

External Trade of Canada in June

Canada's external trade, excluding gold, was valued at \$326,430,157 in June, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. The June total fell below this year's high figure of \$363,033,896 for May but exceeded slightly the average for the preceding five months. It compares with the war-swollen total of \$473,624,139 for June last year, which was the peak month of 1945.

For the first half of the year the aggregate value of external merchandise trade was \$1,963,797,222 as against \$2,543,904,976 for the corresponding six months of last year, showing a decline of approximately 23 per cent.

Merchandise imports during June were valued at \$157,658,150 as compared with \$146,479,486 for June last year, maintaining the higher levels established in recent months although below the all-time high figure of \$164,196,552 recorded for May. Their aggregate value for the half year was \$879,874,953 as compared with \$798,694,969 for the first six months of 1945.

Domestic commodity exports amounted to \$166,697,433 in June as against \$322,846,068 in June last year, and for the half-year aggregated \$1,062,773,970 compared with \$1,718,398,022 in the like period of 1945. June exports of foreign produce were valued at \$2,074,574 compared with \$4,298,585 last year, and for the first six months totalled \$11,148,299 as against \$26,811,985 for the corresponding half of 1945.

Canada's Merchandise Imports in June

Merchandise imports into Canada during June continued close to the high level reached in May and April this year, being valued at \$157,658,150, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The June total compares with \$146,479,486 for June last year, the peak month of 1945, and the all-time high of \$164,196,552 for May this year.

Increases in merchandise imports have been recorded for each month this year over the corresponding month of 1945, the aggregate value for the first half of the year standing at \$879,874,953 as compared with \$798,694,969 last year.

Commodity imports from the United Kingdom rose to \$23,394,177 in June as compared with \$13,842,544 in June last year and \$13,780,128 in May this year. The cumulative figure for the six months reached \$110,894,212 as against \$66,412,209 for the first half of 1945.

Imports from the United States showed a moderate recession in June from the preceding month, and from June last year, being valued at \$106,605,006 as compared with \$113,419,954 in May and \$110,715,263 in June, 1945. The aggregate for the half-year, however, was practically the same as last year, amounting to \$618,367,109 as against \$618,120,814.

Among British Empire countries, total imports for the half year show increases from British South Africa at \$4,795,017 as against \$3,368,424; Nigeria, \$3,568,529 (\$2,194,193); Jamaica, \$5,714,400 (\$3,026,096); New Zealand, \$4,836,258 (\$3,693,196); and decreases for the Gold Coast at \$2,366,869 from \$4,020,549; British India, \$15,162,352 (\$17,543,813); Ceylon, \$2,107,623 (\$3,618,622); British Guiana, \$3,655,514 (\$5,116,255); Barbados, \$1,954,226 (\$3,434,069). Australia and Newfoundland showed little change at \$8,467,833 against \$8,722,265 for the former and \$3,392,510 against \$3,426,473 for the latter.

Latin American countries continued in June to occupy a foremost position as sources of Canadian imports, the general trend in purchases from these countries continuing upward. Imports from Argentina were valued at \$683,322 as compared with \$1,055,059 in June 1945; Brazil, \$2,398,751 compared with \$348,549; Colombia, \$1,333,931 (\$1,063,448); Cuba, \$1,789,652 (\$1,841,810); Honduras \$2,070,771 (\$900,040); Mexico, \$1,194,825 (\$862,315); and Venezuela, \$2,176,143 (\$1,573,217).

Cost-of-Living Index for July 2

Another increase was recorded in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index at July 2, when it was computed at 125.1 as compared with 123.6 at June 2: an advance of 1.5 points, according to figures released today by the Bureau. With the



advance during June the index has recorded a gain of 5.0 points in four months. From August 1, 1939, when the index stood at 100.8, to July 2 this year, there has been an increase of 24.1 per cent.

The rise at July 2, reflected widely distributed price increases, affecting four of the six budget groups. The foods index advanced from 142.1 at June 1 to 144.2, prices moving higher for eggs, beef, lamb, potatoes and carrots. Clothing moved up from 124.3 to 126.4, due mainly to advances in men's wear and footwear. Home furnishings and services showed a substantial gain from 122.4 to 125.1 as the result of increases in furniture, textile furnishings and chinaware. Due to advances in health maintenance and recreation sections, the miscellaneous items index rose from 112.1 to 113.8. Unchanged were the indexes for fuel and light at 107.2 and for rentals at 112.6.

#### Wholesale Sales Rise Continued in June

Maintaining the high level of trading recorded during the first five months of this year over last, wholesale sales in Canada advanced 17 per cent in June over the dollar business transacted in June last year on the basis of data received from approximately 415 of the larger wholesale establishments, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports.

While smaller than the increases of 26 and 21 per cent recorded in May and April respectively, the June gain is in line with the gains registered for earlier months of this year. The Bureau's general unadjusted index of sales, on the base 1935-1939=100, stood at 241.7 for June as compared with 259.8 for May and 206.9 for June 1945. Aggregate sales for the first half of 1946 exceeded by 20 per cent those for the first six months of last year.

The increases in June were smaller in the eastern areas than in central and western Canada. In the Maritime Provinces the sales gain over last year was two per cent; in Quebec, 12 per cent; Ontario, 16 per cent; Prairie Provinces, 26 per cent; and British Columbia, 18 per cent.

Gains recorded for the individual kinds of business under survey varied greatly. The greatest expansion was in the automotive equipment and hardware trades, in which sales advanced 44 and 35 per cent respectively. The dry goods trade showed a substantial gain of 24 per cent which, the Bureau states, may be attributed in some degree to the low level of dry goods trading in June last year. Sales were up 24 per cent in the clothing trade, 18 per cent in the fruit and vegetable trade, and 14 per cent in footwear. Tobacco and confectionery wholesalers reported an increase of 13 per cent, and grocery and drug wholesalers smaller gains of 7 and 2 per cent respectively.

#### Man Hours and Hourly Earnings at June 1

Due mainly to industrial disputes but partly also to observance of the May 24 holiday, the number of hourly-rated wage-earners reported in manufacturing showed a decline of 1.5 per cent in the week of June 1 as compared with a month earlier, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. There were also losses of 3.8 per cent in the aggregate hours worked and of 3.5 per cent in the hourly earnings. The weekly average of hours worked was 42 as compared with 43 in the week of May 1 and 44.3 in that of June 1 last year.

Data for the week were received by the Bureau from 6,148 manufacturers who reported employment of 712,519 hourly-rated wage-earners at June 1 as compared with 723,707 at the beginning of May. The aggregate of hours worked was 29,932,555 as against 31,101,124 a month earlier, and the wages disbursed totalled \$20,685,553 as compared with \$21,442,806. The average hourly rate advanced by one-fifth of a cent at June 1 over May 1, but the reduction in the working time resulted in a decline in the weekly average earnings, which fell to \$29.02 as compared with \$29.63 at May 1 and \$31.14 at June last year.

Average hourly earnings in manufacturing as a whole at June 1 stood at 69.1 cents, which was fractionally above that at May 1 but 1.2 cents lower than at June 1, 1945, when overtime was a factor of greater importance and the industrial distribution of workers was more favourable to a higher figure. The June mean, however, was higher than in any period reviewed since September 1 last year.



Employment and Payrolls in 1945

Although with the termination of hostilities in Europe and the Pacific there was further and more marked recession from the high point of industrial activity which had been reached when wartime production was at its peak, employment generally in Canada during 1945 continued at an extremely high level in relation to pre-war standards, states the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in its annual review of employment and payrolls for the year.

The Bureau's annual index was just over four per cent below that of 1944 and less than five per cent below the all-time high of 1943. In comparison with 1939, the 1945 index showed an increase of 53.7 per cent, and it was also some 47 per cent higher than in 1929, when industrial employment in Canada had reached its pre-war maximum.

During most of the year the tendency from month to month was downward, the only interruptions being at July 1, November 1 and December 1. Apart from those at the opening of the year, the most extensive declines were recorded after V-J Day, at September 1 and October 1. Most of the curtailment indicated in 1945 as compared with immediately preceding years took place in factory employment, while the non-manufacturing industries taken as a whole showed considerable improvement. The number in recorded employment in the latter group rose 4.7 per cent as compared with 1944 and in manufacturing declined 9.3 per cent.

The Bureau tabulated a monthly average of 15,358 returns on employment and payrolls during 1945. The working forces of the reporting establishments averaged 1,787,751, varying from 1,843,450 at January 1 to 1,724,549 at October 1. In 1944 statistics furnished by 14,641 employers indicated a monthly average of 1,850,851, ranging from 1,796,340 at the first of May to 1,887,752 at December 1.

Salaries and wages distributed in 1945 showed a smaller decline than the curtailment in employment, the falling-off in the aggregate amounting to 3.8 per cent. The average earnings per employee in eight leading industries were slightly higher at \$31.99 compared with \$31.84 in 1944.

Housing Completed in Period January-May

During the five months ending May last there were 8,626 dwelling units completed in municipalities across Canada and in unorganized areas of Alberta and British Columbia for which reports for this period have been received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, 256 municipalities reporting a total of 8,522 units completed and the unorganized areas accounting for the remaining 104 units. In the full year 1945 there were 20,322 units completed in these municipalities and 340 in the unorganized areas.

Of the total number of units completed in the five months, 6,763 were new buildings and 1,030 conversions and reconversions. A classification by type of dwelling shows 6,274 single dwellings, 240 doubles, 85 in rows or terraces, 320 duplexes, 69 triplexes, 447 in apartments or flats, 160 in combined business premises and flats.

Prince Edward Island Fisheries in 1945

Total marketed value of the fisheries of Prince Edward Island reached a new high point in 1945 at \$3,076,631, an increase of \$477,636 or 18.4 per cent over the 1944 figure of \$2,598,975, according to an advance report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with the Dominion Department of Fisheries. The increase was due both to larger quantities caught and higher prices, although the herring catch was smaller and prices for herring slightly lower.

The total quantity of fish and shell fish landed in Prince Edward Island during 1945 was 310,535 hundredweight as compared with 272,227 hundredweight in 1944, a gain of 14 per cent; while the value at the point of landing was \$2,309,147 as against \$1,797,308 the previous year, an increase of 28 per cent.



Cement Shipments Sharply Higher in May

Shipments of Portland cement from Canadian plants in May amounted to 1,532,854 barrels, increasing more than 50 per cent over the April total of 1,002,065 barrels according to figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. For the five months ending May shipments aggregated 3,722,009 barrels.

Actual production of cement in May amounted to 887,190 barrels, the highest monthly figure for the year, comparing with the previous top figure of 849,934 barrels in April. Aggregate production for the five months was 3,798,837 barrels. Stocks at plants and warehouses at end of May declined to 1,432,230 barrels from 2,111,016 barrels at the end of April.

Imports of Portland cement during May amounted to 14,898 barrels and for the five months to 46,959 barrels, while exports in May were 28,421 barrels and for the five months 54,654 barrels.

Petroleum and Natural Gas Production in May

Canadian production of crude petroleum and natural gasoline amounted to 649,888 barrels in May as compared with 644,434 barrels in April and 715,851 barrels in May last year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. For the five months ending May production stood at 3,248,478 barrels as against 3,848,923 barrels in the corresponding period of 1945. Alberta's output in May was recorded at 598,018 barrels and New Brunswick produced 2,804 barrels in May; Ontario, 10,894; Saskatchewan, 11,366; and the Northwest Territories, 26,806 barrels.

Production of natural gas during May amounted to 3,682,841 thousand cubic feet as compared with 3,971,893 in April and 3,960,784 thousand cubic feet in May 1945. Aggregate output for the five months this year was 23,153,600 thousand cubic feet, slightly lower than the aggregate of 23,766,269 thousand cubic feet in the first five months of last year.

Production of Electric Refrigeration Equipment in 1945

Production of electric refrigeration equipment in Canada showed substantial recovery in 1945 from the wartime low levels of the two preceding years, amounting in value to \$1,600,066 as compared with \$917,895 in 1944 and \$404,617 in 1943, according to a report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. It was far below the levels of earlier years, however, the value of production standing at \$6,721,822 in 1942, \$10,418,016 in 1941, \$8,545,741 in 1940 and \$7,538,448 in 1939.

Sales of individual domestic-type refrigerators in 1945 totalled 2,418 units valued at \$355,225 as compared with 237 units at \$70,690 in 1944 and 358 units at \$39,680 in 1943, while sales of all other types in 1945 were valued at \$1,244,841 as against \$847,205 in 1944 and \$764,937 in 1943. In 1941, sales of domestic-type refrigerators numbered 64,093 units valued at \$7,627,255 and sales of all other types were valued at \$2,790,761. For 1939 the respective figures were 51,534 units at \$5,914,220 and \$1,624,228.

Indexes of Wholesale Prices in July

Due to seasonal advances in potatoes and eggs, the Canadian farm product wholesale price index compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics rose 0.2 points to 109.9 between June 28 and July 26. Field products rose 0.6 points to 97.9, lower quotations for rye, onions and hay being more than outweighed by the advance for potatoes; while animal products fell the same number of points to 129.9 due to a sharp decline in live stock which overbalanced the rise in eggs.

Industrial materials prices moved downward in the period, the index registering a decline of 0.9 to 102.7. All sub-groups were lower. The index for five foods fell 2.2 points to 106.0 due to easier prices for steers and hogs. Reflecting the removal of the 10 per cent exchange differential on iron ore from the United States, the index of twelve stable items dropped 1.0 to 123.0, while the manufacturing series declined 0.4 to 85.9 as the result of a sharp drop in the price of cotton.



### Crop Conditions in Canada

Ten days of extremely hot, dry weather in Manitoba has hastened the ripening of the grain and in the southern part of the province harvesting has become general. While advanced crops such as wheat have held up well under the searing heat of the past week, it is felt that the late-seeded crops will suffer reduced yields and quality.

Extremely high temperatures have caused considerable deterioration to crops in many districts of Saskatchewan. Crop prospects in the eastern half of the province and in the southern part of the west-central district remain generally favourable, but range from poor to fair in other areas. The extensive heat has ripened the crops too quickly and reduced the yield prospects in the south-central, southwestern, central, west-central and the northwestern districts. It is expected that sawfly damage will be considerable in south-central and southwestern districts.

Continued hot weather with very light rainfall have caused rapid maturing of the crops in Alberta. Rain is needed in the southern and central districts of the province to ensure filling of the headed grains, and to prevent further deterioration of the late-sown crops. Considerable deterioration in crop prospects has occurred in south-eastern Alberta, while the outlook in northern and central Alberta remains good. The wheat stem sawfly infestation in southern Alberta is severe.

While rain is needed to relieve the drought in western Ontario, conditions become progressively drier as one moves into the eastern districts. Harvesting of grain crops is almost completed in southwestern Ontario, but it is not as far advanced in the eastern areas. Pastures are extremely dry and milk production is declining.

Severe drought conditions which have prevailed in Quebec for the past several weeks, are reported to have been partially relieved by some good rains, but additional moisture will be needed soon to prevent further deterioration. Cereals were too far advanced to benefit from the recent rains and a rather light crop is expected. Haying is nearing completion and appears to be 25 per cent below normal. All hoe crops are promising high yields.

The weather throughout the Maritime Provinces continues to be hot and dry and crops in many sections are suffering from lack of moisture. Grains are beginning to ripen prematurely and the straw is very short. Only fair yields are expected. Potatoes roots and apples on the other hand still look promising.

The weather in British Columbia has been fine and warm except in the Prince George district, where continued rain has hampered haying operations. A heavy hail storm in the Okanagan valley reduced the crop prospects for apples, peaches, apricots, plums and prunes. Haying in most areas is about completed and harvesting of fall grains, dried peas and second-cut alfalfa is in progress.

### Stocks of Canadian Butter, Cheese and Eggs

Stocks of creamery butter in nine principal cities of Canada at August 1 showed a seasonal increase of 12,847,611 pounds over July 1 but were slightly lower than the stocks on August 1 last year, according to preliminary figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks amounted to 33,540,601 pounds as compared with 20,692,990 pounds on July 1 and 35,259,335 pounds on August 1, 1945.

Cheese stocks showed a similar seasonal trend but were substantially below the levels of last year, amounting to 31,188,396 pounds on August 1 as compared with 27,995,347 pounds on July 1 and 42,819,936 pounds on August 1 last year. Stocks of cold storage eggs totalled 6,841,605 dozen compared with 6,799,860 on July 1 and 10,539,582 dozen a year ago, and frozen egg meats were 7,982,617 pounds compared with 7,424,808 and 20,841,328 pounds on July 1 and August 1, 1945, respectively.

### Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways in the week ended July 27 increased to 70,259 cars from 68,221 cars for the preceding week and compared with 73,442 cars for the corresponding week last year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. The decrease from last year's loading was entirely accounted for by lower figures in the western division, where the total declined from 27,496 to 23,627 cars, grain dropping from 9,576 to 3,411 cars. In the eastern division loadings increased from 45,946 to 46,632 cars.

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### Stocks and Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on July 31, the last day of the 1945-46 crop year, totalled 39,621,318 bushels as compared with 222,010 122 bushels a year earlier, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The total at July 31 showed a decrease of only 147,666 bushels from that of the previous week.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in Western Canada during the week ended July 31 continued the upward trend of the previous week, totalling 3,059,434 bushels as compared with 2,197,635 bushels in the preceding week and 1,401,770 bushels in the week ending July 18. Wheat marketings for the crop year aggregated 236,503,195 bushels as compared with 352,931,327 bushels in the previous crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ended July 31, quantities for the preceding week being shown in brackets: oats, 2,818,356 bushels (1,621,107); barley, 1,449,445 (676,432); rye, 96,110 (15,310); flaxseed, 4,850 (2,673) bushels.

### Canadian Mental Institutions in 1944

Inmates of Canadian institutions for the care and treatment of the mentally sick and mentally defective numbered 47,279 on December 31, 1944, according to the thirteenth annual report of mental institutions released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Of this number, 25,898 were males and 21,381 females.

Besides those in residence on that date, there were 529 boarding out and 3,968 on parole, bringing to 51,776 the grand total on the books of all institutions, an increase of 648 over the total a year earlier. Of the total, 44,558 were in provincial mental hospitals, 4,313 in training schools, 88 in psychiatric hospitals, 1,693 in county and municipal hospitals, 801 in Federal hospitals and 223 in private institutions.

There were 59 institutions for the care and treatment of the mentally sick and mentally defective in Canada at the close of 1944. Under provincial control were 32 mental hospitals, five training schools for mental defectives and two psychiatric institutions. County and municipal mental hospitals totalled 15, Federal hospitals two, while three were under private auspices.

First admissions to mental institutions in 1944 numbered 9,170, the highest recorded during the fourteen-year period for which the Bureau has compiled statistics. The average number of first admissions during the fourteen years was 8,788. Number of re-admissions at 2,629 in 1944 was also highest, the average being 2,286. Exclusive of deaths, the number of patients discharged in 1944 was 7,897.

### Central Electric Stations in June

Power production by central electric stations in June was 3,415,306,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 3,407,170,000 kilowatt hours in the corresponding month of last year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Primary power declined from 2,793,414,000 to 2,770,110,000 kilowatt hours, but secondary power rose from 613,756,000 to 645,196,000 kilowatt hours.

Consumption of primary power in Canada declined in June from 2,674,746,000 kilowatt hours last year to 2,653,760,000 kilowatt hours, or by 0.8 per cent, a decrease that would be more than accounted for by the extra Sunday in June this year. On the other hand, consumption of secondary power increased from 478,552,000 to 531,861,000 kilowatt hours or by 11 per cent. Exports to the United States were lower at 229,685,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 253,872,000 kilowatt hours, both primary and secondary power showing decreases.

### Non-Ferrous Metals Manufactures in 1944

Production of non-ferrous metals and their manufactures in Canada was valued at \$992,345,975 in 1944, according to final figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This value was four per cent below that for 1943. There were 634 plants in operation during the year as compared with 596 in the previous year.

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Manufactures of Non-Metallic Minerals in 1944

Production by the manufacturing industries which used non-metallic minerals as their principal materials amounted in 1944 to \$416,268,879 at factory prices, an increase of 7.1 per cent over the 1943 value of \$388,713,942, according to finally revised figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A gain of \$23 million in the petroleum products industry accounted for most of this increase.

Canadian Aircraft Industry in 1944

Production of the Canadian aircraft industry, comprising the primary assembly plants and establishments <sup>occupied</sup> solely or chiefly in making aircraft parts, amounted in value to \$426,558 in 1944, according to a report released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was a gain of 73.5 per cent over the 1943 production, which was valued at \$246,028,593, and compares with \$151,554,598 in 1942, \$81,367,910 in 1941 and the 1939 output of \$12,638,470.

Output of Refined Petroleum Products in May

Output of refined petroleum products in Canada during May increased substantially over May last year, totalling 6,234,799 barrels as compared with 4,886,323 barrels, according to the monthly report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The total production for May included 2,882,581 barrels of motor gasoline, 19,485 barrels of aviation gasoline, 1,464,650 barrels of heavy fuel oils, 838,392 barrels of light fuel oils, 281,320 barrels of kerosene and stove oil, 195,384 barrels of tractor distillate, 62,819 barrels of naphtha specialties, and 490,168 barrels of other refinery products such as lubricating oils, asphalt and coke.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
2. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, June (10 cents).
3. Central Electric Stations, June (10 cents).
4. Stocks of Canadian Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Nine of the Principal Cities of Canada, August 1, 1946 (10 cents).
5. Cement, May (10 cents).
6. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, May (10 cents).
7. Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, May (10 cents).
8. Price Index Numbers of Commodities and Services Used by Farmers, April (10 cents).
9. Price Movements, July (Preliminary) - (10 cents).
10. Electric Refrigeration Equipment, 1945 (10 cents).
11. Monthly Report on Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal, May (10 cents).
12. The Aircraft Industry, 1944 (15 cents).
13. Housing Statistics, Five Months Ending May, 1946 (25 cents).
14. Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada (10 cents).
15. Monthly Indexes of Wholesale Sales, June (10 cents).
16. Advance Report on the Fisheries of Prince Edward Island, 1945 (10 cents).
17. Annual Review of Employment and Payrolls in Canada, 1945 (\$1.00).
18. Manufactures of the Non-Ferrous Metals: Final Summary Statistics, 1944 (15 cents).
19. Manufactures of the Non-Metallic Minerals: Final Summary Statistics, 1944 (15 cents).
20. Trade of Canada, June (10 cents).
21. Summary of Canada's Imports for Consumption, June (10 cents).
22. Imports into Canada for Consumption, by Countries, June (10 cents).
23. Statistics of Average Hours Worked and Average Hourly Earnings at Beginning of June (10 cents).
24. Refined Petroleum Products, April (20 cents).
25. Refined Petroleum Products, May (10 cents).
26. Annual Report of Mental Institutions, 1944 (25 cents).
27. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
28. Sugar Report, June 22 to July 13 (10 cents).
29. Cash Income from the Sale of Farm Products, by Provinces and by Months, 1943, 1944 and 1945 (25 cents).
30. Primary Iron and Steel, May (10 cents).



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