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Canada's Domestic Merchandise Export Trade in November

Moving up sharply over the October level, Canada's export trade in November was valued at $232,219,000, bringing the aggregate value of exports for the first eleven months of 1946 to $2,100,313,000, highest peacetime figure on record, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The eleven-month total is approximately 30 per cent below the aggregate value for the corresponding period of 1945, when war and relief shipments were heavy, but far above the annual average of $884,536,000 for the five pre-war years, 1935-39.

The November export value compares with $204,150,000 for October and $238,637,000 for November, 1945, and is only $10,466,000 below the peacetime peak for a month recorded for last August. It represents an advance of no less than 144 per cent over the November average for the pre-war years, 1935-39.

Further marked expansion was recorded in the exports of wood and paper products in November, the aggregate being $67,808,000 against $62,940,000 in October and $46,798,000 a year ago. Newsprint -- the largest commodity export for the month -- was the principal factor in the advance, rising to $28,697,000 from $24,005,000 in October and $18,064,000 last year. Planks and boards, at $15,161,000, were down from October, but were sharply higher than in November, 1945. Wood pulp exports, valued at $10,867,000, were up in both comparisons.

Non-ferrous metal products as a group were exported in November to the value of $27,468,000, a gain of about $1,300,000 over November last year, but approximately double the value recorded for October. There was a sharp rise in the movement abroad of aluminum to $11,803,000 from $1,852,000 in October, and $7,313,000 a year ago. Copper exports, at $2,342,000, were about twice the October value, but well under half the value of shipments in November, 1945. Nickel exports, at $4,290,000, were slightly higher than in November last year but were about $400,000 under October.

Products of iron and steel were exported in November to the value of $18,921,000 against $10,658,000 in October and $17,181,000 in November last year. Automobiles and parts, valued at $6,661,000, were almost twice the October valuation and were approximately the same as last year. Both engines and boilers at $3,257,000 and farm and industrial machinery at $3,928,000 were higher than last year.

Canadian wheat was exported in November to the value of $27,967,000 compared with $30,600,000 in October and $58,530,000 in the corresponding month of last year. Wheat flour to the value of $13,000,000 was shipped abroad in November to no fewer than 52 markets; October shipments were valued at $9,304,000, and in November last year, $7,651,000. Exports of meat and fish were reduced in November, amounting to $7,833,000 and $7,016,000, respectively.

November exports to the United States were valued at $89,228,000 compared with $99,086,000 in October and $101,212,000 in November last year; the aggregate for the eleven months ended November was $804,073,000 against $1,108,027,000 in the like period of last year. Exports to the United Kingdom reached the value of $57,885,000 against $47,665,000 in October and $52,369,000 a year ago, with an eleven-month aggregate of $538,146,000 compared with $896,840,000.

British South Africa -- a heavy purchaser of Canadian goods this year -- was in third position in November, with purchases valued at $8,570,000 against $2,668,000 a year ago, and an eleven-month total of $62,458,000 compared with $29,020,000. British India took goods of Canadian origin to the value of $3,226,000, Newfoundland $4,050,000, Australia $4,991,000, Belgium $3,654,000, China $5,568,000, Egypt $2,381,000, France $7,911,000, Netherlands $3,658,000, Poland $2,145,000, and Philippine Islands $2,615,000. Exports in November to the Latin-American Republics had an aggregate value at $15,059,000 compared with $5,702,876 in the corresponding month of last year.

Mineral Production in 1946 Over Half-Billion Dollars

Although hampered by a shortage of skilled labour, by strikes, and by a lack of essential equipment, Canada's mining industry continued at a high level of operations in 1946, the value of mineral production increasing two per cent to $508.9 million as compared with $498.7 million in 1945, according to a preliminary estimate released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Value of the year's output was higher than in any other peace-time year and only 10 per cent below the record of $566.7 million in 1942.

Output of fuels, structural materials and other non-metallic minerals was at record levels in the year just closed, but the gains in these groups were offset by declines in the more important base metals.

Estimated value of the metals in 1946 is $304.7 million, the lowest since 1936, in spite of higher export prices for base metals. This compares with $317.1 million in 1945 and the peak figure of $395.3 for this group in 1941. Tonnage of copper last year was down 22 per cent from 1945 to 185,543 tons, zinc dropped nine per cent to 235,917 tons, and nickel declined 22 per cent to 95,406 tons, while lead increased slightly to 177,222 tons. Gold production was up 19 per cent in quantity and 14 per cent in value to 3,214,-377 fine ounces worth $118.1 million, while silver was down slightly in quantity but 75 per cent higher in value at 12,778,218 ounces worth $10.7 million.

Output of structural materials was greater in 1946 than in any other year, with an estimated value of $61.4 million as compared with $48.4 million in 1945, an increase of 27 per cent. Production of cement rose 13 per cent in quantity and 37 per cent in value to 11,415,167 barrels at $19.5 million, clay products advanced 37 per cent in value to $12.2 million, stone 11 per cent to $9.0 million, and sand and gravel 34 per cent to $14.1 million. Lime production was slightly lower at 824,609 tons valued at $6.5 million.

Coal production totalled 17,692,052 tons valued at $74.4 million, representing gains of seven per cent in quantity and 10 per cent in value over 1945. Output of natural gas at 46.9 billion cubic feet worth $11.3 million was down three per cent in quantity and eight per cent in value. Crude petroleum declined nine per cent in quantity to 7,668,000 barrels, but its value was 10 per cent higher at $14.9 million. Value of the fuel group, including the minor item peat, was $100.7 million as against $93.5 million in 1945.

Other non-metallics rose six per cent to $42.0 million compared with $39.7 million in the preceding year. Asbestos advanced to 547,769 tons from 466,897 tons, gypsum to 1,833,717 tons from 939,781 tons, and peat moss to 87,531 tons from 83,963 tons. Salt, however, declined to 530,250 tons from 673,076 tons in 1945.

Production, Shipments and Stocks of Lumber of Sawmills in October

Production of sawn lumber in October, reported by 297 operators located east of the Rockies to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, amounted to 98,589,000 feet board measure compared with 154,276,000 feet reported by 403 mills for September, many mills having completed their operations for the year. The October output by the mills reporting sawing including 91,346,000 feet board measure of softwoods and 7,243,000 feet of hardwoods as compared with 139,519,000 feet of the former and 14,757,000 feet of the latter in September.

Shipments of lumber amounting to 129,121,000 feet board measure in October were reported by 401 operators as compared with 153,710,000 feet in September reported by 474 operators. Stocks at the end of October reported by 262 mills amounted to 341,668,-000 feet board measure, of which 266,901,000 feet were sold, the former figure showing a decrease of 13 per cent as compared with stocks of 392,967,000 feet reported for September 30 by 314 mills.

For the ten months ending October, production of sawn lumber east of the Rockies, as reported to the Bureau, aggregated 1,574,233,000 feet board measure and shipments totalled 1,472,080,000 feet.

Output of Central Electric Stations in November

Central electric stations produced 3,566,702,000 kilowatt hours during November, representing a ten per cent increase over the total for November last year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. The daily rate of output was 118,890,000 kilowatt hours -- the highest in the history of the industry. Production in the first eleven months of this year aggregated 37,931,552,000 kilowatt hours compared with 36,811,898,000 in the similar period of the preceding year.

Gross exports to the United States declined in November to 144,991,000 kilowatt hours, secondary power exports dropping from 110,052,000 kilowatt hours last year to 28,230,000 kilowatt hours. This decrease was due to heavy demands for power in Ontario, where consumption of primary power increased by 132,674,000 kilowatt hours, or 13 per cent, and consumption of secondary power declined from 93,993,000 to 53,347,000 kilowatt hours.

Consumption of primary power -- including line losses -- in Canada increased from 2,444,050,000 kilowatt hours in November last year to 2,777,086,000, but the cumulative total for the eleven months at 28,186,190,000 kilowatt hours was slightly below the 1945 consumption for the corresponding period.

Stocks and Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces were lighter during the week ending December 19, the total being 3,218,054 bushels compared with 6,019,618 for the week of December 12, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. However, cumulative deliveries for the crop year to date -- August 1 to December 19 -- moved up to 230,049,703 bushels from 166,796,641 in the similar period of last year.

Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on December 19 were recorded at 154,305,893 bushels, a decrease of 4,100,716 bushels from the December 12 total of 158,406,609 bushels. Stocks on the latest date included 149,121,215 bushels in Canadian positions and 5,184,678 bushels in United States positions. On the corresponding date last year the stocks in store aggregated 190,565,-555 bushels.

The following quantities of coarse grains also were delivered from Prairie farms during the week ending December 19, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 955,495 (1,380,993) bushels; barley, 716,821 (1,020,362); rye, 56,395 (87,910); flaxseed, 9,869 (16,248).

Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales in November

Moderate increase was recorded in the financing of the sales of new and used motor vehicles in November, when 4,951 transactions were handled by Canadian finance companies compared with 4,485 in October, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. There was, however, a substantial gain over November last year when the sales of 2,255 units were financed. November transactions involved $4,331,815 as compared with $3,888,758 in October and $1,197,001 in November last year.

Cumulative results for the eleven months ended November show that sales of 46,502 new and used motor vehicles were financed to the extent of $36,192,887 as compared with 26,203 units for a total of $13,441,732 in the corresponding period of last year.

Financing of new vehicles in November totalled 2,458 compared with 2,052 in October and 341 in November last year, while in the eleven-month period 19,978 new vehicles were financed compared with 3,371 in the same period of 1945. In the used vehicle field, 2,493 units were financed in November compared with 2,433 in October and 1,914 in November 1945, and in the cumulative period, 26,524 compared with 22,832. Of the new vehicles financed in November, 1,280 were passenger cars and 1,178 were commercial vehicles; in the used car class, 1,790 were passenger models and 703 were commercial vehicles.

Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended December 21 totalled 73,380 cars, a decrease of 993 cars from the previous week, but an increase of 8,682 cars over the corresponding week last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Compared with the previous week the notable changes included an increase in pulpwood loadings from 2,549 to 3,487 cars, and a drop in coal from 7,473 to 6,764 cars. Livestock, building materials, miscellaneous manufactures and less-than-carload merchandise were off moderately.

Compared with the same week of 1945, loadings of all commodities were higher with the exception of certain agricultural products. The most important gains were in less-than-carload merchandise, 2,824 cars, gasoline and petroleum products 1,113 cars, and lumber 700 cars.

Manufacturing Industries of the Province of Ontario

The manufacturing industries of Ontario operated at a high level of production during 1944, although at a slightly reduced scale, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Compared with the preceding year there was a decrease of 5,625 or one per cent in the number of persons employed, while the salaries and wages paid and the gross value of production were both up by 1.9 and 2.8 per cent respectively. Reports were received from 10,739 establishments with a combined output valued at $4,339,797,784. Employment was furnished to 564,392 persons who were paid $975,038,060 in salaries and wages. The cost of materials used was valued at $2,310,347,856, while the value added by manufacture amounted to $1,930,043,913.

Ontario is the most important manufacturing province in the Dominion, accounting for 47.8 per cent of the all-Canada total for 1944. Ontario has also the greatest diversification of manufacturing production of any province. Outstanding among the industries in which this Province is pre-eminent are those of automobiles, agricultural implements and starch manufacture which are carried on practically in this province alone. Other important industries in which Ontario leads, with the percentage which the production of each bears to that of the Dominion total in 1944 are as follows: leather tanneries 86.3, rubber goods 85.3, primary iron and steel 69.9, electrical apparatus and supplies 63.7, iron castings 61.7, fruit and vegetable preparations 59.5, flour and feed mills 57.7, furniture 56.5 and hosiery and knitted goods 54.6.

In gross value of production, the automobile industry with an output valued at $323,287,967 again headed the list. Aircraft with a value of production of $217,573,199 ranked second. Other leading industries in the order of their importance are: electrical apparatus and supplies $180,226,910, non-ferrous metal smelting and refining $179,256,596, slaughtering and meat packing $158,666,667, automobile supplies $155,533,947, primary iron and steel $148,598,186, etc. In salaries and wages paid the ranking of the industries is different. In this respect the aircraft industry heads the list, followed by automobiles, electric apparatus and supplies, miscellaneous iron and steel products, automobile supplies, etc.

The city of Toronto with a production of $1,020,345,353 accounted for 23.5 per cent of the entire output of the province. Windsor came second with a production of $387,603,874, and Hamilton third with $363,033,672. These three cities accounted for 40.8 per cent of the provincial production in 1944. Hamilton before the war ranked second while Windsor ranked third.

Macaroni and Kindred Products in 1945

Production of macaroni, spaghetti, vermicelli, noodles, etc. in Canada in 1945 was recorded at 63,556,000 pounds as compared with 45,357,000 in the preceding year, an increase of 42.4 per cent, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Exports of these food products have been increasing at a rapid rate in recent years; in 1945 the amount sent abroad was 7,361,000 pounds compared with 2,487,000 in 1944, and 1,464,000 in 1943. Imports are negligible.

Manufacturing Industries of the Province of Quebec

Under the impetus of war demands the manufacturing industries of the Province of Quebec operated at a high level of production during 1944, according to figures made public by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Compared with the previous year there was a decrease of 13,132 or three per cent in the number of persons employed, while the salaries and wages paid and the gross value of production were both up by 1.5 and 2.7 per cent, respectively. In 1944 reports were received from 9,657 establishments. The number of persons employed totalled 424,115, and the salaries and wages paid $668,156,053, while the cost of materials used and value added by manufacture were $1,494,253,053 and $1,350,519,134, respectively. The selling value at the factory of the products made totalled $2,929,685,183.

Quebec with about 32 per cent of the Dominion output in 1944 was the second largest manufacturing province. The production of pulp and paper normally constitutes the dominant industry, but in 1943 and 1944 was displaced from the premier position by the miscellaneous chemical products industry and non-ferrous metal smelting and refining. In addition to accounting for about six per cent of gross value of Quebec manufactures in 1944, the pulp and paper industry furnished about 50 per cent of the Dominion total for this industry. The value of tobacco products totalled approximately 89 per cent, cotton yarn and cloth 75 per cent, women's factory clothing 67 per cent, leather boots and shoes 65 per cent, men's factory clothing 58 per cent, railway rolling stock 53 per cent, and non-ferrous metal smelting and refining 51 per cent of the Dominion totals of these products. Quebec is thus an outstanding manufacturing province by reason of her large individual industries and not so much on account of the great diversification of her industrial activity.

In gross value of production the miscellaneous chemical products industry headed the list with an output valued at $272,682,164, displacing both the non-ferrous metal smelting and refining and pulp and paper industries which ranked second and third with an output valued at $242,854,585 and $186,918,517 respectively. Other leading industries are: aircraft $160,736,338, shipbuilding and repairs $109,558,276, miscellaneous iron and steel products $101,226,254, electrical apparatus and supplies $99,449,654, women's factory clothing $89,797,503, railway rolling-stock $88,652,108, cotton yarn and cloth $87,-537,072, slaughtering and meat packing $80,379,717, men's factory clothing $80,170,220, etc.

Canadian Construction Industry in 1945

Featured by a gain of 50 per cent in residential building, the value of work performed by the construction industry during 1945 showed an overall advance of 21 per cent over 1944, amounting to $543,580,000 as against $450,000,000, according to the annual report on the industry issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The year's total, however, remained below the high figures of $639,751,000 for 1941, $635,650,000 for 1942, and $572,427,000 for 1943, when industrial, engineering and other work for wartime purposes sent values soaring far above levels of earlier years.

Building construction was valued at $288,093,000 in 1945 as compared with $220,300,-000 in 1944. Of this total, residential construction accounted for $125,524,000 compared with $84,000,000 the previous year; institutional for $30,450,000 compared with $21,006,-000; commercial for $42,873,000 compared with $29,233,000; and industrial, $82,800,000 compared with $71,132,000.

There was a comparatively small increase recorded in engineering construction from $153,124,000 in 1944 to $158,908,000. In this class of construction, streets and highways accounted for $78,586,000 compared with $68,328,000; bridges, water-mains, sewers, dams, reservoirs, etc., $27,428,000 compared with $22,021,000; electric stations and transmission lines, $24,705,000 compared with $19,919,000; and locks, wharves and piers, $7,694,000 compared with $5,819,000.

Building trades showed a marked gain in 1945, the value being $96,580,000 as against $76,414,000 in 1944, an increase of 26.4 per cent. Plumbing, heating, etc. and air conditioning led in this branch of construction with jobbing and sub-contracting work to the value of $53,488,000. Electrical work was next in order with a value of $27,496,000, followed by painting, decorating and glazing valued at $20,517,000.

The industry as a whole provided employment for 146,530 persons in 1945 compared with 123,892 in 1944, with salary and wage payments totalling $233,991,000 compared with $197,704,000. Cost of materials used rose from $200,801,000 in 1944 to $275,622,000.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Summary of Canada's Domestic Exports, November (10 cents).
2. Exports of Canadian Produce, by Countries, November (10 cents).
3. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills, October (10 cents).
4. Preliminary Estimate of Canada's Mineral Production in 1946 (25 cents).
5. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
6. Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales, November (10 cents).
7. Coal Tar Distillation Industry, 1945 (15 cents).
8. Construction Industry, 1945 (25 cents).
9. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
10. Manufacturing Industries of the Province of Ontario, 1944 (25 cents).
11. Manufacturing Industries of the Province of Quebec, 1944 (25 cents).
12. Central Electric Stations, November (10 cents).
13. Macaroni and Kindred Products Industry, 1945 (15 cents).