826 (235,499); flaxseed, 121,594 (145,550).



### Exports of Wheat and Wheat Flour in August

Exports of Canadian wheat were at a high level in August, amounting to 43,094,943 bushels, as compared with 38,193,791 in the preceding month and 16,507,925 in the corresponding month of last year. The United States was the leading country of consignment in August this year with a total of 17,375,977 bushels, followed by British India with 6,303,362, United Kingdom 6,171,414, Netherlands 2,384,943, Greece 1,747,560, Morocco 1,780,028, Belgium 1,488,032, Eire 794,803, French Africa 792,184, France 609,176, New Zealand 549,919, Malta 495,751, Norway 476,277, Russia 430,482, and British South Africa 422,932.

August exports of wheatflour were recorded at 1,106,467 barrels as compared with 1,148,464 in July, and 753,462 in August, 1944. Italy was the leading country of destination in August this year with a total of 402,136 barrels, the United Kingdom next with 250,251, British East Africa third with 102,558, followed by Jamaica with 57,253, Newfoundland 40,684, Poland 35,689, Trinidad and Tobago 34,167, Czechoslovakia 18,085, Barbados 17,761, and Iraq 17,040 barrels.

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### Coal and Coke Supplies of Canada in July

Production of coal in Canada in July recorded a decrease of eight per cent from the July 1944 output, the respective totals standing at 1,077,871 tons and 1,168,859 tons. This year's July output included 896,747 tons of bituminous, 136,080 tons of sub-bituminous, and 45,044 tons of lignite. Production of coal during the first seven months of the current year totalled 9,547,995 tons as compared with 9,555,919 in the corresponding period of 1944.

July output of coke from ovens and gas retorts amounted to 329,539 tons as compared with 323,784 tons in the preceding month and 321,732 tons in July, 1944. Production in the latest month included 91,042 tons from the eastern provinces, 216,886 tons from Ontario, and 21,611 tons from western Canada. During the first seven months of this year, 2,309,000 tons of coke were produced as compared with 2,363,000 tons in the similar period of 1944.

Canada imported 2,996,281 tons of coal in July, making a total of 12,078,233 tons for the year to date, compared with 3,240,896 tons imported during July 1944, and 14,775,702 tons for the first seven months of 1944. Coal exported in July amounted to 51,953 tons as compared with 100,084 tons in July, 1944. Total exports for the year to date amounted to 497,690 tons as compared with 622,320 tons for the same period of 1944.

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### Silver Production in July

The Canadian output of silver in July amounted to 951,348 ounces as compared with 1,099,541 in the preceding month and 1,077,974 in the corresponding month of last year. For the first seven months of 1945, the output was recorded at 7,674,454 ounces as compared with 8,386,853 in the similar period of 1944. Quotations for foreign silver on the New York market in July averaged 49.23 cents per fine ounce in Canadian funds; based on this price Canada's July production was valued at \$468,349.

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### Production of Lead in July

Primary unrefined lead production in all forms moved higher in July, amounting to 25,505,404 pounds as compared with 25,175,850 in June and 24,633,240 in July, 1944. The total for the first seven months of the current year was 189,780,746 pounds as compared with 177,551,278 in the corresponding period of 1944. June exports of lead in pigs amounted to 24,720,200 pounds as compared with 12,072,500 in the preceding month and 14,154,100 in June, 1944.

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### Zinc Production in July

July production of primary zinc in all forms amounted to 45,197,460 pounds as compared with 43,469,170 in the preceding month and 42,536,604 in the corresponding month of last year. Output for the first seven months of the present year totalled 319,203,659 pounds as compared with 320,437,932 in the like period of 1944. June exports of zinc spelter were recorded at 20,999,500 pounds as compared with 17,214,300 in May and 12,573,300 in June, 1944. Exports of zinc in ore in June totalled 16,902,200 pounds as compared with 17,810,000 in May and 24,080,700 in June last year.

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### Production of Crude Petroleum in June

The production of crude petroleum and natural gasoline in Canada in June was recorded at 672,888 barrels as compared with 715,851 in the preceding month and 824,507 in the corresponding month of last year. Production during the first six months of the current year aggregated 4,521,811 barrels as compared with 5,035,837 in the similar period of 1944. The output for June this year included 651,483 barrels from Alberta, 3,197 barrels from New Brunswick, 9,547 barrels from Ontario, and 8,661 barrels from the Northwest Territories.

### June Production of Natural Gas

Production of natural gas in June amounted to 3,451,616,000 cubic feet as compared with 3,960,784,000 in the preceding month and 2,827,485,000 in June, 1944. During the first six months of the present year, the output totalled 27,217,885,000 cubic feet as compared with 26,412,289,000 in the like period of 1944. Of this year's June output, Alberta accounted for 2,821,029,000 cubic feet, Ontario 572,180,000, New Brunswick 53,850,000, and Saskatchewan 4,557,000 cubic feet.

### Sales of Gasoline in May

Sales of motor, tractor and aviation grades of gasoline in Canada in May totalled 93,779,000 gallons as compared with 65,297,000 in April and 95,442,000 in the corresponding month of last year, according to returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from tax departments of provincial governments and from Canadian oil companies. Sales during the first five months of the current year aggregated 324,521,000 gallons as compared with 344,547,000 in the similar period of the preceding year.

### Building Permits Issued in August

Reflecting the continued high level of building activity in Canada, the value of building permits issued by municipalities which reported to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, reached the value of \$22,425,000 in August, exceeding the August 1944 total of \$12,133,000 by 89 per cent. Permits for new construction were issued in August to the value of \$18,498,000, and additions, alterations and repairs, \$3,927,000. For the first eight months of the current year, permits were issued to the value of \$122,743,000 as compared with \$89,081,000 in the comparable period of 1944, an advance of 38 per cent.

New housing units represented in the building permits issued in August by the reporting municipalities numbered 2,725, of which 2,405 were new buildings and 320 were conversions. In August last year, 2,597 permits were issued for housing units, including 2,339 for the construction of new buildings and 258 for conversions. The aggregate value of new residential buildings, additions and repairs thereto, was \$11,057,673 in August this year as compared with \$8,419,753 in August, 1944.

Permits for the construction of 18,379 new dwelling units were granted during the first eight months of the present year as compared with 17,743 in the same period of 1944. The permits for 1945 included 16,265 for new buildings and 2,114 conversions. The value of new residential buildings, and additions and repairs thereto amounted to \$75,099,302 during the first eight months of this year as compared with \$61,123,424 in the same period of 1944.

### Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales in August

Financing of new and used motor vehicle sales totalled 2,642 units in August for a total of \$1,348,462, recording a decrease of five per cent in number but an advance of six per cent in amount of financing than the 2,768 vehicles financed to the extent of \$1,275,464 in the same month of 1944. Included in the totals for August this year were 320 new vehicles financed for a total of \$476,812.

There were 2,322 used vehicles financed for \$871,650 in August as compared with 2,503 transactions involving \$956,002 in the same month of last year. Quebec results revealed a 28 per cent increase in the number of used vehicles financed in August this year compared with last. A decrease of 25 per cent occurred in British Columbia, while declines in other regions ranged from seven per cent in Ontario to 14 per cent in combined totals for Manitoba and Saskatchewan.



The number of new vehicles financed in the first eight months of this year was 2,407, whereas only 1,501 new car sales were financed in the similar period of last year. Used vehicles financed during the first eight months of the current year totalled 16,554, while 22,640 contracts were obtained in the same eight months of 1944.

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#### Department Store Sales in August

The dollar value of Canadian department store sales was 12 per cent higher in August this year than last, and recorded an advance of 17 per cent over July. The sales increase for August this year as compared with last only slightly exceeds the average gain for the first eight months of 1945 which amounted to 10 per cent. Unadjusted indexes, on the base 1935-1939=100, stood at 155.6 for August 1945, 139.4 for August 1944, and 133.1 for July, 1945.

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#### Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices

The August general index number of wholesale commodity prices, on the base 1926=100, stood at 103.4, recording a decrease of 0.6 points from the level of the preceding month, but an advance of 1.1 points over August, 1944. The index for vegetable products declined from 100.1 in July to 98.1, accounting for most of the decline in the general index, while that for non-metallic minerals fell from 101.7 to 101.3. The index for animal products rose from 108.3 to 108.6, and chemical products from 98.9 to 99.0. The remaining four sub-groups were unchanged, as follows: textile products, 91.9; wood products, 117.6; iron products, 115.3; and non-ferrous metals, 79.7.

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#### Motion Picture Theatres in 1944

Compared with the marked expansion which characterized motion picture theatre attendance and receipts from 1939 to 1943, results now available for 1944 show but little change from those of the preceding year. Paid admissions in 1944 numbered 208,167,180 as compared with 204,677,550 in 1943, and 137,898,668 in 1939. Box office receipts, exclusive of amusement taxes, amounted to \$53,173,325 as compared with \$52,567,989 in 1943, and \$34,010,115 in 1939. Dominion and provincial amusement taxes collected at motion picture theatres totalled \$13,555,730 as compared with \$13,159,883 in 1943. In addition, itinerant exhibitors had receipts of \$337,225 in 1944, collected \$67,767 in amusement taxes, and reported admissions numbering 1,422,412.

Including the receipts secured both by motion picture houses and exhibitors using portable equipment, per capita expenditure in this field of entertainment averaged \$5.61 in 1944, being unchanged from the 1943 figure, but recording a sharp advance over the 1939 per capita expenditure of \$3.03. Figures for the individual provinces in 1944 were as follows: British Columbia, \$8.15; Ontario, \$6.84; Nova Scotia, \$6.73; Alberta, \$5.35; Manitoba, \$4.93; New Brunswick, \$4.51; Quebec, \$4.26; Saskatchewan, \$3.54; and Prince Edward Island, \$3.41.

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#### Production of Motor Vehicles in August

Production of motor vehicles in Canada during August totalled 13,376 units as compared with 11,093 in the preceding month and 13,729 in the corresponding month of last year. In the first eight months of the current year, 110,144 units were produced as compared with 105,799 in the similar period of 1944. Production included military vehicles, trucks, buses and chassis.

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#### Births, Deaths and Marriages in July

Births registered in cities, towns and villages of Canada having a population of 10,000 and over numbered 12,544 in July, deaths 4,792 and marriages 6,576, as compared with 12,051 births, 4,484 deaths and 5,777 marriages in July last year, showing increases of four, seven and 14 per cent, respectively.



### Stocks of Unmanufactured Tobacco

Stocks of unmanufactured tobacco on hand in Canada at the end of June totalled 112,-259,993 pounds as compared with 110,533,221 on the corresponding date of last year. Stocks of Canadian tobacco advanced from 108,556,050 pounds a year ago to 110,380,549 pounds, while the holdings of imported tobacco fell from 1,977,171 pounds to 1,879,444 pounds.

### Bulletin Presenting Final Census Statistics of Agriculture for the Province of New Brunswick

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released a bulletin which presents in final form statistics of agriculture for the Province of New Brunswick, as compiled from data obtained in the Census of June 2, 1941. Statistics for earlier censuses are given in the report, where available, in order to show the changes which have taken place in the province over a period of years.

The report includes data pertaining to the farm population, the number of farm workers, the tenure, size and type of farms, farm values and areas, condition of occupied farm lands, farm indebtedness, production and value of the various farm products, gross farm revenues and expenses, live stock on farms and farm machinery. Certain data pertaining to abandoned or idle farms are also included.

### Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended September 15 rose to 73,786 cars from 66,019 cars for the preceding week, which contained the Labour Day holiday, but declined from last year's corresponding total of 75,030 cars. The decrease from 1944 was all in the eastern division where loadings declined from 48,593 to 47,024 cars. In the western division, loadings increased from 26,437 cars in 1944 to 26,762.

Loadings of railway revenue freight during the month of August amounted to 314,000 cars as compared with 318,000 in the corresponding month of last year. The index of cars loaded, on the base 1935-1939=100, was 141.5 for August this year as compared with 143.3 for August, 1944.

### Reports Issued During the Week

1. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
2. Railway Revenue Freight Loadings, August (10 cents).
3. Coal and Coke Statistics, July (10 cents).
4. Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales, August (10 cents).
5. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, July (10 cents).
6. Miscellaneous Iron and Steel Products Industry, 1943 (25 cents).
7. Census of Agriculture, New Brunswick, 1941 (25 cents).
8. Registrations of Births, Deaths and Marriages, July (10 cents).
9. Motion Picture Theatres in Canada, 1944 (25 cents).
10. Stocks and Consumption of Unmanufactured Tobacco, June 30 (15 cents).
11. Automobile Production, August (10 cents).
12. Department Store Sales, August (10 cents).
13. Prices and Price Indexes, August (10 cents).
14. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
15. Iron Oxides (Ochre) - 1944 (15 cents).
16. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, June; and Petroleum Fuels Sales, May (10 cents).
17. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
18. Monthly Review of Business Statistics, August (10 cents).
19. Building Permits, August (10 cents).



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