

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce



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Results of Quarterly Survey of Labour Force

An increase of about 125,000 in the number of men in the labour force in Canada at February 23 over the level three months earlier, is indicated in the second quarterly survey of the labour force conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This increase is accounted for principally by the return of members of the armed services to civilian life.

In contrast with the growth in number of men in the labour force - which is the total of the employed and the unemployed - the number of women in the labour force fell by 136,000, a decline that is indicative of the retirement of women from the labour market on a fairly large scale. The total labour force was estimated at 4,525,000.

Male employment during the period November to February rose by over 80,000 to a round total of 3,332,000, while the number of women employed decreased by over 130,000 to 980,000. Total employment at 4,312,000 compared with a November total of 4,366,000.

The changes in the levels of employment and the labour force may be partly a result of seasonal factors, states the report, but the rapid influx of demobilized personnel into the labour market makes it difficult to estimate the influence of seasonal variation.

Unemployment amounted to an estimated 213,000 by February 23, an increase of 40,000 over the level three months earlier. The increase in unemployment was confined almost wholly to men, male unemployment being estimated at 179,000, while unemployment among women remained almost unchanged at about 34,000.

Stocks of Canadian Grain

Total stocks of Canadian wheat in all North American positions on March 31, 1946 were 213.4 million bushels, of which 2.5 million bushels were held in the United States, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The comparable totals for March 31, 1945 show stocks of Canadian wheat in all positions of 504.2 million bushels, with 24.1 million bushels held in the United States. Stocks of Canadian wheat in North America at March 31 of this year were thus down by 290.8 million bushels or 57.7 per cent below the level of a year ago.

At March 31 approximately two-thirds of Canada's total wheat stocks were held on farms and in country elevators, 106.0 million bushels or 49.6 per cent of total stocks being accounted for by farm-held wheat while 35.6 million bushels or 16.6 per cent of the total were stored in country elevators. A year ago there were an estimated 154.2 million bushels on farms and 180.1 million bushels in country elevators. Lakehead stocks stood at 24 million bushels on March 31 this year, more than 58 per cent down from last year's figure of 57.2 million bushels.

The decrease of nearly 50 million bushels in farm stocks may be largely accounted for by the comparatively small 1945 crop together with the early lifting of delivery quotas; the decline in over-all wheat stocks, while also reflecting lower production in 1945, is a natural concomitant of the country's export program. Wheat and wheat flour exports in terms of wheat for the 8 month period ending March 31 were roughly 258 million bushels as compared with 175.2 million bushels for the same period last year.

Farm stocks of wheat in the Prairie Provinces accounted for 101.7 million bushels of the total Canadian stocks at March 31 of 106.0 million bushels. The quantity of wheat on farms in Manitoba is estimated at 10.6 million bushels; in Saskatchewan at 60.6 million bushels, and in Alberta at 30.5 million bushels. From these stocks will be taken seed for the 1946 crop and such amounts as may be required for live stock and poultry feed during the remaining third of the crop year, leaving a balance to be divided between deliveries and July 31 carry-over stocks of sufficient magnitude to meet farm requirements until new grain is available.



The estimated quantities of wheat used for feed in the province in which it was produced during the August 1 to July 31 period indicate a substantial reduction in 1945-46 as compared with 1944-45, thus continuing the downward trend in the feeding of wheat which became apparent last year. It is estimated that 39.2 million bushels of wheat will have been fed by the end of the current crop year as compared with a figure of 49.9 million bushels for the last crop year. These estimates of wheat used for feed exclude western wheat which was moved under the Federal Freight Assistance Policy to the eastern provinces and to British Columbia to be fed to live stock. Freight assistance shipments of wheat for the 6-month period ending January 1946 were 14.4 million bushels or approximately four per cent greater than for the same period last year.

The total stocks of Canadian oats on March 31, 1946 were 168.1 million bushels, practically all of which were located in Canada, and of which 130.5 million bushels were in farmers' hands. Farm and commercial stocks one year earlier were 243.0 million bushels or 74.9 million bushels higher. Barley stocks in all positions amounted to 66.9 million bushels as compared with 89.2 million bushels a year ago, indicating a net reduction of 22.3 million bushels.

Stocks of rye at March 31 totalled 1.8 million bushels, of which 0.7 million bushels were still on farms. This stock figure is well down from that of a year ago when there were five million bushels of Canadian rye in all positions. Total stocks of flaxseed, amounting to 3.9 million bushels were also well below the March 31, 1945 figure of six million bushels. Farm stocks of flaxseed at March 31, 1946 amounted to 1.4 million bushels.

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#### Storage Holdings of Meat and Lard

Cold storage holdings of meat on April 1 were recorded at 76,845,123 pounds as compared with 70,164,037 pounds on March 1, and 98,886,280 pounds on the corresponding date of last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Storage holdings of pork amounted to 50,481,674 pounds as compared with 40,719,403 pounds on March 1, and 63,330,758 pounds on April 1, 1945. Beef stocks totalled 20,976,219 pounds as compared with 23,800,695 pounds on March 1, and 29,665,405 pounds a year ago.

April 1 stocks of veal amounted to 2,024,708 pounds as compared with 1,811,818 pounds on March 1 and 2,667,153 pounds on April 1, 1945, while the holdings of mutton and lamb totalled 3,362,522 pounds as compared with 3,832,121 pounds on March 1, and 3,212,964 pounds in 1945. Storage stocks of lard were further reduced, falling to 1,366,281 pounds on April 1 this year as compared with 1,507,068 pounds on March 1, and 3,168,164 pounds on the corresponding date of last year.

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#### Cold Storage Holdings of Fish

Cold storage holdings of fish on April 1 were recorded at 18,437,184 pounds as compared with 17,886,932 pounds on March 1, and 16,719,499 pounds on the corresponding date of last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks on April 1 this year included 17,122,661 pounds frozen fresh, and 1,314,523 pounds frozen smoked.

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#### Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables on April 1

Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, on April 1 this year amounted to 18,233,742 pounds as compared with 19,908,745 pounds on March 1, and 23,833,322 pounds on April 1, 1945, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks of vegetables, frozen and in brine totalled 3,435,977 pounds as compared with 3,149,086 pounds on March 1, and 4,226,917 pounds on April 1 last year. Stocks of Canadian-grown vegetables, including the holdings of commercial growers on April 1 this year, were as follows: potatoes, 99,917 tons; onions, 2,952 tons; beets, 169 tons; carrots, 1,892 tons; celery, 523 crates. Stocks of imported potatoes amounted to 11,509 tons; carrots, 1,056 tons; and celery 30,907 crates.

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#### Production of Coal and Coke in January

Production of coal in Canada in January totalled 1,816,640 tons, an increase of seven per cent over the total for the corresponding month of last year. January output of coke was recorded at 316,000 tons as compared with 312,000 tons in December and 341,000 tons in January, 1945. Imports of coal in January amounted to 1,204,823 tons as compared with 805,220 tons a year ago, while the tonnage exported was 44,963 as compared with 75,566.



## January Production of Silver, Lead and Zinc

The Canadian output of silver in January amounted to 1,214,506 ounces as compared with 1,153,013 ounces in the preceding month and 1,019,590 ounces in the corresponding month of last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. January exports of silver in ores and concentrates totalled 271,577 ounces.

Primary production of unrefined lead in all forms in January totalled 34,069,146 pounds as compared with 34,475,531 pounds in December and 25,623,743 pounds in January, 1945. Output of refined lead was recorded at 31,654,000 pounds as compared with 34,656,000 pounds in December, and 23,406,000 pounds in January, 1945. Exports of lead in ore in January this year amounted to 1,147,800 pounds, and lead in pigs, 16,016,900 pounds.

Production of primary zinc in all forms in January amounted to 41,734,017 pounds as compared with 40,213,452 pounds in December, and 49,506,177 pounds in January, 1945; the refined output totalled 30,137,657 pounds as compared with 28,948,433 pounds in December and 33,576,662 pounds in January last year. Zinc in ore exported in January amounted to 13,317,400 pounds, and zinc spelter 25,623,100 pounds.

## Sales of Clay Products in January

Sales by producers of clay products made from domestic clays in January were valued at \$765,866 as compared with \$630,753 in the preceding month, and \$408,135 in the corresponding month of last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Sales in January this year included: building brick, \$376,268; structural tile, \$91,857; drain tile, \$23,017; sewer pipe, \$93,006; fireclay blocks and shapes, \$19,798; pottery, \$111,907; and other clay products, \$50,013.

## Shipments of Portland Cement in January

Shipments of portland cement from Canadian plants in January totalled 310,285 barrels compared with 306,052 barrels in the preceding month, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Actual production in January amounted to 783,205 barrels. Exports in January this year totalled 2,564 barrels, and imports, 1,836 barrels.

## Stocks of Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal

Stocks of aluminum scrap in Canada at the end of January totalled 8,007,859 pounds as compared with 7,344,579 pounds at the start of the month, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, and stocks of copper scrap 3,192,734 pounds as against 3,122,570 pounds. End of January figures for other non-ferrous metals, with totals for the first of the month in brackets, were: nickel scrap, 159,783 (177,461) pounds; magnesium scrap, 38,706 (36,036); brass and bronze scrap, 6,262,915 (7,056,568); tin-lead scrap, 7,400,031 (7,051,029); zinc scrap, 1,143,501 (1,241,130).

## Salt Production in January

Primary production of salt or natural sodium chloride in Canada during January totalled 57,092 short tons. According to figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Of this total, 23,503 short tons represented table, common fine and other commercial grades, the remaining 33,589 short tons being for the manufacture of chemicals. The output in December, 1945, amounted to 52,433 short tons.

## Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers

Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers which normally account for 96 per cent of the total Canadian production amounted to \$3,970,378 in February and \$3,844,843 in January 1946, according to figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In each month the trade sales (exclusive of water paints) accounted for about 52 per cent of the total, industrial sales for 35 per cent, water paints for four per cent, and unclassified sales for nine per cent. The report is the first of a new series intended to provide up-to-date information on the paints and varnishes industry.



### Concrete Building Blocks and Cement Pipe

Production of concrete brick in February amounted to 989,435 pieces, concrete solid blocks 4,245, concrete hollow blocks 523,268, and concrete cinder blocks 336,105 pieces; and cement drain pipe, sewer pipe, water pipe and culvert tile, 5,124 tons, according to a survey conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics of 50 selected firms which normally account for about 85 per cent of the Dominion output of these products

### Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries During January

Net sales of securities by Canada to other countries in January were \$17.7 million as compared with \$11.6 million in December and \$9.7 million in January 1945, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Sales of Dominion bond issues and United States stocks were the dominating factors, representing \$8.7 million and \$3.8 million, respectively, of the total net inflow of capital. Sales of securities to all countries in January were valued at \$50.9 million as compared with \$36 million in the preceding month and \$26 million in the corresponding month of last year. Purchases from all countries amounted to \$33.2 million as compared with \$24.4 million in December and \$16.3 million in January, 1945.

Net sales of securities to the United States of \$24.7 million in January were higher than in any month of 1945 except June. Sales of Canadian bonds to the United States amounted to \$13.7 million on balance. Sales of Dominions were \$8.5 million, provincials \$2.1 million and other corporations \$1.9 million. Net sales of Canadian stocks to the United States were \$6.8 million and net sales of United States stocks were \$3.8 million. Total sales of securities to the United States in January were recorded at \$50 million as compared with \$35.3 million in December, and \$25.5 million in January, 1945. Purchases from the United States amounted to \$25.3 million as compared with \$19.3 million in December and \$13.8 million in January, 1945.

Net repurchases of securities from the United Kingdom in January were \$7.1 million, Canadian stocks accounting for \$6.2 million and the remainder divided between different Canadian bond issues. Total net repurchases from the United Kingdom were at the highest level since June, 1945. The trade with other countries showed a moderate increase in volume but only represented net sales of \$0.1 million.

### Operating Results of Unincorporated Retail Stores

The results of a sample study of the operating results of independent hardware stores, independent furniture stores, and independent household appliance and radio stores, has been released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The present report is one of a series presenting average results in selected branches of retail trade for 1944 and, where possible, for both 1941 and 1944. The first series of such studies was made by the Bureau for the year 1938 and presented somewhat similar information on average operating expenses and profits against which individual firms could compare their own results. Since that time requests have been received on an expanding scale for corresponding types of reports, a fact which indicates the growing interest of merchants and others in information on costs in retail trade. It is in response to this demand that these reports are now being issued.

### Revenues and Expenses of Railways

Operating revenues of Canadian railways declined from the high record of \$789,961,159 earned in 1944 to \$769,923,409 in 1945, a decrease of 2.5 per cent, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Freight revenues declined by 3.1 per cent and passenger revenues by 4.3 per cent; all other items showed increases. Operating expenses were reduced from \$627,352,016 to \$623,093,536, and the operating income was reduced from \$118,111,507 to \$106,645,913, or by \$11,465,594. Revenue ton miles declined by 3.9 per cent and passenger miles by 7.2 per cent. The number of passengers per passenger train declined from 149 to 136 and, excluding commuter traffic, from 146 to 135. The total pay roll was increased from \$347,540,362, adjusted for increases earned in 1944, to \$356,163,893, or by 2.5 per cent, for an increase in the average number of employees from 165,092 to 170,166 or by 3.1 per cent.



### Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways decreased for the fourth consecutive week to 66,839 cars for the week ended April 13 as compared with 67,675 cars for the preceding week and 71,033 cars for the corresponding week last year. Grain loadings fell from 10,087 cars in 1945 to 5,523 cars, ores from 2,097 to 1,755 cars, iron and steel products from 1,826 to 1,182 cars, and autos, trucks and parts from 1,736 to 1,007 cars. Sand, stone, gravel, etc., increased from 2,729 to 3,135 cars, gasoline, oils, etc. from 2,437 to 2,653 cars, wood pulp and paper from 3,341 to 3,878 cars and merchandise (L.C.L.) from 16,322 to 18,455 cars. Total loadings in the eastern division declined from 46,821 cars in 1945 to 44,700 cars, and in the western division from 24,212 to 22,139 cars.

### Telephone Statistics

The number of telephones in service in Canada continued to increase in 1944, although at a lower rate than during the previous four years. The increase over 1943 was 59,761 telephones or 3.5 per cent to bring the total to 1,751,923, which was an increase over 1934 of 554,894 telephones or 46.4 per cent. Due to shortages of materials, telephones on 2-party lines increased during 1944 more than those on individual lines, which was also true for 1943. The same factor and the tax on private extension telephones caused a reduction in these from a peak of 54,725 in 1941 to 48,680 in 1944. Business branch line and extension telephones continued to increase. Public pay stations also increased, reaching 32,550 telephones. Telephones on lines serving more than four customers increased by 9.2 per cent for business telephones and 3.7 per cent for residence telephones.

### Publication Announced of 1946 Edition of Official Handbook "CANADA"

The publication is announced by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics of the 1946 edition of the Official Handbook "CANADA".

CANADA 1946 covers the present situation in the Dominion from Atlantic to Pacific, the weight of emphasis being placed on those aspects that are currently of most importance. So far as space permits, all phases of the country's economic organization are dealt with and statistics are brought up to the latest possible date. The present edition is the first to be published since the achievement of victory by Allied Arms and it has been thought desirable to mark the occasion by introducing as a frontispiece colour plates of Their Majesties and of typical Canadian scenes. The text is accompanied by a wealth of illustrative matter that adds to the interest of the subjects treated.

The introduction reviews Canada's economic developments during 1945 and is followed by a special article entitled "Trans-Canada Air Lines -- Its Place in the Field of Civil Aviation in Canada". The article deals with the development of civil aviation in the Dominion and the organization and growth of the Trans-Canada Air Lines. The chapter material reviews economic conditions under the various headings listed as follows: population and vital statistics, national income and survey of production, agriculture, forest resources, fisheries production, mines and minerals, water powers, manufactures, transportation and communications, labour, welfare services, construction, external trade, public finance, currency, banking and insurance, and education.

The price of the publication is 25 cents per copy, which charge covers merely the cost of paper and actual press work. Postage stamps are not acceptable, and applications must be accompanied by a postal note or by a coin enclosed between two squares of thin cardboard gummed together at the edges. Application for copies should be made to the King's Printer, Ottawa, and not to the Dominion Statistician.

### Building Permits in 1945

Building permits issued by municipalities making monthly returns to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics were valued at \$197,174,000 in 1945 as compared with \$128,728,000 in the preceding year, an advance of 53.2 per cent. Of the 1945 total, \$156,734,902 was for new construction and \$40,438,968 for additions, alterations and repairs. Residential construction totalled \$117,876,941, commercial \$23,092,999, industrial \$31,891,709, institutional \$21,542,456, and other construction work \$2,769,735. Residential permits advanced \$34,925,754 over 1944, industrial \$17,330,341, commercial \$7,636,089, and institutional \$9,737,141.



### Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries

Sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal Canadian producers during February were valued at \$774,357 and during January at \$829,603, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The February sales included 109,242 batteries valued at \$681,616 for the ignition of internal combustion engines; 8,070 batteries at \$59,794 for farm lighting plants; 746 cells at \$16,346 for railway service; 1,264 batteries at \$4,984 for motor cycle starting; batteries for other purposes at \$90,069; and miscellaneous parts and supplies at \$21,548.

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### Reports Issued During the Week

1. Monthly Report, Cement, January (10 cents).
  2. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, April 1 (10 cents).
  3. Clay Products Made from Canadian Clays, January (10 cents).
  4. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, January (10 cents).
  5. Coal and Coke Statistics, January (10 cents).
  6. Live Stock Survey - Poultry - December 1, 1945 (10 cents).
  7. Annual Report of Building Permits, 1945 (25 cents).
  8. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
  9. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
  10. Breakfast Foods Industry, 1944 (15 cents).
  11. Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries, January (10 cents).
  12. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, April 1 (10 cents).
  13. Telephone Statistics, 1944 (25 cents).
  14. Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries, December, 1945, and Review of Trade During 1945 (10 cents).
  15. Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins, February (10 cents).
  16. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, January and February (10 cents).
  17. Salt, January (10 cents).
  18. Dealers' Report on Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal, January (10 cents).
  19. Paints, Pigments and Varnishes Industry, 1944 (25 cents).
  20. Clay and Clay Products Industry, 1944 (25 cents).
  21. Operating Results of Unincorporated Retail Stores, 1944 (25 cents).
  22. Operating Revenues, Expenses & Statistics of Railways, December (10 cents).
  23. Operating Revenues, Expenses & Statistics of Railways, 1945 (10 cents).
  24. 1946 Edition of Official Handbook "Canada" (25 cents).
  25. Statistics of Steam Railways, 1944 (50 cents).
  26. Stocks of Meat in Cold Storage, April 1 (10 cents).
  27. Canada's Leading Minerals, January (10 cents).
  28. Concrete Building Blocks and Cement Pipe, February (10 cents).
  29. Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, January and February (10 cents).
  30. Labour Force Bulletin No. 2 (25 cents).
  31. Survey of Production in Canada, 1938-1943 (25 cents).
  32. Stocks of Grain at March 31, 1946 (10 cents).
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