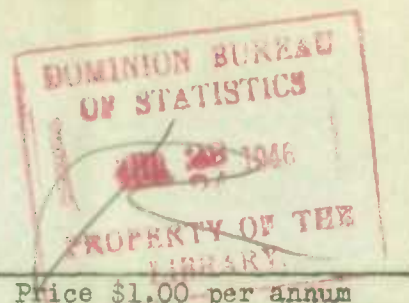


WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Department of Trade and Commerce



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Employment Gain at June 1 Shown by Quarterly Labour Force Survey

Total employment in Canada reached an estimated 4,702,000 by June 1, a gain of 390,000 since the end of February, according to the third quarterly labour force survey by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Employment in agriculture rose by 190,000, slightly more than one-half of the increase being accounted for by women working on farms, while in other industries it increased by about 200,000, although the volume of female employment showed a slight drop.

Employed persons, as recorded in the survey, are those who worked during the week ending June as well as those who had jobs but did not work at them because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labour disputes, or temporary lay-offs of less than 30 days.

The number of unemployed, consisting of those who were looking for work and did no work in the week ending June 1, totalled 126,000, about 87,000 below the estimate for February 23. According to this definition, the number of unemployed men fell by about 70,000 between February and June to a level of 108,000, and female unemployment was 18,000, approximately 50 per cent less than three months earlier. This estimate of unemployment does not include those who were temporarily laid off or were working at casual part-time jobs, a substantial proportion of whom were registered as unplaced applicants at local National Employment Service Offices. This accounts for the fact that the number of unplaced applicants, which was 210,404 on May 30, yields a higher estimate of unemployment.

The total labour force, consisting of the employed and the unemployed, showed a net gain of roughly 300,000 in the three months and reached 4,828,000 on June 1. The marked increase in the female labour force in agriculture, consisting almost exclusively of unpaid family workers helping around the farm during the seasonal peak of activity, contrasts with a drop of about 20,000 women in the non-agricultural labour force, indicative of the continuing retirement of women from the labour market. On the other hand, there was an increase of more than 200,000 in the male labour force in agriculture and non-agricultural industries. The number of men in the labour force was estimated to be 3,732,000 on June 11 as against 3,511,000 on February 23. This increase reflects the re-entry of veterans into the labour market as well as an increase in the number of students working.

The following table shows changes that occurred in the employment status of Canadians in the three months between the end of February and the beginning of June as indicated by the survey:--

	February 23	June 1	Net Change
Civilian labour force	4,525,000	4,828,000	+ 303,000
Employed	4,312,000	4,702,000	+ 390,000
at work	4,207,000	4,581,000	+ 374,000
with a job but not at work	105,000	121,000	+ 16,000
Unemployed	213,000	126,000	- 87,000
Not in the labour force	4,013,000	3,890,000	- 123,000

These estimates are based on a scientific cross-section survey of the Canadian population, covering about 25,000 households in nearly 100 different areas scattered over Canada. The purpose of these surveys is to provide quarterly breakdowns of the civilian non-institutional population 14 years of age and over by labour market status. People are classified not by what they normally do but on the basis of their activities during the survey week.

Employed persons, as shown in the table, consist principally of those who worked one hour or more in the survey week for pay or profit or who did unpaid family work on a farm or in a business. Also counted as employed are those who had jobs but did not work at them during the survey week because of temporary illness, vacation, bad weather, labour disputes, or temporary layoff lasting less than 30 days. The number in this category was estimated at 121,000 on June 1, an increase of about 16,000 since three months earlier, mainly because of an increase in the number of persons on strike. It was estimated that 60,000 persons had jobs but did not work at them during the survey week because of temporary illness, while nearly 20,000 others were temporarily laid off but were expecting to return to work within 30 days of the time of being laid off.

Crop Conditions in Prairie Provinces

Heavy rains have been well distributed over the Prairie Provinces during the past two weeks and warm weather has promoted rapid growth. Crop conditions in Alberta and Saskatchewan have been well maintained with marked improvements occurring over the greater part of Manitoba. No serious insect infestations have been reported but hail damage has been light to severe in many districts, particularly in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Heavy rains over Manitoba, coupled with fine growing weather, have materially improved prospects in this province. Much better crops are now anticipated than was thought possible two weeks ago. Grass and hay crops will, however, be light in many areas, particularly in south-central districts and in the northern portions of Crop District 3. In many parts of the Brandon area over two inches of rain have fallen since the last report and summerfallow crops appear to be in good condition. Higher temperatures have stimulated rapid growth of corn, and gardens are greatly improved.

As in Manitoba, average rainfall since April 1 is rapidly approaching normal in Saskatchewan; but drought early in the season, particularly in south-western portions of the Province will doubtless result in relatively light yields in the affected areas. Stubble fields are beginning to burn in some sections of the southwest. Correspondents in southeastern, east-central, west-central and northwestern areas of the Province continue to report optimistically regarding crop prospects. Recent rains have improved conditions in the northeast where drought had begun to cause rapid deterioration in many districts.

Crop prospects in Alberta continue to be excellent, except in the Peace River District where timely rains will be needed to prevent deterioration. Showers were general during the past two weeks and moisture conditions are very favourable in all but the northwestern district. Warm weather promoted rapid growth of all crops and wheat is now averaging 18 inches in height with 25 per cent headed over the Province as a whole. Coarse grains are up 15 inches. Wheat-stem sawfly infestation shows considerable variation but grasshopper infestations are negligible. No serious insect injury has been suffered by garden crops or sugar beets. Severe hailstorms occurred in central, south-central and northeastern Alberta over the past two weeks causing serious local damage.

Stocks and Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

With only three weeks of the current crop year to be accounted for, visible stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on July 11 reached the lowest level since August 1938, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Current stocks were recorded at 43,657,631 bushels as compared with 45,824,374 bushels on July 4, and 236,022,910 bushels on the corresponding date of last year.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces also were reduced during the week ending July 11, the total standing at 1,220,538 bushels as compared with 3,005,567 in the preceding week. Marketings of wheat from the commencement of the present crop year to July 11 aggregated 229,831,287 bushels as compared with 329,243,723 in the similar period of 1944-45.

The following quantities of coarse grains were delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending July 11, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 861,004 (936,846) bushels; barley, 275,756 (338,776); rye, 7,575 (6,216); flaxseed, 2,373 (5,110).

Births, Deaths and Marriages in May

Births registered in cities, towns and villages of Canada having a population of 10,000 and over numbered 13,769 in May, deaths, 5,116, and marriages, 6,041, as compared with 11,634 births, 4,847 deaths, and 4,345 marriages in May last year, showing increases of 18, six and 39 per cent, respectively, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Storage Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables

Cold storage holdings of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, held at distributing centres only, increased to 17,461,261 pounds on July 1 from a revised total of 12,948,729 pounds on June 1 but were below the total of 19,340,986 pounds on July 1 last year, according to figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine, were lower in both comparisons, totalling 1,410,940 pounds as against 1,806,530 on June 1 and 1,590,550 pounds on July 1, 1945. Canadian apples held in cold and common storage amounted only to 2,958 bushels as compared with 12,574 bushels a month earlier and 6,433 bushels at the start of July last year.

Fruit stocks at July 1 comprised 10,153,124 pounds in preservatives and 7,176,140 pounds of frozen fruit in packages of 10 pounds and over and 131,997 pounds in packages under 10 pounds. Fruit in preservatives included 892,939 pounds of apple pulp, 613,196 pounds of cherries, 2,249,748 pounds of citrus fruits, 538,968 pounds of plums, 776,177 pounds of raspberries, 2,004,128 pounds of strawberries, and 1,077,969 pounds of other fruit.

Stocks of principal Canadian vegetables held at distributing centres only on July 1 were as follows: potatoes, 2,287 tons; onions, 14 tons; beets, 16 tons; carrots, 54 tons; cabbages, 178 tons; celery, 2,377 crates. The following were the stocks of imported vegetables: potatoes, 1,532 tons; onions, 592 tons; beets, 52 tons; carrots, 275 tons; cabbages, 75 tons; celery, 2,751 crates.

Cold Storage Holdings of Meat on July 1

Cold storage holdings of meat held by packers, abattoirs, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses on July 1 were slightly lower than on June 1, but substantially higher than on the corresponding date of last year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Stocks on July 1 this year totalled 73,032,495 pounds as compared with 73,314,123 on June 1, and 57,899,633 pounds on July 1, 1945.

July 1 holdings of pork, amounting to 53,250,385 pounds were reduced from the preceding month's total of 56,749,985 pounds, but recorded a sharp advance over July 1 last year when the amount was 38,554,063 pounds. Stocks of beef were higher in both comparisons, totalling 15,500,307 pounds on July 1, 12,043,865 pounds on June 1, and 13,316,711 a year ago.

Holdings of veal on July 1 were at about the same level as at June 1, but were lower than on July 1 last year; July 1 stocks this year were 3,482,870 pounds compared with 3,480,565 pounds on June 1, and 5,193,865 pounds on July 1, 1945. Stocks of mutton and lamb fell to 798,933 pounds from 1,039,708 pounds on June 1, and 834,994 pounds on July 1 a year ago.

Lard stocks remained at a low point, amounting to 985,577 pounds compared with 1,281,679 pounds on June 1, and 1,840,666 pounds on July 1, 1945.

Stocks of Fresh and Frozen Fish on July 1

Cold storage holdings of fish in Canada were substantially higher on July 1 than a month and year earlier, totalling 33,437,531 pounds as compared with 24,044,612 pounds on June 1, and 25,803,133 pounds on the corresponding date of last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks on July 1 this year included 31,588,087 pounds frozen fresh and 1,849,444 pounds frozen smoked. Fish frozen during June amounted to 17,272,291 pounds, recording an increase of 637,148 pounds over June, 1945.

Increased stocks were shown for all principal classifications with the exception of sea herring and kippers. Holdings of cod amounted to 9,894,910 pounds compared with 6,243,820 on July 1 last year, haddock and finnan haddie 464,220 pounds against 534,400, fillets of cod, haddock, etc. 1,444,887 pounds compared with 1,065,661, salmon, 1,671,434 pounds compared with 988,309, and sea herring and kippers 3,102,870 pounds against 5,331,619. Stocks of all other fish totalled 16,684,910 pounds compared with 11,639,324.

Pack of Canned Fruit and Vegetables in 1945

There were sharp reductions in the pack of canned apple juice, pears, baked beans, corn, peas, tomatoes and tomato juice in 1945 as compared with 1944, while the pack of canned peaches, plums and soups was moderately larger and that of beets, carrots and foods for infants rose substantially, according to preliminary figures on the year's pack, excluding domestic canners, released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The pack of canned apple juice dropped to 10,737,253 pounds as compared with 18,464,161 pounds in 1944, but that of other apple juice rose to 4,402,223 pounds as against 846,042 pounds. Canned pears totalled 9,946,853 pounds compared with 19,960,379 pounds; peaches, 19,233,053 pounds compared with 18,175,416 pounds; plums, 11,578,654 against 10,316,726 pounds.

Among the vegetables, the pack of baked beans (including lima beans) amounted to 37,538,473 pounds compared with 44,182,683; beets, 13,126,084 against 4,844,563 pounds; carrots, 17,738,092 compared with 2,755,474 pounds; corn, cream, whole grain, etc., 43,113,462 against 58,869,393 pounds. Under other canned products, food for infants totalled 14,629,537 pounds as compared with 9,573,196 pounds in 1944; soups of all kinds, 131,690,928 against 124,892,865 pounds; and tomato juice, 88,003,731 pounds compared with 138,839,079 pounds.

The 1945 canned pack of other fruits and vegetables included the following, figures for 1944 being in brackets; apples, including crabapples, 10,075,690 pounds (12,001,833); apricots, 1,040,466 pounds (2,911,354); cherries, 1,476,962 (3,423,245); beans, green or wax, 35,740,545 (39,710,303); pumpkin and squash, 4,449,766 (16,423,361); sauerkraut, 3,178,612 (1,646,120); tomato paste, puree and pulp, 15,384,554 (22,934,059); other tomato paste, puree and pulp, 1,876,526 (6,719,622); tomato catsup, 2,266,762 (5,084,111); other tomato catsup, 16,352,812 pounds (22,164,436).

Petroleum and Natural Gas Production in April

Canadian output of crude petroleum and natural gasoline amounted to 644,434 barrels in April, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This compares with 663,537 barrels in March and 692,889 barrels in April last year. For the four months ending April production fell to 2,598,590 barrels as compared with 3,133,072 barrels in the corresponding period of 1945.

Production of natural gas during April amounted to 3,971,893 thousand cubic feet as compared with 4,627,323 thousand in March and 4,363,245 thousand cubic feet in April, 1945. Aggregate output for the four months this year was slightly lower than for the corresponding period of 1945 at 19,470,759 as against 19,805,485 thousand cubic feet. April production by provinces, in thousand cubic feet, was as follows: New Brunswick, 52,064; Ontario, 647,746; Saskatchewan, 8,644; Alberta, 3,263,439.

Iron and Steel Production in May

Pig iron production in Canada during May amounted to 159,101 net tons as compared with 142,240 tons in April and 155,574 tons in May last year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. The total for May included 130,224 tons of basic iron, 16,595 tons of foundry iron and 12,282 tons of malleable iron. For the five months ended May this year output of pig iron totalled 746,133 net tons as against 782,917 tons for the corresponding period of 1945.

Production of steel ingots and steel castings during May totalled 259,626 net tons as compared with 247,519 in April and 267,643 tons in May last year, and comprised 251,697 tons of ingots and 7,929 tons of castings. The cumulative total for the five months this year was 1,234,778 tons, consisting of 1,194,501 tons of steel ingots and 40,277 of steel castings, as against a total of 1,338,503 tons, consisting of 1,265,573 tons of ingots and 72,930 tons of castings in the corresponding period of last year.

Output of ferro-alloys in May amounted to 14,004 net tons compared with 13,083 in the preceding month and 19,883 tons in May 1945, and for the five months of this year aggregated 57,242 net tons as against 80,199 last year.

Salt production in April

Primary production of salt or natural sodium chloride during April totalled 60,254 short tons, consisting of 27,976 tons of table, common fine, and other commercial grades, and 32,278 tons for the manufacture of chemicals, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. The April total compared with 61,532 tons in March, the cumulative total for the four months of the year being 235,664 tons.

Shipments of commercial grades in April totalled 27,424 tons as compared with 24,762 tons in March, shipments of such grades for the four months standing at 96,266 tons. Actual consumption of salt for chemical manufacture amounted to 32,641 tons in April and aggregated 125,427 tons in the four months ending April. Imports of all grades of salt in April totalled 11,139 tons valued at \$61,456 and for the four months, 41,017 tons at \$235,206, while exports amounted in the month to 822 tons valued at \$16,885 and in the four months to 2,224 tons at \$49,240.

May Sales of Manufactured and Natural Gas

Sales of manufactured gas by distributing companies in Canada during May totalled 2,084,816,000 cubic feet, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Of the month's total, 1,226,097,000 cubic feet were for domestic use, other than house heating; 391,575,000 for industrial use; 343,635,000 for commercial use; 122,324,000 for house heating; and 1,185,000 cubic feet for other uses. Total sales for the five months ended May were 10,743,260,000 cubic feet as compared with 10,386,703,000 for the corresponding period of 1945.

Sales of natural gas during May amounted to 2,166,156,000 cubic feet, of which 1,132,735,000 were for domestic use, 449,085,000 for commercial use, 559,049,000 for industrial use, and 25,287,000 cubic feet for other uses. Aggregate sales for the five months this year were 17,249,357,000 cubic feet as against 18,006,084,000 cubic feet in the first five months of last year.

Cost of Electricity for Domestic Service

Canadian householders paid a monthly average of \$2.33 for domestic electricity service in 1944, exclusive of Dominion sales tax of eight per cent and provincial or municipality taxes, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. This was an increase of two cents over the preceding year. The number of customers served was 1,906,452, the average consumption 133 kilowatt hours, and the average cost per kilowatt hour, 1.75 cents.

The following figures show the average cost in cents, exclusive of taxes on electricity for domestic service per kilowatt hour, by provinces, with average monthly consumption figures in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 5.04 (63); Nova Scotia, 3.84 (66); New Brunswick, 4.48 (56); Quebec, 2.53 (70); Ontario, 1.30 (183); Manitoba, 0.99 (353); Saskatchewan, 4.55 (76); Alberta, 4.74 (58); British Columbia and Yukon, 2.60 (92); Canada, 1.75 (133).

Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers in Canada amounted to 593,226 at the end of May compared with 681,552 at the end of April, and 643,842 at the end of May, 1945. Stocks at the end of May this year were made up entirely of hides of domestic origin, consisting of 414,883 packer or small packer and 178,343 country hides.

Calf and kip skins on hand increased from 419,732 at the end of the preceding month to 466,552 at the end of May, and consisted of 437,776 domestic and 28,776 foreign skins. Stocks of other types at the end of May included 64,369 dozen sheep and lamb skins, 257,265 goat and kid skins and 17,163 horse hides.

Freight and Passenger Motor Carriers

Revenues of 1,361 freight and passenger motor carrier concerns operating in Canada in 1944 totalled \$81,707,604 as compared with \$76,020,555 in the preceding year, according to a report released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Freight revenues advanced from \$43,441,065 in 1943 to \$44,751,450, passenger revenues from \$29,927,666 to \$34,016,677, and miscellaneous revenues from \$2,661,824 to \$2,939,477. Passenger traffic was heavier during the year, when the number increased from 221,012,429 in 1943 to 234,808,882; tonnage of freight transported was lighter, amounting to 9,604,947 tons compared with 11,796,298.

Revenues of the 498 large freight carriers increased from \$39,409,036 in 1943 to \$41,605,196 in 1944, or by 5.6 per cent; Freight carried by this group totalled 8,044,267 tons as compared with 8,752,011 in 1943. Small freight carriers, of which there were 384 as compared with 426, had aggregate revenues of \$5,058,116 as compared with \$5,627,086; the amount of freight transported was 1,496,750 tons as compared with 2,075,333.

Passenger motor carriers, which includes both urban and inter-urban systems, declined in number from 490 in 1943 to 479, but revenues increased from \$30,984,433 to \$35,044,292, or by 13.1 per cent. Revenues of city systems increased from \$9,866,622 in 1943 to \$11,059,803, or by 12.1 per cent. The city passengers carried by these systems increased from 127,950,276 to 134,409,818, or by five per cent, and the interurban passengers from 8,748,872 to 10,700,185, or by 22.3 per cent.

Canadian Furniture Industry in 1944

For the sixth consecutive year the furniture industry of Canada showed gains in 1944 over the preceding year and established a series of new records, according to a report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on the operations of the industry, comprising establishments engaged wholly or principally in the manufacture of wooden furniture of all kinds and covering the greater part of the production of such furniture in Canada.

Salaries and wages paid rose from \$17,923,816 in 1943 to \$19,580,828, an increase of 9.2 per cent, and average employment from 13,440 to 14,046, a gain of 4.5 per cent. The gross value of production advanced nearly 9 per cent, reaching \$51,296,574 as against \$47,107,525 the previous year, and the cost of materials used amounted to \$20,871,540 as compared with \$19,062,790, an increase of 9.5 per cent.

By way of further comparison, salaries and wages paid in 1939 totalled \$9,959,270 or slightly more than half the 1944 total, average number of employees was 10,572, gross value of production amounted to \$25,629,270, and the cost of materials used was placed at \$10,934,029.

Household furniture manufactured by the industry in 1944 was valued at \$31,937,865. Next leading items in order of value were: office and store furniture and fixtures, \$3,802,908; aircraft parts, \$3,480,783; furniture frames, \$1,310,811; children's furniture, \$1,263,762; furniture and fixtures for churches, schools and other public buildings, \$1,209,378; miscellaneous cabinet work, \$1,038,469.

There were 472 establishments engaged wholly or principally in the manufacture of wooden furniture in 1944 as compared with 378 in 1939. Of this total, 208 were located in Ontario, 133 in Quebec, 65 in British Columbia, 33 in Manitoba, 16 in Alberta, nine in Saskatchewan and four each in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended July 6 declined to 60,623 cars from 70,060 cars for the preceding week, the holiday on July 1 being a factor in the decrease. For the corresponding week last year the total was 63,263 cars. Grain loading was light in both divisions, but increases in the eastern division in pulpwood, gasoline and oils, wood pulp and paper, and merchandise raised the total from 40,513 cars last year to 41,537. In the western division, grain declined from 7,571 to 2,817 cars, and total loadings declined from 22,750 to 19,086 cars. Coal in the western division increased from 1,523 to 1,868 cars, grain products from 916 to 1,205 cars, and merchandise (L.C.L.) from 3,793 to 4,337 cars. There was little change in the loadings of forest products.

Relations of Family Size to Earnings

In Canada, as in all other countries of the Western world, the birth rate is declining, and the rate of natural increase is slowing down, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics points out in a study of economic differences in family size, which is based on information obtained from the 1941 Census of Canada. Ultimately, the report continues, unless trends are reversed or large-scale immigration occurs, a stationary or even declining population is to be expected. Previous reports in this series have studied various social characteristics, associated with large and small families, in order to throw light on the causes of the declining birth rate.

The present report is primarily concerned with differences in family size associated with differences in income. Total income is not recorded in the census, but for wage-earners the greater part is known. All earnings, whether in the form of wages, salaries, commission, or piece-work remuneration, are recorded. For others than wage-earners much less information is available. The only clue to income is a much less satisfactory index, the value or rent of the home. Earnings and, to a lesser degree, value of home owned provided an approximate index of income levels that is adequate for the purposes of the study.

Average family size of wage-earner normal Canadian families with wives aged 45-54 years was found to be significantly associated with differences in earnings, as well as with differences in ethnic origin, educational status, and urbanization, the report indicates. With very few exceptions, families were largest in the groups with lowest earnings, and decreased consistently as earnings rose. While part of the difference in family size is associated with the occupational characteristics of groups at different earnings levels, low and high earnings within the same broad occupational group were still found to be associated with differences in family size.

When the effects of ethnic group, educational status, earnings and urbanization were equalized, the largest families were found among those employed in primary occupations and the smallest in trade, finance, service and clerical work. Among those with low-earnings and low educational status, the largest families were found among workers in lumbering and mining. The small class of agricultural wage-earners had rather small families. Families of unskilled labourers were also large.

Owing to the high proportion of independent farmers with large families among non wage-earners, family size as a whole appeared to be at least as large as among wage-earners at roughly comparable economic level. Family size among non wage-earners varied on the whole in the same way as among wage-earners. Owing in part to inadequacy of value of home as an index to economic status, the differences in size of family associated with this characteristic were not so clear cut as the differences in family size at different earnings levels.

Reports Issued during the Week

1. Registrations of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, May (10 cents).
2. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
3. Economic Differences in Family Size, 1941 (50 cents).
4. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
5. Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins, May (10 cents).
6. Index Numbers of Cost of Electricity for Domestic Service, 1945 (25 cents).
7. Production of Iron and Steel, May (10 cents).
8. Cold Storage Holdings of Meat and Lard, July 1 (10 cents).
9. Imports into Canada for Consumption, May (10 cents).
10. Preliminary Report on the Furniture Industry in Canada, 1944 (15 cents).
11. Motor Carriers, Freight - Passenger, 1944 (25 cents).
12. Men's Factory Clothing Industry, 1944 (25 cents).
13. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, July 1 (10 cents).
14. Sales of Manufactured and Natural Gas, May (10 cents).
15. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, July 1 (10 cents).
16. Salt, April (10 cents).
17. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, April (10 cents).
18. Preliminary Report on the Pack of Canned Fruits and Vegetables, 1945 (25 cents).
19. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).

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