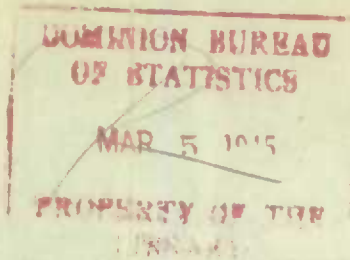


## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce



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Dominion Bureau of Statistics Cost of Living Index

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost of living index measures the influences of changes in retail prices and services upon the cost of a representative urban wage-earner family budget. It has served as a basis of cost of living bonus adjustments from December 1940 to October 1943 under terms of Orders-in-Council P.C. 7440 and P.C. 5963. The cost of living bonus to industrial workers was then incorporated into the wage structure.

It should be clearly understood that the index is a measurement of price change. Many people use the term "living costs" to indicate the total cost of things they buy. Used in this sense, "living costs" may include different things from month to month and year to year, and likewise different amounts and qualities of the same things. A cost of living index based upon this idea would reflect the value of total purchases made by everyone. In normal times it would move closely in line with estimates of national income. The Bureau's index is based upon quite a different idea. It measures changes in the cost of a family budget which includes the same amounts of the same commodities and services for considerable periods of time; it is revised only to take account of important "long-run" changes in consumption. It is essentially an index which measures changes in prices.

Each index figure is a percentage which shows the relationship between the dollar value of the index budget for a specified period, and the corresponding dollar value of the same budget in a reference period. The Bureau's standard reference period includes the five years 1935 to 1939. The average value of the index budget for this period is represented by 100.0. The value of the same budget in August 1939 was 100.8 per cent of the reference budget, and the corresponding value for December 1944 was 118.5 per cent. These figures become the cost of living index numbers for August 1939 and December 1944.

Because August 1939, the last pre-war month, provided the basis for cost of living bonus adjustments, it is used frequently as a reference period. The procedure in this case is essentially the same as that described above. The value of the index budget in August 1939 is considered as 100.0, and budget values for other months are computed as percentages of the August 1939 value. The December 1944 index then becomes 117.6. Indexes related to the August 1939 budget value have become widely known as the "adjusted" indexes. They may be computed by dividing the original August 1939 index of 100.8 into the comparable index for any other period, e.g., the December 1944 index of 118.5 divided by 100.8 gives 117.6.

The index budget was calculated from annual purchases reported by a group of 1,439 typical wage-earner families in the following cities: Charlottetown, Halifax, Saint John, Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, London, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Edmonton and Vancouver. These expenditures covered the year ending September, 1938.

The survey families averaged 4.6 persons and the majority had two or three children. Family earnings in many cases were supplemented by minor sources of income; total incomes for these families were heavily concentrated between \$1,200 and \$1,600. They ranged, however, from as low as \$600 up to about \$2,800 per annum. There were approximately two tenant families to every one home-owning family, and about one family in three operated a motor car.

The general distribution of living expenditures for these families which represented all the principal racial groups in Canada was as follows: food, \$443.0; shelter, \$269.5; fuel and light, \$90.5; clothing, \$165.8; home furnishings, \$125.7; and miscellaneous, \$319.4. A breakdown of the miscellaneous group shows the following expenditures: health, \$60.8; personal care, \$23.9; transportation, \$79.3; recreation, \$82.1; life insurance, \$73.3. Other miscellaneous outlay, including charitable donations, gifts outside the family, brought the total family living expenditure to \$1,453.8.

Adjustments have been made in the index budget to take account of wartime changes in consumption. These have left substantially unchanged the level of living which the budget represents.

The first set of adjustments was made in January, 1943. The index budget after revisions made at that time measured percentage changes in prices from January 1943



forward, but did not show increases or decreases reflecting weight differences. In other words, the value of the January 1943 adjusted budget was exactly the same as the value of the budget it replaced. The same procedure was followed in September 1943 when further adjustments were made.

### Business Operations in January

Productive operations recorded minor recession in January from the preceding month when the index of physical volume of business was 233.0. The index of livestock sales was 155.8 in January against 162.5 in the preceding month. The increase in cattle sales was less than normal for the season. Hogs were nearly maintained in January before seasonal adjustment, the total having been 108,549 against 108,739 in December. The majority of the factors indicating the trend of mineral production recorded an increase in the latest available month. Gold receipts at the Mint rose from 202,318 fine ounces to 232,647.

A considerable advance was shown in the operations of the flour milling industry after seasonal adjustment in the latest available month. The index of tobacco releases rose from about 220 in December to 263.4 in the month under review. Releases of cigarettes were 1,159 million against 1,032 million in the last month of 1944. The operations of the meat packing industry were practically maintained in January after the usual adjustment, the index receding from 214.3 to 212.4. Cattle slaughterings rose from 187,000 to 193,000 but hog slaughterings receded from 768,000 to 756,000. The production of creamery butter showed an increase after seasonal adjustment while the output of cheese dropped sharply in the first month of the year. The index of the output of dairy products consequently receded from 213.6 to 138.6.

The raw cotton used by the textile industry indicated some revival in operations the total having been 13.1 million pounds against 12.7 million. Newsprint production was considerably greater in January, the output amounting to 264,766 tons against 244,970. Decline was shown in the indexes of the exports of woodpulp and lumber. The production of secondary iron and steel products showed reaction in the latest month. The new business obtained by the construction industry was at a somewhat lower level than in December but an increase was shown over January of last year. Wholesale sales showed an increase in the latest month while retail sales after seasonal adjustment were at a somewhat lower level. The index of tons carried by railways rose from 180.5 in December to 198.2 in the month under review.

### Business Indicators for January 1945 compared with January and December 1944

	January 1945	January 1944	December 1944
Physical Volume of Business ... 1935-39=100	(x)	247.0	233.0
Cost of Living ..... 1935-39=100	118.6	119.0	118.5
Factory Cheese Production ..... pounds	2,417,954	2,585,126	4,371,809
Creamery Butter Production .... pounds	11,424,373	10,863,596	12,400,599
Newsprint Production ..... tons	264,766	242,668	244,970
Contracts Awarded ..... \$	11,721,900	8,782,400	12,730,000
Exports, domestic ..... \$ 000	230,498	242,011	266,879
Raw Cotton Consumption ..... pounds	13,127,147	13,417,550	12,748,022
Gold Receipts at Mint ..... fine oz.	232,647	256,414	202,318
Inspected Slaughterings .....			
Cattle and Calves ..... No.	193,121	116,974	186,679
Sheep and Lambs ..... No.	73,973	68,426	83,779
Hogs ..... No.	756,446	941,037	767,669
Woodpulp Exports ..... Cwt.	1,869,343	1,721,836	2,253,483
Shingles Exported ..... Squares	113,828	95,316	117,642
Bank Debits ..... \$ 000	5,069,995	4,512,474	5,063,009
Car Loadings ..... No.	279,000	281,000	272,000
Cigarettes Released ..... 000	1,159,075	1,001,684	1,031,814
Cigars released ..... No.	16,553,214	15,013,856	16,036,830

(x) The index of the physical volume of business according to preliminary calculations showed decline from the preceding month.



## External Trade of Canada in January

The value of Canada's external trade, excluding gold, was recorded at \$363,546,000 in January 1945, as compared with \$372,359,000 in the corresponding month of last year, a decline of \$8,813,000, or 2.4 per cent. Domestic merchandise exports in January of this year were valued at \$230,498,000 as compared with \$242,011,000 a year ago, a decrease of 4.8 per cent. Commodity imports in January 1945 advanced to \$129,685,000 from the January 1944 total of \$126,369,000, or by 2.6 per cent. Foreign exports were valued at \$3,364,000 as compared with \$3,978,000.

## Merchandise Imports in January

Canada's merchandise imports in January were valued at \$129,685,000 as compared with \$126,369,000 in the corresponding month of last year, an increase of 2.6 per cent. The United States was the leading source of supply, accounting for a total of \$101,833,000 as compared with \$106,278,000 in January 1944. The United Kingdom was in second place with a total of \$9,393,000 as compared with \$7,064,000, followed by British India with \$6,054,000 as compared with \$2,216,000.

Imports from other leading countries were as follows, totals for January 1944 being in brackets: Ceylon, \$1,464,000 (\$282,000); Venezuela, \$960,000 (\$515,000); Colombia, \$842,000 (\$683,000); Jamaica, \$746,000 (\$808,000); Mexico, \$732,000 (\$1,047,000); Argentina, \$726,000 (\$541,000); British West Africa, \$651,000 (\$22,000); New Zealand, \$595,000 (\$290,000); San Domingo, \$534,000 (nil); Australia, \$502,000 (\$695,000).

The following were amongst the principal commodities imported in January 1945, totals for January 1944 being in brackets: fruits, \$4,798,000 (\$2,951,000); tea, \$4,311,000 (\$1,564,000); cotton and products, \$7,454,000 (\$5,859,000); wool and products, \$3,368,000 (\$2,823,000); rolling mill products, \$3,533,000 (\$3,759,000); engines and boilers, \$3,173,000 (\$3,015,000); farm implements, \$4,315,000 (\$2,666,000); machinery, except agricultural, \$6,133,000 (\$7,596,000); vehicles, \$9,007,000 (\$7,695,000); electrical apparatus, \$3,976,000 (\$4,731,000); coal, \$6,867,000 (\$8,155,000); petroleum products, \$4,930,000 (\$5,843,000).

## Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in January

The general index number for wholesale prices, on the base 1926=100, stood at 102.8 in January 1945, recording an increase of 0.3 points over the preceding month. Advances were shown by three of the eight sub-group indexes. Vegetable products rose to 95.7 from 95.0, animal products to 106.7 from 106.0, and iron products to 117.1 from 117.0. Indexes for textile products, wood products, non-ferrous metals, non-metallic minerals and chemicals were unchanged.

## Claims for Unemployment Insurance Benefit in January

Claims for unemployment insurance benefit in January totalled 20,412 as compared with 13,770 in the preceding month and 11,751 in January of last year. This is the largest number of claims recorded in any month since the scheme went into effect and although seasonal increase in claims is expected during the winter months, the relatively large increase would seem to reflect greater layoffs than during the same month of last year.

During the last six working days of January, 27,305 persons signed the live unemployment register as against 19,313 in December and 12,439 during the last week of January 1944. The number of claims adjudicated at Insurance Offices during January totalled 17,431, of which 14,699 were considered entitled to benefit and 2,732 not entitled to benefit.

One or more benefit cheques were paid to 15,575 persons, who received a total of \$546,569 for 281,193 unemployed days during January. This compares with 10,656 persons who were paid \$337,220 for 176,084 days in December 1944 and 4,570 persons paid \$131,037 for 69,637 days during January last year.

The average duration of the unemployment compensated was 13.1 days in January, 16.5 days in December and 15.2 days in January 1944. The average amount paid per beneficiary was \$36.09 in January, \$31.65 in December and \$28.67 in January 1944. The average amount of benefit paid per compensated day of unemployment was \$1.94 in January, \$1.92



in December and \$1.88 in January of last year.

#### Cash Income from Sale of Farm Products in 1944

Cash income of Canadian farmers reached a new high level in 1944. The estimated returns from the sale of farm products totalled \$1,752 million, representing an increase of \$350 million or 25 per cent over 1943 and \$1,029 million or 143 per cent over 1939. Additional Government payments raise the total farm cash income to \$1,817 million for 1944 as compared with \$1,434 million in 1943.

In view of the reduced stocks of grain on farms in the Prairie Provinces at the beginning of 1945, together with a prospective reduction in the marketings of hogs, it is probable that cash income from the sale of farm products will be somewhat lower in 1945. Except for hogs some increase in the output of livestock and livestock products is indicated. There is not likely to be much change in prices in the coming year.

Higher income in 1944 was reported for all provinces except Prince Edward Island. Most notable increases occurred in the West in both grains and livestock. Saskatchewan recorded the largest increase with substantial increases in Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec. The totals follow by provinces in millions of dollars, figures for 1943 being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, \$13.8 (\$14.1); Nova Scotia, \$26.6 (\$24.9); New Brunswick, \$32.2 (\$30.8); Quebec, \$216.9 (\$199.2); Ontario, \$410.6 (\$383.7); Manitoba, \$168.4 (\$145.7); Saskatchewan, \$503.3 (\$327.5); Alberta, \$314.1 (\$220.7); British Columbia, \$65.8 (\$55.5).

The farm cash income from principal items in 1944 was as follows in millions of dollars, totals for the preceding year being in brackets: grains, seeds and hay, \$606.0 (\$386.3); vegetables and other field crops, \$117.4 (\$95.7); live stock \$570.5 (\$499.0); dairy products, \$264.0 (\$243.4); fruits, \$37.6 (\$30.5); eggs, \$74.7 (\$72.4); fur farming, \$9.3 (\$9.4); Government payments, \$65.3 (\$32.0).

#### Feed Situation in Canada

The feed problem in Canada at the present time is primarily one of distribution. The overall supply situation, especially if wheat reserves are looked upon as feed reserves, is not stringent. The supplies of feed concentrates are, for the most part however, located at the Lakehead, in country elevators and on farms in the Prairie Provinces. The railways, hampered by heavy snow and freezing conditions, face a difficult task in maintaining an adequate stream of wheat moving to the eastern seaboard for export overseas and at the same time keeping Eastern Canada supplied with feed grains.

The grain carriers on the Lakes this year moved a record 456 million bushels out of the Fort William-Port Arthur terminals. Box cars had to be shifted to the haul from country elevators in order to keep ahead of the demands of the Lake freighters. Since the close of navigation it has been possible to build Lakehead stocks up until they are now nearly double those of a year ago. However, the rail movement east has declined by over 50 per cent so that eastern feeders using western grains have begun to feel the pinch.

Fortunately, emergency reserve stocks of feed grains have been accumulated by the Feeds Administrator at Montreal, Toronto and Sarnia. The bulk of this grain is located in Montreal, but releases are being made from all three points to supplement receipts by rail from the Lakehead. The drain is especially heavy in Western Ontario and reserves of feed wheat at Sarnia have been halved in recent weeks.

Overall supplies of coarse grains, especially barley, are decreasing fairly rapidly as a result of both heavy domestic disappearance and an active export movement. While no official estimate is made of farm stocks of coarse grains at December 31, indications are that the quantities of barley on western farms at the end of December were some 45 million bushels lower than at the close of 1943. If deliveries made by farmers in the Prairie Provinces measure up to those made last year and the present rate of feeding continues, farm stocks of barley at July 31, 1945 will be well below the 23 million bushels carried over last season.

A keen demand for Canadian barley for malting purposes exists in the United States at the present time. At the time of the Dominion-Provincial Conference in December it was anticipated that about 35 million bushels of barley would be exported during the current crop year. This rate of export has, so far, been exceeded.



The supply position with respect to oats is somewhat brighter, although with the present export demand and the domestic requirements for feed no "surplus" is in sight. Ordinarily only about half as much of the oat crop finds its way into commercial channels as in the case of barley. A brisk export demand exists for oats with the outward movement considerably above that of a year ago. Some 15 million bushels of oats had been moved under Freight Assistance during the first five months of the crop year and indications are that nearly that much more will be required during the remaining seven months. This estimate does not, moreover, take into consideration oats required to build up supplies in emergency grain reserves in the East for next year.

Farmers in some areas are short of hay and the difficulty of moving hay from surplus to deficit areas is enhanced by transportation difficulties. With the roads snowed in it is hard to get presses to bale hay and also to move it to the railway. Prices are prevented from rising further by the operation of the ceiling and further exports to the United States from the 1944 hay crop have been stopped. Dairy farmers and lumbermen are most seriously affected by the short supply.

Millfeeds are scarce relative to demand although the domestic market is absorbing almost all of the supply which is made available by the heavy production of flour for export. Production increased by nearly 10,000 tons in November, but during December dropped back to the October level, and promises to decline even further in January. Difficulties of securing cars to ship out flour has apparently been a factor limiting production in some of the larger mills. Millfeeds derived from western grain qualify for freight assistance resulting in a favourable price relationship for this feedstuff as compared with others available.

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#### Numbers of Hogs on Canadian Farms

Numbers of hogs on Canadian farms at December 1, 1944, show a substantial decline from the record high figure of a year ago. The total of 7,646,800 head represents a decline of 19.3 per cent and a return to approximately the same level as at December 1, 1942. The decline was common to all provinces except Ontario and Nova Scotia where very little change is indicated. The provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, where production increased most rapidly in recent years, show the sharpest declines.

A continuation of the contraction in hog production is indicated in an estimated reduction of 17.3 per cent in sows bred to farrow in the first six months of 1945. The hogs resulting from these farrowings together with those on hand at December 1, will constitute the marketings of 1945. Present indications are, therefore, that marketings in 1945 will be from 15 to 20 per cent below those of 1944.

Numbers of hogs on farms at December 1, 1944, follow by provinces, totals for 1943 being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 69,200 (73,900); Nova Scotia, 81,200 (79,600); New Brunswick, 95,200 (106,900); Quebec, 1,210,800 (1,289,100); Ontario, 1,810,200 (1,809,400); Manitoba, 570,700 (863,200); Saskatchewan, 1,460,400 (2,182,400); Alberta, 2,273,100 (2,977,400); British Columbia, 76,000 (91,300).

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#### Wool Production in 1944

Total wool production in Canada in 1944 amounted to 19,279,000 pounds, an increase of 1,461,000 pounds over that of 1943. Increases in the numbers of sheep on farms in all provinces except Manitoba and Nova Scotia were responsible for the increased production of shorn wool. Increased slaughterings of sheep and lambs resulted in an increase in the production of pulled wool.

The apparent consumption of wool in Canada was sharply lower in 1944 as compared with that of the three preceding years, but as figures of stocks of wool in storage are not available, the figures of actual consumption in any individual year may be quite different from the apparent disappearance.

The greater production of shorn wool resulted in a higher gross value of production and a corresponding increase in the cash income to producers. Cash income from the sale of wool in 1944 amounted to \$3,767,000.

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### Production of Wheat Flour in January

The production of wheat flour in Canada in January amounted to 2,068,232 barrels as compared with 2,041,193 in the corresponding month of the preceding year. Production for the first half of the present crop year totalled 12,441,364 barrels, being a slight increase over last year's corresponding total of 12,411,151 barrels.

The quantity of wheat milled in January was 9,177,050 bushels as compared with 8,987,626 in the same month a year ago. Wheat milled during the first six months of the present crop year amounted to 55,235,944 bushels as compared with 54,814,407 in the similar period of 1943-44. In the coarse grains group, oats, corn and buckwheat were milled in greater quantities, but barley and mixed grains were lower.

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### Stocks and Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on February 22 amounted to 362,797,187 bushels as compared with 339,232,457 on the corresponding date of last year. Stocks on the latest date included 330,876,092 bushels in Canadian positions and 31,921,095 bushels in United States positions.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending February 22 amounted to 2,388,556 bushels as compared with 2,956,821 in the preceding week. During the elapsed portion of the present crop year 255,828,296 bushels of wheat were marketed in western Canada as compared with 167,315,229 in the similar period of the preceding crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending February 22, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 2,552,298 (3,357,286) bushels; barley, 474,238 (596,072); rye, 69,734 (83,069); flaxseed, 9,726 (12,593).

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### Fruit and Vegetable Preparations Industry

The value of output of the fruit and vegetable preparations industry in 1943 aggregated \$72,229,000 as compared with \$73,569,000 in the preceding year. During the decade preceding the war the volume of fruit and vegetable preparations increased over 54 per cent. This growth is indeed remarkable and represents a substantial increase in the domestic demand for these products. The industry, besides supplying the domestic market, also has a substantial exportable surplus.

The physical volume of production of canned fruits, canned vegetables, and other products made by the industry during 1943 was about 13 per cent lower than in the preceding year, while the dollar value of output declined by only 1.8 per cent. There were decreases of 43 per cent in the volume of canned fruits, 40 per cent in canned vegetables, and 10 per cent in catsups and sauces. Jams, jellies and marmalades advanced 25 per cent and canned soups of all kinds, 17 per cent.

The following was the pack of the principal items in 1943 with figures for 1942 in brackets: canned fruits, 1,955,045 (3,455,357) dozen cans; canned vegetables, 12,978,999 (21,479,416) dozen cans; jams, jellies and marmalades, 92,613,439 (74,016,573) pounds; canned soups, 11,502,759 (9,856,522) dozen cans; tomato catsup, 18,673,282 (20,954,671) pounds; pickles and relishes, 2,917,366 (2,929,501) gallons.

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### Stocks of Canned Fruits and Vegetables

Stocks of canned fruits held by canners, wholesale dealers and chain store warehouses on January 1, 1945, amounted to 2,386,514 dozen cans as compared with 1,620,852 on the corresponding date of last year, an increase of 765,662 dozen cans. Stocks of canned vegetables advanced to 10,691,113 dozen cans from 9,269,845, or by 1,421,268 dozen.

Increases were recorded in the stocks of most of the principal varieties of canned fruits, the stocks of apricots advancing to 101,197 dozen cans from 28,915 last year, cherries to 100,417 dozen from 78,520, peaches to 658,829 dozen from 302,764, pears to 956,538 dozen from 731,513, and plums, gages, etc., to 380,146 dozen from 249,785. Stocks of canned blueberries declined to 13,076 dozen from 88,033.



Amongst the canned vegetables, the stocks of green or wax beans rose to 1,208,925 dozen from 1,121,714 on January 1, 1944, beets to 232,194 dozen from 39,841, carrots to 112,189 dozen from 73,984, corn to 1,966,467 dozen from 1,759,350, peas to 3,330,487 dozen from 2,753,976, pumpkin to 732,748 dozen from 452,536, spinach to 68,817 dozen from 54,734, tomatoes to 2,196,790 dozen from 2,175,321. Stocks of asparagus fell to 71,150 dozen from 138,650, baked beans to 398,469 dozen from 519,786, and carrots and peas combined to 28,223 dozen from 60,653.

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#### Stocks of Unmanufactured Tobacco

Stocks of unmanufactured tobacco on hand on December 31, 1944, were reduced to 77,824,375 pounds from last year's corresponding total of 102,143,443 pounds. The decrease was in Canadian tobacco, stocks of which fell to 75,949,037 pounds from 100,395,085. Stocks of imported tobacco advanced to 1,875,338 pounds from 1,748,358.

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#### Production of Iron and Steel in January

Production of pig iron in Canada in January 1945 amounted to 158,969 net tons as compared with 132,128 in the corresponding month of last year, an advance of 18 per cent. The total for January this year included 127,398 tons of basic iron, 13,594 tons of foundry iron and 14,977 tons of malleable iron.

Production of steel ingots and steel castings during January totalled 268,722 net tons as compared with 242,186 in January of last year, an increase of 10.9 per cent. Output in the month under review included 253,674 tons of ingots and 15,048 tons of castings.

The January output of ferro-alloys amounted to 12,130 net tons as compared with 12,391 tons in the preceding month and 16,495 in the corresponding month of last year.

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#### Output of Central Electric Stations in January

Central electric stations produced 3,422,683,000 kilowatt hours during January, a decrease of three per cent from the output of 3,528,858,000 in January of last year. Production of secondary power increased from 222,322,000 kilowatt hours to 508,702,000, and primary power decreased from 3,306,536,000 kilowatt hours to 2,913,981,000, or by 11.9 per cent.

Exports to the United States declined from 209,389,000 to 164,470,000 kilowatt hours, primary and secondary power showing decreases of 2,256,000 and 42,563,000 kilowatt hours, respectively. Consumption of primary power in Canada, including all line losses, declined from 3,187,432,000 to 2,797,133,000 kilowatt hours, or by 12.2 per cent, whereas secondary power consumption increased from 132,137,000 to 461,080,000 kilowatt hours.

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#### Production of Motor Vehicles in January

Production of motor vehicles in Canada during January 1945 totalled 13,745 units as compared with 12,530 in the preceding month and 13,702 in the corresponding month of last year. During the calendar year 1944, 158,117 units were produced as compared with 178,064 in 1943 and 228,293 in 1942. Production in January 1945 and in the calendar year 1944 was limited to the manufacture of military and commercial motor vehicles. The foregoing statistics of the production of motor vehicles are the first to be issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics since March 1942, at which time their publication was suspended owing to wartime conditions.

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#### Building Permits Issued in January

The value of building permits issued by municipalities reporting to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in January was \$4,090,000 as compared with \$7,902,000 in the preceding month and \$4,798,000 in the corresponding month of last year. During the latest month, permits for new construction of all types accounted for 48.8 per cent of the total value, while the percentage of new residential construction was 24.1.

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### Production and Sale of Mixed Fertilizers

The expansion in the production of mixed fertilizers was continued in 1943 when the output aggregated 508,000 tons valued at \$15,039,000 as compared with 406,000 tons valued at \$12,480,000 in the preceding year, and 298,000 tons valued at \$8,617,000 in 1941. During the 12 months ended June 30, 1944, 535,534 tons of fertilizer mixtures and materials were sold in Canada as compared with 489,769 in the preceding 12 months.

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### Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended February 17 increased to 65,811 cars from 65,424 in the preceding week and 65,623 for the corresponding week of last year. Loadings in the eastern division increased from 40,701 cars in 1944 to 43,666, but in the western division declined from 24,922 to 22,145 cars. Western grain dropped from 6,515 to 4,155 cars. Coal showed increases in both divisions, the total advancing from 5,275 to 6,390 cars, and automobiles and parts from 1,209 to 1,568 cars.

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### Press Fills from Bureau Records

Although census-taking dates from the dawn of civilization, the credit of taking the first census of modern times belongs to Canada. The year was 1606 and the census was that of the Colony of New France. At that time the population numbered 3,215. In 1941, when the eighth Dominion census was taken, the population totalled 11,506,655. This increase places Canada among the leading countries of the British Empire in the rate of population growth.

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The growing of wheat in Canada can be traced back approximately 340 years. A French settlement in the Maritimes is reputed to have grown wheat in 1605 and in 1616 Champlain writes of a fine sample of wheat being cut at Quebec for shipment to France. In the middle of the eighteenth century, Canada was actually exporting wheat, shipments in 1754 amounting to 80,000 bushels. Newfoundland and the French West Indies were the principal markets in which the wheat was then sold, but in 1770 export shipments to Great Britain were recorded. Today, wheat is one of Canada's leading export commodities.

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### Reports Issued During the Week

1. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
  2. Canadian Milling Statistics, January (10 cents).
  3. Wool Production, 1944 (10 cents).
  4. Summary of Canada's Imports, January (10 cents).
  5. Imports by Principal Countries, January (10 cents).
  6. Trade of Canada, January (10 cents).
  7. Boatbuilding Industry, 1943 (10 cents).
  8. Box, Basket and Crate Industry, 1943 (10 cents).
  9. Fertilizer Manufacturing Industry, 1943 (15 cents).
  10. Automobile Production, January (10 cents).
  11. Monthly Traffic Report of Railways, November (10 cents).
  12. Stocks and Consumption of Unmanufactured Tobacco During Quarter Ending December 31, 1944 (15 cents).
  13. Central Electric Stations, January (10 cents).
  14. Fruit and Vegetable Preparations Industry, 1943 (25 cents).
  15. Live Stock Survey - Hogs - December 1, 1944 (10 cents).
  16. Statistics of Operation of Unemployment Insurance Act, January (10 cents).
  17. Production of Iron and Steel, January (10 cents).
  18. Canadian Coarse Grains Quarterly Review (25 cents).
  19. Prices and Price Indexes, January (10 cents).
  20. Appendix - Prices and Price Indexes, January (10 cents).
  21. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
  22. Stocks of Canned Fruits and Vegetables on Hand, January 1, 1945 (10 cents).
  23. Toilet Preparations Industry, 1943 (25 cents).
  24. Carriages, Sleighs and Vehicle Supplies, 1943 (15 cents).
  25. Wood Turning Industry, 1943 (10 cents).
  26. Building Permits, January (10 cents).
  27. Clay Products Made from Canadian Clays, December (10 cents).
  28. Cash Income from the Sale of Farm Products, 1944 (10 cents).
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