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Juvenile Crime Convictions Decrease 10 Per Cent

Juveniles convicted of crimes during the year ending September 30, 1945 numbered 8,909, a decrease of 10 per cent from the total of 9,917 in 1944, according to preliminary figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was the third successive year in which the number of juvenile crime convictions has declined since it reached the highest recorded figure of 11,758 in 1942. Decreases were shown in the number of convictions for both major and minor offences. Nevertheless, juvenile crime convictions in 1945 were still 17 per cent above the level in 1939. Decreases were recorded in all provinces except Prince Edward Island and British Columbia in 1945 as compared with 1944.

Theft and burglary, which account for approximately 80 per cent of major juvenile delinquencies, both showed marked decreases in 1945 compared with 1944. Theft convictions decreased from 3,380 in 1944 to 2,944 in 1945, a drop of 13 per cent. Burglary convictions decreased from 1,702 in 1944 to 1,494 in 1945, a drop of 12 per cent.

Another interesting aspect of the figures is that the number of juvenile convictions for minor offences has varied much more during the war years than the number of convictions for major offences. In 1942, the number of convictions for minor offences had increased 86 per cent from the number in 1939, whereas the number for major offences had increased 38 per cent. Likewise, the number of convictions for minor offences in 1945 fell 35 per cent from the 1942 peak, while the number for major offences fell only 17 per cent. Juvenile convictions for major offences now constitute about 65 per cent of the total, the same as in 1939.

To sum up, during the first years of the war, the number of juvenile crime convictions increased at an alarming rate; it was more than 50 per cent greater in 1942 than in 1939. Since then, the number has steadily declined, but it is still substantially above the pre-war level. No figures are yet available for the last months of 1945 and the early months of 1946.

JUVENILE CRIME CONVICTIONS

	Number of Convictions			Movement 1939=100			P.C. Change from Previous Year		
	Major	Minor	Total	Major	Minor	Total	Major	Minor	Total
1939	5,018	2,595	7,613	100	100	100			
1940	5,298	3,133	8,431	106	121	111	+ 6	+ 21	+11
1941	6,204	4,106	10,310	124	158	135	+17	+ 31	+22
1942	6,920	4,838	11,758	138	186	154	+12	+ 18	+14
1943	6,494	3,802	10,296	129	147	135	- 6	-21	-12
1944	6,529	3,388	9,917	130	131	130	+ 1	-12	- 4
1945	5,758	3,151	8,909	115	121	117	-12	- 7	-10

Sales of New Motor Vehicles, January-March

New motor vehicles sold in Canada during the first quarter of the present year numbered 13,115, their aggregate retail value being \$20,189,426, according to figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The total comprised 6,887 new passenger models, which sold for \$9,426,830 - an average of \$1,370 per car, and 6,228 new commercial models, which sold for \$10,762,596.

Sales of new passenger cars were 983 in January, 1,581 in February and 4,323 in March, and those of trucks and buses, 1,648, 2,132 and 2,448, respectively. Ontario was the leading province in number of sales with a total of 6,141 new vehicles; Quebec was second with 2,376; followed by the Maritime Provinces, 1,218; Alberta, 1,006; Saskatchewan, 949; British Columbia, 859; and Manitoba, 566.

Crop Conditions in Canada

Weather in the Maritimes and Quebec has been generally backward, with work on the land just getting under way in most areas. Conditions in western and central Ontario have favoured early spring work and seeding is practically complete. Cold, wet weather has delayed progress in eastern Ontario. Spring work in the Prairie Provinces is well advanced with wheat seeding practically completed in Manitoba and nearing completion in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Sowing of coarse grains is coming along well. Weather conditions in Manitoba were generally ideal for early seeding as were conditions in Saskatchewan and Alberta until late April. Recently, however, cold weather with heavy, dry winds in some areas of the latter two provinces has deterred progress to some extent.

Very little seeding has been done in the Maritimes to date due to generally cool weather and heavy precipitation. There is evidence of considerable winter killing of clover and grasses particularly in New Brunswick. Cool weather in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia has retarded the budding of fruit trees and enhanced their chances of escaping frost damage this year.

In Quebec little work has been accomplished on the land as yet. Winter-killing appears to have been relatively slight in most districts. Western and central Ontario are relatively dry while spring work in eastern Ontario has been hampered by cold, wet weather. Fruit blossoms have been injured by frost in parts of the peninsula and Georgian Bay regions but damage in the Niagara and Burlington areas is deemed negligible.

Conditions in the Prairie Provinces may be considered generally favourable to date but precipitation since April first has been below normal in all three provinces. Mean temperatures were above average in April but in the last week have been below normal. General rains are now needed in many areas to promote germination and growth and to eliminate the danger of serious soil drifting in southern Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Seeding is well advanced throughout British Columbia. Crop and pasture conditions are reported to be favourable in nearly all areas. Tree and small fruits wintered well and prospects at present appear to be excellent.

Stocks and Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

The visible supply of Canadian wheat in North American positions at midnight on May 9 was less than one-quarter the stocks held on the corresponding date of last year, according to figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Current visible supplies totalled 76,296,006 bushels as compared with 311,279,966 bushels a year ago.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending May 9 amounted to 2,053,557 bushels as compared with 2,756,768 in the preceding week. Marketings from the commencement of the present crop year to May 9 aggregated 208,615,424 bushels as compared with 294,539,238 in the similar period of the crop year 1944-45.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending May 9, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 1,781,048 (2,240,260) bushels; barley, 573,201 (655,029); rye, 13,329 (19,909); flaxseed, 5,754 (10,035).

Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products

The net "into-storage" movement of creamery butter during April amounted to 1.1 million pounds, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This is an unusual position for creamery butter at this time of year when there is generally an "out-of-storage" movement. Last year during April there was an "out-of-storage" movement of 752,000 pounds. For the first time in 20 years the total of stocks and "in-transit" creamery butter was higher than that of April 1. The total stocks on hand and in transit were 6,847,612 pounds, while on April 1 the stocks were 5,365,139 pounds. The current stocks, however, were very much lower than the holdings of May 1, 1945, which were 12,675,821 pounds.

Cheese holdings also increased over the figures for April 1, but were below the stocks a year ago. The respective figures stand at 20,714,936 at May 1, 18,140,395 on April 1, and 25,926,388 pounds on May 1, 1945. Evaporated whole milk stocks held by manufacturers totalled 13,033,488 pounds as compared with 10,436,766 pounds last month and 22,580,086 pounds on May 1, 1945.

All eggs, in shell, frozen and "in transit" totalled 539,696 cases, while on April 1 there were 386,520 cases, and a year ago there were 855,402 cases. Of the May 1 holdings this year, 7,565,568 dozen were cold storage eggs, 3,179,020 dozen were fresh eggs, while 4,841,103 pounds were held as frozen egg meat.

Stocks of poultry were still low, there having been on May 1, 4,442,513 pounds as compared with 6,408,504 pounds a month ago, and 8,058,346 pounds last year. Of the current holdings, chickens totalled 1,539,976 pounds, fowl 1,829,803 pounds, and turkeys 694,707 pounds.

Meat Holdings on May 1

Stocks of fresh, frozen and cured pork in the hands of packers, cold storages, abattoirs and wholesale butchers on May 1 totalled 57,529,387 pounds, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in its report on cold storage holdings of meat and lard. On April 1 there were 49,938,436 pounds, and last year at the same date there were 64,283,487 pounds.

The quantity of beef on hand was 15,675,497 pounds as compared with 21,435,005 pounds last month and 21,683,866 pounds a year ago. Veal was up to 3,455,129 pounds from 2,079,702 pounds on April 1, but the holdings were lower than on May 1, 1945, when the stocks were 4,431,554 pounds.

Mutton and lamb stocks were slightly greater on May 1 as compared with those of a year ago, but were below the holdings of April 1, 1946. On May 1, 1946 holdings totalled 2,005,516 pounds; last year they were 1,955,758 pounds, while last month the aggregate was 3,345,349 pounds.

Cold Storage Holdings of Fish

Stocks of all frozen fish in Canada on May 1 amounted to 17,071,984 pounds, representing an out-of-storage movement of 1,707,831 pounds during the month of April, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. On May 1 last year, there were 15,739,579 pounds of frozen fish in cold storage.

Storage holdings of frozen fresh fish on May 1 this year totalled 15,628,733 pounds as compared with 17,530,292 pounds on April 1, and 14,562,746 pounds on the corresponding date of last year. Stocks of frozen smoked fish amounted to 1,443,251 pounds as against 1,249,523 pounds on April 1, and 1,176,833 pounds on May 1 a year ago.

May 1 stocks of cod - frozen fresh and frozen smoked - totalled 3,299,867 pounds. On April 1, the total was 2,801,195 pounds and on May 1, 1945, 2,574,724 pounds. Holdings of haddock and filman haddock were recorded at 438,072 pounds, as compared with 566,810 pounds on April 1, and 804,732 a year ago. Salmon stocks were low, amounting to 1,501,073 pounds compared with 2,915,715 pounds on April 1, and 1,245,507 last year. Stocks of sea herring and kippers amounted to 3,199,882 pounds as compared with 4,039,017 pounds on April 1, and 6,752,071 pounds a year ago.

Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables

Stocks of fruit and vegetables, frozen and in preservatives, were reduced on May 1, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Summary of fruit holdings on May 1 shows a total in storages and in factories of 15,388,833 pounds as compared with 17,706,042 pounds on April 1, and 21,946,867 pounds on May 1, 1945, while the stocks of vegetables totalled 1,543,783 pounds as compared with 3,421,977 pounds on April 1, and 3,058,878 pounds on May 1, 1945.

May 1 stocks of fruit this year included 10,310,061 pounds in preservatives and 5,078,772 pounds frozen, both totals being lower than in the preceding month and at May 1, 1945. The fruit in preservatives included 3,207,252 pounds of citrus varieties, 1,260,236 pounds of apple pulp, 1,101,417 pounds of strawberries, 822,905 pounds of raspberries, 793,131 pounds of plums, and 740,677 pounds of cherries.

Holdings of frozen vegetables on May 1 this year totalled 1,496,783 pounds and vegetables in brine 47,000 pounds, as compared with 2,326,952 pounds of the former and 1,095,025 pounds of the latter on April 1. Stocks of frozen vegetables on May 1 this year included 583,409 pounds of peas, 268,894 pounds of lima beans, 62,360 pounds of corn, and 1,862 pounds of string beans.

Stocks of fresh apples, including the holdings of commercial growers, were sharply reduced on May 1, the total being 61,206 bushels as compared with 278,971 bushels on April 1, and 282,291 bushels on May 1, 1945. May 1 stocks of potatoes in cold and common storage, including the holdings of commercial growers, totalled 65,897 tons of Canadian and 9,077 tons of imported; onions, 867 tons of Canadian and 281 tons imported; carrots, 1,206 tons Canadian and 710 imported, and celery 42 crates Canadian and 18,654 crates imported.

Economic Conditions During First Quarter of 1946

The average of six major factors indicating the trend of economic conditions was at a higher level in the first quarter than in any other period. A considerable advance was shown in speculative factors, the index of common stock prices averaging 121.5 against 91.8 in the same period of last year. The index of shares traded was also at a considerably higher position. The trend of bond prices was in an upward direction, an index constructed by taking the reciprocal of the index of bond yields rising from 103.6 in the first quarter of last year to 115.6.

The index of bank deposits with the chartered banks during the first two months of the year was 15.6 per cent greater than in the same period of 1945. While productive operations were at a considerably higher level in March than in February, the index of the physical volume of business in the first quarter was lower than in the same period of last year.

An outstanding development during the first quarter was the high level of new business obtained by the construction industry. The total of contracts was about 167 per cent greater than in the same period of last year. Building permits recorded an increase of even greater proportions. Although the index of employment in building construction rose 43 per cent, considerable delay in the filling of contracts is indicated. The lack of materials is regarded as the chief delaying factor. Building permits in 58 municipalities amounted to nearly \$48 million in the first quarter against \$17.7 million one year ago. The amount of contracts awarded rose from 44 million to \$118 million. The marked advance in the new business obtained by the industry indicates a period of pronounced activity in construction operations during future months.

The primary iron and steel industry made an excellent showing in the first quarter of the present year despite the elimination of war demand. The production of steel ingots and castings was only 8.7 per cent less than in the first quarter of 1945, while pig iron production showed a decline of 5.6 per cent. The index of employment in industries engaged in the production of durable goods, including munitions and producers' equipment, showed a decline of 25 per cent, the index on the base of 1926 having been 188 in the first quarter.

The upward trend of commodity distribution continued in the first two months of the year. Retail sales averaged 13 per cent greater than in the same period of 1945. Wholesale sales in the first two months recorded an even greater percentage increase, the index rising from 180 to 214.

Uneven tendencies developed in the external trade of the Dominion. The export trade during the first quarter showed a decline of about seven per cent from the high level of 1945. The total was \$728 million against \$781 million in the same period of last year. Imports, on the other hand, showed an increase of 18.8 per cent, the total in the quarter being \$445 million. The active balance of trade, excluding exports of non-monetary gold, consequently showed a considerable decline. The difference between the exports and imports was reduced to \$283 million against \$407 million in the same period of 1945, a decline of 30.5 per cent.

The most important element in the receipt of purchasing power is the remuneration obtained by employees in the form of salaries and wages. The index of aggregate weekly payrolls receded 9.3 per cent in the first quarter of 1946 against the same period of last year. The decline in the remuneration reflected recessions in the average earnings as well as in the number of employees at work. The average weekly earnings were \$31.53 against an average of \$31.72 in the first three reporting periods of 1945. The index of general employment on the base of 1926 receded from 179.2 to 167.3, a drop of 6.6 per cent.

The index of the physical volume of business was 191.4 in March compared with 181.2 in the preceding month, the standing in January having been 195.4. The average for the three months, consequently, was 189.7 against 223.6 in the first quarter of 1945.

Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings at March 1

There was a decline at March 1 as compared with February 1 in the number of hourly-rated wage-earners in manufacturing, accompanied by reductions in their aggregate and average earnings, and in the hours worked in the week preceding. The losses were partly seasonal in character, but a shortage of materials as a result of the steel strike in the United States was also a factor.

Statistics were furnished by 6,070 manufacturers employing 707,097 hourly-rated wage-earners, who were paid the sum of \$21,139,429 for services rendered in a total of 31,133,550 hours. The latter aggregate represented a mean of 44 hours per employee, while the earnings averaged 67.9 cents per hour, or \$29.88 in the week. In the preceding period, the same employers had reported 709,383 hourly-rated workers and had disbursed \$21,297,917 for services rendered in 31,264,353 hours; the latter had averaged 44.1 per wage-earner, and the earnings, 68.1 cents per hour, or \$30.03 in the week. There was thus a reduction of 0.3 per cent in the number of employees in the week under review, of 0.4 per cent in the total hours paid for, and of 0.7 per cent in the weekly wages of the hourly-rated personnel on the payrolls of the co-operating manufacturers as compared with the last week in February.

While the average of hours worked in the week of March 1 showed little change from February 1, it was a good deal lower at March 1, 1945, when the mean was 45.8 hours. Overtime had then been more commonly reported. The latest figure of average hourly earnings in manufacturing was rather more than two cents lower than that of 70.1 indicated at the same date in 1945. The last figure had included payments for a good deal of overtime work, while another significant factor was the greater concentration of workers then existing in the more highly-paid heavy manufacturing industries.

In many of the non-manufacturing industries, comparatively few workers are employed at hourly rates, with the result that accurate records of the hours which they work cannot be obtained. In mining, the average of hours worked in the week of March 1 showed little change as compared with a month earlier, being 44.6 at February 1 and 44.5 at March 1. The mean in the same week of last year was higher, at 45.4. There was an increase of nine-tenths of a cent as compared with February 1 in the latest average hourly rate, which was higher by 1.9 cents than in the week of March 1, 1945. Local transportation reported small increases in the hourly average as compared with a month and a year earlier; this was also the case of building construction, and in hotels and restaurants.

Production and Exports of Silver, Lead and Zinc

Production of silver in February amounted to 1,045,448 ounces as against 1,204,506 ounces in January and 952,225 ounces in February, 1945. Exports of refined silver during February amounted to 75,974 fine ounces and of silver in ores and concentrates to 179,889 fine ounces. For the two months, January and February, exports of refined silver totalled 75,974 fine ounces as compared with 448,336 fine ounces in the similar period of 1945, and those of silver in ores and concentrated aggregated 451,466 fine ounces as compared with 361,778 fine ounces.

Primary production of unrefined lead in all forms amounted to 30,477,148 pounds in February, a decrease of approximately 10 per cent from the January total of 34,069,146 but an increase of 24 per cent above the figure of 24,578,012 pounds for February 1945. The total for the first two months of 1946 was 64,546,294 pounds as compared with 50,201,755 pounds for the similar period of last year. Exports of lead in ore totalled 2,342,800 pounds in the January-February period of this year, and of lead in pigs, 29,649,700 pounds.

Output of primary zinc in all forms amounted to 39,784,315 pounds in February as compared with 41,734,017 pounds in the preceding month and 44,520,588 pounds in February, 1945. Exports of zinc in ore amounted to 10,844,000 pounds and of zinc spelter to 24,461,100 pounds during February, and to 24,161,400 and 50,089,200 pounds, respectively, in the two months.

Mine Shipments of Asbestos in February

Shipments of primary asbestos from Canadian mines during February totalled 29,614 short tons, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Actual mine production amounted to 33,032 short tons. These figures compare with shipments of 36,511 short tons and mine production of 36,863 short tons during January. Stocks at the end of February were recorded at 48,335 short tons.

Production of Natural Gas

Production of natural gas in December amounted to 5,738,260,000 cubic feet as compared with 5,297,540,000 in the preceding month, and 5,147,434,000 cubic feet in the corresponding month of 1944, according to figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the calendar year 1945, output aggregated 52,973,699,000 cubic feet as compared with 45,067,158,000 cubic feet in 1944.

Consumption of Gasoline

Consumption of gasoline in Canada in 1945 totalled 29,520,949 barrels of 35 imperial gallons each as compared with 28,533,493 barrels in the preceding year, according to figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Usage was as follows by regions, totals for 1944 being in brackets: Maritime Provinces, 2,396,420 (2,291,940) barrels; Quebec and Ontario, 16,046,125 (14,745,479); Prairie Provinces, 8,531,733 (8,986,427); British Columbia, 2,546,671 (2,509,647).

Sales of Manufactured and Natural Gas in March

Sales of manufactured gas by distributing companies in Canada totalled 2,149,614 M cubic feet during March as compared with 2,196,695 M cubic feet in February and 2,069,113 M cubic feet in March 1945, according to figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. For the first quarter of the year, sales aggregated 6,630,390 M cubic feet as against 6,406,483 M cubic feet for the first quarter of 1945.

Sales of natural gas during March amounted to 3,451,470 M cubic feet as compared with 3,691,599 M cubic feet in the corresponding month of last year, and for the first quarter of the year aggregated 12,320,654 M cubic feet as compared with 12,298,328 M cubic feet in the first three months of 1945.

Production of Nails and Staples

Production in Canada in March of iron and steel nails and staples, and of tacks of all kinds was as follows, totals for the three months ended March being in brackets: wire nails, 5,614 (17,539) tons; cut nails, 98 (270); wire staples, 162 (442); and tacks, 222 (639) tons. Imports of nails, tacks, etc., in March were valued at \$4,498 and in the first quarter \$14,819, while March exports totalled \$38,520 and in the first quarter, \$121,370.

Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins in March

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers amounted to 778,504 at the end of March compared with 839,766 at the end of February and 674,370 at the end of March 1945, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Calf and kip skins on hand increased from 389,656 at the end of February to 422,095 at the end of March. Stocks of other types at the end of March included 72,220 dozen sheep and lamb skins, 226,431 goat and kid skins, and 26,794 horse hides.

Wooden Refrigerator Industry in 1944

Production by firms engaged wholly or principally in the manufacture of household and commercial refrigerators, cold storage counters and ice cream cabinets constructed chiefly of wood, was valued at \$1,114,000 in 1944 as compared with \$1,391,000 in the preceding year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Beekeepers' and Poultrymen's Supplies

Manufacturers engaged wholly or chiefly in the production of incubators, hives and other supplies for poultrymen and beekeepers, reported that the value of their output of these products stood at \$422,000 in 1944 as compared with \$415,000 in 1943, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

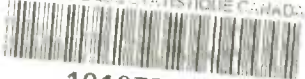
Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended May 4 increased to 66,627 cars from 65,183 cars for the preceding week, but declined from 70,252 cars for the corresponding week last year. In the eastern division, loadings declined from 46,691 cars in 1945 to 44,126 cars, and in the western division from 23,561 to 22,501 cars.

Total grain loadings declined from 10,527 cars last year to 6,237 cars, whereas grain products increased from 2,796 to 3,330 cars. Live stock declined from 2,181 to 1,697 cars, fresh meats and packing house products (edible) decreased from 641 to 334 cars, ores and concentrates from 2,391 to 1,795 cars, pulp wood from 2,803 to 2,302 cars, iron and steel products from 1,871 to 1,521 cars, automobiles, trucks and parts from 1,776 to 978 cars, and miscellaneous freight from 6,353 to 5,421 cars.

The principal increases were: sand, stone, gravel, etc. from 2,689 to 3,925 cars, gasoline and oils from 2,785 to 3,445 cars, wood pulp and paper from 2,933 to 3,893 cars, and merchandise (L.C.L.) from 15,997 to 17,879 cars.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Summary of Monthly Railway Traffic Reports, 1945 (25 cents).
2. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
3. Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings, March 1 (10 cents).
4. Economic Conditions During First Quarter of 1946 (10 cents).
5. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, May 1 (10 cents).
6. Wooden Refrigerator Industry, 1944 (10 cents).
7. Beekeepers' and Poultrymen's Supply Industry, 1944 (10 cents).
8. Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins, March (10 cents).
9. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, February (10 cents).
10. Sales of New Motor Vehicles, January-March, 1946 (10 cents).
11. Wire Fencing, March (10 cents).
12. Steel Wire, March (10 cents).
13. Nails, Tacks and Staples, March (10 cents).
14. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, May 1 (10 cents).
15. Cold Storage Holdings of Meat and Lard, May 1 (10 cents).
16. Monthly Sales of Manufactured and Natural Gas, March (10 cents).
17. Asbestos, February (10 cents).
18. Civil Aviation, Summary, 1945 (10 cents).
19. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
20. Consumption of Aviation Gasoline, Other Gasoline, Tractor Distillate, Kerosene, Light Fuel Oils and Heavy Fuel Oils, 1940-1945 (25 cents).
21. Telegraphic Code Report, Canada (10 cents).
22. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, May 1 (10 cents).
23. Summary of Cold Storage Reports, 1945 (25 cents).



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