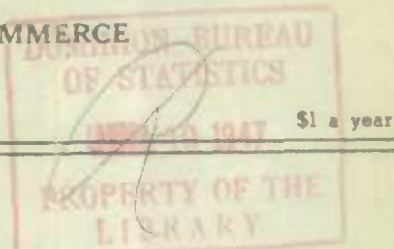


# D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

----- Dominion Bureau of Statistics -----

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

OTTAWA - CANADA



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## CROP CONDITIONS IN CANADA

Temperatures and spring precipitation have remained below normal throughout the Prairie Provinces, the season generally being about two weeks later than normal, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Frosts have been widespread but serious damage is quite restricted. Warmer weather is urgently required in all three provinces, and rainfall would be welcome in many districts.

Seeding is about completed in Manitoba where moisture reserves are still considered satisfactory with the exception of the southern Red River and Brandon areas. A small percentage of flax and coarse grains remains to be sown in Saskatchewan. Germination has been generally fair to good but warm weather must be had if crops are to compete with the heavy growth of weeds. Cutworms and wireworms have been active in some areas. Frost has caused damage to early crops in some localities, particularly to fall rye. With wheat seeding completed and about 10 per cent of the coarse grains still to be seeded, crop conditions remain uniformly fair to good throughout Alberta. Scattered showers and heavier rains at some points during the week replenished the drying top soil. Subsoil moisture reserves remained satisfactory. Cool weather has retarded growth of all crops. Heavy frosts during the early part of the week caused severe damage to early barley and flax fields necessitating some reseedings. Fall rye which was headed out in the southern districts also suffered. The greatest need is for warmer weather throughout the province to promote a more rapid plant development.

The season in Quebec is the latest in years with cold weather, excessive rains and flooding hampering work on the land. It is estimated that at June 1 only five per cent of the intended grain acreage had been seeded. In many areas live stock are still stable fed as grass is too short to permit pasturing in some districts and the meadows too wet in other areas to withstand trampling. Warm weather is urgently required. In Ontario unseasonably cool, wet weather has caused serious deterioration in the prospects for spring grains and late crops. A national conference on food grains has been called for June 11 to appraise the feed outlook. West of Kingston only a little more than 50 per cent of the intended acreage of coarse grains has been seeded with only five to 20 per cent of seedings completed in the easternmost counties. Fall wheat and meadows are generally making good growth but wet pastures are being damaged by trampling in some areas. Fruit trees show heavy bloom with the exception of peaches in some districts. The sweet cherry crop, however, is seriously threatened by stem rot and blossom blight brought on by the wet weather.

The hot, dry weather of the past three weeks was relieved by good rains that fell in all sections of British Columbia during the past week-end. The hay and grain crops in non-irrigated water was available the growth is excellent. The fruit crop prospects in the heavy producing Okanagan Valley are, for the most part, good, apricots being the only exception. The above average strawberry crop is now moving to market from the coastal areas.

Conditions in the Maritimes are variable. Spring work is well advanced in Nova Scotia where seeding is practically completed. In New Brunswick, on the other hand, only 40 per cent of the grain and potatoes are in the ground. The pastures in both provinces are in good condition and the outlook for the hay crop is favourable. The bloom in the apple orchards is also promising.

WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

World bread grain stocks are due to reach a generally low ebb within the next few weeks, according to the monthly review of the wheat situation issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The present situation is, in many respects, similar to that existing at this time last year when exporting countries were bending all their efforts towards averting famine in the war-torn areas of Europe and Asia. The pressure on supplies cannot be greatly relieved until new United States wheat reaches the deficit areas, although some relief might be afforded if the Argentine were able to step up its currently low rate of shipment.

According to the International Emergency Food Council, grain stocks in the importing nations are now lower than they were at this time last year. Reductions in bread rations of some countries have already occurred and further reductions are probable in Sweden, Denmark and Czechoslovakia. According to a trade report, I.E.F.C. has calculated that cereal imports of 8,000,000 tons between now and September will be required to maintain rations at last winter's level -- after taking into account the arrival of the new harvest in many areas and with no allowance made for the accumulation of operating stocks. According to the same report, I.E.F.C. considers the 8,000,000 ton figure to be backed up by effective demand -- while there are only 7.5 million tons of available exportable supplies in sight.

Both the United States and Canada are again working against time to meet their overseas commitments. The transportation difficulties experienced in Canada earlier in the year have eased considerably and clearances of wheat and flour during the weeks ending May 16 and May 23, exceeded 6,000,000 bushels per week. To assist in maintaining the accelerated rate of Canadian shipments, two government measures have been introduced.

Exports of Canadian wheat and flour in terms of wheat amounted to approximately 15,300,000 bushels during March, bringing the total for the first nine months of the year to 155,900,000 bushels. During the same period last year, 283,200,000 bushels of wheat and flour equivalent were exported. An estimated 159,800,000 bushels remained on May 1 for export or carryover at the end of the crop year as compared with 126,400,000 on the same date last year. Since May 1 the rate of export has increased substantially.

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF  
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on May 29 totalled 80,532,850 bushels, compared with 84,286,881 on May 22, and 63,853,120 on the corresponding date last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Visible stocks on the latest date comprised 80,518,850 bushels in Canadian positions and 19,000 in United States positions.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending May 29 totalled 4,351,623 bushels, compared with 3,625,226 in the preceding week. During the period August 1 to May 29, marketings of wheat aggregated 288,843,815 bushels compared with 215,500,387 in the similar period of 1945-46.

The following quantities of coarse grains also were delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending May 29, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 1,982,116 (1,881,701) bushels; barley, 1,121,727 (1,071,376); rye, 27,027 (29,749); flaxseed, 2,463 (1,658).

FLUID MILK SALES IN MARCH

Fluid milk sales in March were estimated at approximately 298,000,000 pounds, a decline of 3.5 per cent from the corresponding month of last year, and fluid cream sales, at 52,000,000 pounds, a decrease of eight-tenths of one per cent, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first three months of this year, milk sales were approximately 889,000,000 pounds, and cream sales, expressed as milk, reached a total of 152,000,000 pounds. In comparison with the same period of the previous year, these figures represent reductions of two and four per cent, respectively.

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN APRIL

Productive operations in Canada during April showed an increase over the preceding month. The index of the physical volume of business was nearly two per cent higher. Advances were shown in each of the five main components, the increase in manufacturing activities and the production of electric power being of moderate proportions. The index of mineral production at 188.8 was 8.4 per cent above the preceding month. Gold receipts at the Mint were 205,165 fine ounces compared with 206,415, showing a considerable gain after seasonal adjustment. The production of coal also showed an increase after seasonal tendencies are taken into account.

The flour-milling index rose from 210.7 to 218; the output of wheat flour was 2,329,000 barrels compared with 2,354,000. The manufacture of sugar showed a considerable increase in the last four-week period. The release of tobacco showed a decline, with cigarettes made available numbering 1,178 million against 1,214 million.

Activity of the meat-packing industry increased considerably during April. The index of slaughterings rose from 127.5 to 143.1 in April, with hogs advancing from 343,000 to 418,000. The dairy industry recovered sharply, the index moving up from 122 to 148. A decline was shown in the raw cotton used by the textile industry.

Newsprint output was 369,490 tons against 372,482, and the index of production by the forestry industry receded about three points to 165.3. The output of steel ingots and castings was 252,156 tons against 269,732. The recession in pig iron, however, was less than normal for the season. Contracts awarded in the month were \$52.9 million against \$38.4 million in the preceding month, the index rising about ten points to 253.2.

Minor increase was shown in electric power production, the index advancing from 174.1 to 174.5, while the index of distribution based on railway traffic, internal and external trade, rose nearly four points to 183.5.

Important economic factors in other fields recorded advances in April over the preceding month. The index of wholesale prices was 122.9 against 120.4. The four classes of bank deposits held by the chartered banks were at a slightly higher position, totalling \$6,188 million compared with \$6,171 million. Notice deposits rose to a new high position, amounting to \$3,619 million on March 31. High-grade bond prices showed a minor recession and the index of common stock prices dropped from 106.4 to 104.8.

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COST-OF-LIVING INDEX FOR MAY 1

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced 2.5 points between April 1 and May 1, or from 130.6 to 133.1, showing the second greatest monthly increase since September 1939 when the rise was 2.7 points. At the May 1 level, the index was 6.1 points higher than at the first of the year, and 11.1 points above the level of May 1 last year. The increase since August 1939, when the index was 100.8, was 32 per cent.

All six of the component groups recorded advances between April 1 and May 1, due to changes for rents, butter, coal and numerous other items. The foods index mounted from 151.6 on April 1 to 154.9 on May 1, rentals from 113.4 to 115.4, fuel and light from 109.1 to 116.2, clothing from 136.9 to 140.0, homefurnishings and services from 137.2 to 138.6, and miscellaneous items from 116.3 to 116.8.

The usual May survey of rents, based upon realtors' lists of properties, was supplemented by a sample survey of tenant households in Canadian cities of 30,000 and over. It is clear from these returns that only a small proportion of tenant households had received May rental adjustments.

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MARCH CONSUMPTION OF RUBBER

March consumption of rubber by manufacturers was as follows, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics: natural, 2,440 long tons; synthetic, 2,876 long tons; and reclaim 1,570 long tons. In the synthetic field, 3,356 long tons of Buna S, and 1,110 long tons of Butyl were produced. These data are from the March report on the consumption, production and inventories of rubber, which also contains consumption by end-product destination, and historical statements covering the war years.

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### EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AT BEGINNING OF APRIL

There was moderate expansion in employment in the Dominion at the beginning of April, when the trend was upward in manufacturing and in the non-manufacturing industries with the exception of logging, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Data were tabulated by the Bureau from 17,526 employers in the eight major industrial divisions, whose staffs numbered 1,858,738 at the beginning of April; as compared with 1,855,636 at March 1, there was an increase of 3,102 persons, or 0.2 per cent. There were small general advances for workers of both sexes.

The weekly payrolls disbursed at April 1 by the firms furnishing statistics in the eight leading industries aggregated \$66,370,262, as compared with \$66,088,390 distributed on or about March 1. The increase amounted to 0.4 per cent. The average weekly earnings of the typical individual in recorded employment slightly advanced, from \$35.61 in the last return to \$35.71 at the date under review, and compared with \$32.48 at April 1, 1946, and \$32.00 at April 1, 1945.

The general improvement raised the index of employment, on the 1926 base as 100, from 180.3 at March 1 to 180.7 at April 1, a figure which has never been exceeded at the time of year. The index at April 1 in 1946 was 168.9, and that in 1945, 176.9; in 1944 and 1943, the April 1 figures were practically the same, standing at 180.5 and 180.6, respectively.

The most pronounced change in the situation at April 1 as compared with March 1 was the seasonal decline of 12,787 persons, or 11.1 per cent, recorded in logging. There were smaller losses in railway construction and maintenance, and the trend was downward in several groups of manufacturing, notably in food and tobacco processing. These reductions were also seasonal in character. On the other hand, moderate improvement was shown in most other branches of manufacturing and in the remaining non-manufacturing industries. On the whole, the co-operating manufacturers reported some 4,000 additional employees, most of whom were taken on in the iron and steel and textile-using divisions. In the construction group as a whole, there was a gain of nearly 5,200 persons, there being expansion in building and highway work. The additions to the staffs reported in mining, communications, transportation, services and trade were on a smaller scale.

### SALES AND PURCHASES OF SECURITIES BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

Purchases of securities by Canada from all other countries in March exceeded sales by \$8,200,000, the largest purchase balance for any month since April 1937, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total purchases were \$32,300,000 and total sales \$24,100,000. During the preceding month, sales and purchases had been approximately equal, and in March 1946 sales exceeded purchases by \$20,200,000. During the first quarter of 1947 total net purchases, heavily weighted by the March figures, amounted to \$5,000,000, compared with net sales of \$72,800,000 in January-March, 1946.

Net purchases from the United States in March were \$8,000,000, a figure chiefly composed of Canadian and U. S. bonds -- \$3,700,000 and \$800,000, respectively, Canadian stocks \$1,800,000, and unspecified bonds \$1,800,000. Net purchases of United States stocks at \$1,000,000 were balanced by net sales of "other countries" stocks to the same amount. Net purchases from the United Kingdom were \$500,000, chiefly repurchases of Canadian stocks -- \$400,000. Total trade with other countries was comparatively small, resulting in a net sales balance of \$200,000.

### COUNTRY GENERAL STORE SALES IN APRIL

Total sales of general merchants in the smaller communities and rural areas of Canada were three per cent higher in April than in the corresponding month last year, and increased eight per cent over March, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Unadjusted indexes of sales, on the base, 1935-1939=100, stood at 193.5 for April, 187.3 for April, 1946, and 178.6 for March, 1947. During the first four months of this year, sales averaged 6.1 per cent higher than in the similar period of 1946.

RETAIL SALES SIX PER  
CENT HIGHER IN APRIL

Retail sales were six per cent higher in April than in the same month last year and were fractionally up from the preceding month, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Dollar volume of business in the first four months of the year was eight per cent above that in the similar period of 1946. Unadjusted indexes, on the base, average for 1935-1939=100, stood at 224.5 for April this year, 212.0 for April 1946, and 223.1 for March, 1947.

Ten of the fourteen retail trades represented in the monthly surveys reported higher sales in April this year than last. In most cases the increases were small. Radio and electrical stores had the largest gain in sales, one of 32 per cent. But the most important contributions to the overall increase in sales were made by department stores and food stores, both of which have substantial weights in the index and whose sales gains were nine and 11 per cent, respectively. Jewellery stores showed the only major reduction below last year, their sales falling off 22 per cent. Slight declines were reported for restaurants, ladies' apparel shops and furniture dealers.

Among the general merchandise trades, the sales increases for country general and variety stores were much smaller than those for department stores. Department and variety stores showed fairly uniform increases across the country. General merchants, on the other hand, marked up fair sales gains in the Maritimes, Ontario and British Columbia, while no change from last year occurred in Quebec and the Prairie Provinces.

Grocery, combination and meat store sales gained appreciably in all sections. Restaurant sales held close to last year's volume in all but the Maritimes where a sharp decline was recorded.

On the whole, the apparel trades did about the same amount of business in April this year as in the same month a year ago, although men's wear stores managed to obtain an increase of about five per cent on the strength of gains in Quebec and Ontario. In the Prairie Provinces, sales were down for all apparel classifications.

There has been a sharp contraction in the rate of expansion in sales of certain durable goods stores. Thus, hardware business was up only four per cent and furniture store sales dropped three per cent compared with the April, 1946 volume. Activity of hardware and furniture stores was sustained in the Maritimes to a greater extent than in other regions of the country. Furniture store reductions were most pronounced in western Canada.

Chain candy stores reported a decrease of nine per cent in sales for April, 1947 over the same month a year ago, and were up by five per cent in the January-to-April comparison. Sales of furriers increased two per cent in April of this year over last.

STOCKS OF BUTTER, CHEESE AND  
EGGS IN NINE PRINCIPAL CITIES

Stocks of creamery butter in nine of the principal cities of Canada on June 1 amounted to 11,504,004 pounds, compared with 3,942,018 pounds on May 1, and 7,583,371 on the corresponding date last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Holdings were as follows, by cities, figures for June 1 last year being in brackets: Quebec, 682,189 (790,940) pounds; Montreal, 5,809,203 (2,762,504); Toronto, 1,456,265 (1,344,807); Winnipeg, 1,324,846 (827,427); Regina, 253,137 (142,132); Saskatoon, 292,033 (177,346); Edmonton, 618,817 (475,632); Calgary, 273,026 (290,682); Vancouver, 796,488 (771,851).

Cheese stocks in these nine cities on June 1 totalled 11,814,596 pounds compared with 9,425,886 on May 1, and 14,987,921 a year ago. Holdings of cold storage eggs were 7,379,871 dozen against 3,623,610 on May 1, and 5,726,730 last year. Stocks of fresh eggs were 3,647,084 dozen compared with 3,579,390 on May 1, while the holdings of frozen egg meats were 7,743,174 pounds compared with 4,750,187 on May 1, and 5,564,572 on June 1, 1946.

OUTPUT OF CENTRAL ELECTRIC STATIONS

Central electric stations produced 3,727,245,000 kilowatt hours in April compared with 3,956,765,000 in the preceding month, and 3,506,258,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first four months of this year, 15,189,468,000 kilowatt hours were produced, compared with 13,655,146,000 in the similar period of 1946.

Consumption of primary power -- production less exports and secondary power -- amounted to 2,969,135,000 kilowatt hours in April compared with 3,061,729,000 in March and 2,534,807,000 in April, 1946. Total for the first four months of the year was 11,878,719,000 kilowatt hours compared with 10,033,207,000 in the like period of 1946.

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PRODUCTION OF LEADING MINERALS

Output of all but five of sixteen leading Canadian minerals showed gains varying from small to large both in March and the first quarter this year over 1946, according to a summary for March issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Coal, lead, petroleum, silver and zinc provided the exceptions, all being lower both in the month and quarter.

Production figures for the quarter of minerals showing increases (1946 figures in brackets) were: asbestos, 143,452 tons (102,430); cement, 1,637,352 barrels (1,187,738); clay products, \$2,745,399 (\$2,218,843); copper, 99,987,860 pounds (92,063,473); feldspar, 7,828 tons (6,052); gold, 719,176 fine ounces (715,307); gypsum, 282,934 tons (95,433); lime, 219,633 tons (208,062); natural gas, 17,474, - 150 M. cubic feet (15,498,866); nickel, 56,620,309 pounds (41,950,334); commercial salt, 123,630 tons (68,842).

Production decreases for the quarter were: coal, 2,693,205 tons (5,036,717); lead, 79,087,445 pounds (95,833,863); petroleum, 1,734,170 barrels (1,954,156); silver, 2,698,571 fine ounces (3,411,775); zinc, 101,018,522 pounds (124,475,558).

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COAL PRODUCTION SHARPLY  
REDUCED IN FEBRUARY

Coal production in Canada in February was 31 per cent lower than in the corresponding month last year, amounting to 1,131,878 tons, compared with 1,640,643, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first two months of the year, output totalled 2,809,124 tons compared with 3,288, - 909 in the similar period of 1946.

A strike which commenced February 15 reduced production in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and there was also a considerable loss of output in western Canada as a result of a car shortage. Compared with February last year, Nova Scotia showed a decrease in production of 51 per cent, New Brunswick 14 per cent, Saskatchewan 20 per cent, Alberta 26 per cent, and British Columbia 11 per cent.

Imports of coal in February amounted to 1,178,735 tons as compared with 1,302, - 801 in the same month last year, a decline of nine per cent. In the two-month period, 2,467,771 tons were imported compared with 2,507,624 in the like period of 1946.

Coke production in February totalled 289,000 tons compared with 338,000 in January and 299,000 a year ago, bringing the two-month total to 627,000 tons as against 615,000 in 1946.

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MARCH PRODUCTION OF SILVER

Output of silver in March was recorded at 1,038,523 fine ounces as compared with 892,953 in the preceding month and 1,165,684 in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first three months of this year, 2,698,571 fine ounces were produced compared with 3,411,775 in the similar period of 1946.

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PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL IN APRIL

Production of pig iron in Canada in April was well above the total for the same month last year, amounting to 160,749 net tons, compared with 142,240, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total for the first four months of this year was 653,097 net tons, compared with 587,032 in the like period of 1946.

April output of steel ingots and steel castings totalled 252,156 net tons, being slightly higher than in April last year when the total was 247,519 net tons. During the first four months of this year, 1,000,908 net tons were produced, compared with 975,152 a year ago.

Production of ferro alloys in April amounted to 13,015 net tons compared with 14,197 in the preceding month and 13,083 in April, 1946. In the four months ended April, 46,123 net tons were produced compared with 43,238 in the same period of 1946.

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PRODUCTION OF LEAD IN MARCH

Lead production in March amounted to 28,663,366 pounds, compared with 25,271,273 in February, and 31,287,569 in March last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output for the three months, January-March, aggregated 79,087,445 pounds compared with 95,833,863 in the like period of 1946.

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OUTPUT OF ZINC IN MARCH

March production of zinc amounted to 33,926,907 pounds, compared with 32,028,943 in February, and 42,957,226 in March 1946, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total output for the first three months of this year was 101,018,522 pounds, compared with 124,75,558 in the same period of 1946.

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MARCH OUTPUT OF CRUDE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GASOLINE

Output of crude petroleum and natural gasoline was lower in March, amounting to 602,088 barrels, compared with 663,537 in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Production during the first quarter of this year was 1,734,170 barrels compared with 1,954,156 in the similar period of last year.

Alberta's output in March was recorded at 542,175 barrels, compared with 644,205 in the same month last year, first quarter production amounting to 1,610,194 barrels compared with 1,896,217. New Brunswick produced 1,835 barrels in March; Ontario, 8,741; Saskatchewan, 20,760; and the Northwest Territories, 28,577 barrels.

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NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION IN MARCH

Natural gas production was increased in March, totalling 5,518,090 M cubic feet, as compared with 4,627,323 M in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In the first quarter of this year, production aggregated 17,474,150 M cubic feet, compared with 15,498,866 M in the similar period of 1946.

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SALES OF ELECTRIC STORAGE BATTERIES

Sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal Canadian producers in April were valued at \$984,445, compared with \$1,039,385 in March and \$723,246 in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first four months of this year, factory sales totalled \$3,990,232 as against \$3,093,152 in the like period of 1946.

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SHIPMENTS OF PRIMARY STEEL SHAPES

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 216,393 net tons in March, compared with 203,924 in the preceding month and 254,015 in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first three months of this year, 688,630 net tons were shipped, compared with 722,115 in the same period of 1946.

This year's March shipments included 20,767 tons of semi-finished shapes; 13,126 tons of structurals; 17,329 tons of plates; 19,945 tons of rails; 49,850 tons of hot rolled bars; 13,738 tons of pipes and tubes; 18,698 tons of wire rods; 16,272 tons of black sheets; 8,629 tons of galvanized sheets; 538 tons of tool steel; 5,971 tons of castings, and 31,530 tons of other shapes. The amount of producers' interchange was 68,045 tons in March and 62,135 in February.

ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF  
SAWN LUMBER IN MARCH

Estimated production of sawn lumber, excluding sawn ties, increased in March to 404,829 M feet board measure from last year's corresponding total of 379,619 M feet, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In February the total was 369,025 M feet. Production in the first quarter of this year, estimated at 1,103,658 M feet, was about four per cent higher than in the same period of 1946.

March production by sawmills located East of the Rockies totalled 192,185 M feet board measure, compared with 182,819 M in March last year, an increase of five per cent; the total for the first quarter was 538,721 M feet, or seven per cent higher. British Columbia's output in March was 212,644 M feet, bringing the total for the first quarter to 564,937 M, showing increases of eight and one per cent, respectively.

MOTOR VEHICLE PRODUCTION  
STILL HIGHER IN APRIL

Production of motor vehicles in Canada showed a further increase in April when 22,404 came off assembly lines as compared with 21,830 in March, bringing the total for the four months January to April to 84,089, according to figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. These figures compared with 16,830 units in April and 44,182 in the first four months of last year.

Commercial vehicles produced in April rose to 9,153 units as compared with 7,903 in March and 6,967 in April last year, while the output of passenger cars was 13,251 units as against 13,927 in the preceding month and 9,863 a year ago. Aggregate output of passenger cars in the January-April period stands at 52,144 units and of commercial vehicles at 31,945.

Of the April production, passenger cars intended for sale in Canada numbered 9,684, bringing the total available for Canadian purchasers in the four months this year to 35,945. Total passenger cars produced for export in the period was 16,199. Number of commercial vehicles intended for sale in Canada was 5,977 as against 3,176 for export in April, and 20,453 as compared with 11,492 in the four months.

CAR LOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended May 24 declined to 71,132 cars from 77,900 cars for the preceding week, the holiday on May 24 undoubtedly being a factor in the decrease, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Compared with loadings last year, there was an increase of 10,096 cars, or 16.5 per cent.

Grain increased from 5,293 cars last year to 8,725 cars, grain products from 2,763 to 3,482 cars, ores and concentrates from 1,781 to 2,976 cars, pulpwood from 2,822 to 3,395 cars, lumber from 2,593 to 3,484 cars, miscellaneous products from 4,904 to 5,349 cars and l.c.l. merchandise from 15,231 to 16,692 cars. Coal fell from 2,168 cars to 1,129.



LUMBER INDUSTRY OF THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Gross value of production by the lumber industry in the three Prairie Provinces aggregated \$13,855,916 in 1946 as against \$13,914,572 the previous year, according to reports for each province issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Lower figures were recorded for the industry in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and an increase in Alberta.

In Manitoba, output of sawn lumber in 1946 totalled 63,453,000 board feet valued at \$3,364,945 as compared with 72,870,000 board feet valued at \$2,635,008 in 1945. Production of spruce amounted to 54,988,000 board feet, poplar to 6,631,000 and jack pine to 1,074,000 feet. There were 31,865 sawn ties produced with a value of \$25,439 and a reduced quantity of 3,711 thousand lath.

Saskatchewan had a production of 125,082,000 board feet of sawn lumber valued at \$4,227,527 as against 163,986,000 feet valued at \$5,117,360 in the previous year. Output of spruce was 119,363,000 feet, poplar 3,385,000 and jack pine 1,709,000 board feet. Sawn ties were also produced to the number of 341,099 worth \$258,113 and box shooks amounting to 1,975,000 board feet.

Alberta's output of sawn lumber of all species totalled 189,412,000 board feet valued at \$5,897,668 compared with 162,913,000 feet at \$4,685,231 in 1945. Spruce accounted for 177,274,000 feet of the total, jack pine for 6,521,000, and poplar for 2,916,000 board feet. Production of sawn ties increased to 453,901 valued at \$741,382 from 838,644 at \$710,712 in 1945.

MANITOBA FARMS HAD FEWER HORSES  
MORE CATTLE, POULTRY IN 1946

Number of horses on Manitoba farms, after a moderate downward trend between 1936 and 1941, dropped sharply last year to 215,098 from 301,763 on June 1, 1941, a decline of nearly 29 per cent, according to preliminary figures of the 1946 Prairie Census released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. At the same date in 1936 the number of horses was 304,410.

Value of Manitoba's farm horses on June 1 last year is placed at \$10,724,450, approximately two-thirds that of \$16,377,887 for 1941 and less than half the 1936 value of \$22,105,727.

Cattle population in Manitoba on June 1, 1946 was 799,633 as compared with 705,337 five years earlier and 747,367 in 1936, showing an increase of 13.4 and seven per cent, respectively. The value of cattle, however, showed a much greater increase, standing at \$49,485,625 last year as compared with \$26,495,164 in 1941 and only \$14,238,422 in 1936.

Number of sheep last year was 205,516, down 16.5 per cent from the 1941 total of 246,169 and slightly below the 1936 figure of 207,915. Census figures for swine in 1946 show a drop of nearly 39 per cent to 308,052 from 503,407 in 1941, but an increase of 14 per cent over the 1936 total of 269,708.

Total poultry population last year was 17 per cent higher than in 1941 and 60 per cent above 1936, due mainly to sharp increases in hens and chickens, which numbered 7,073,140 as against 5,747,907 in 1941 and 4,255,554 in 1936. Number of turkeys declined to 356,963 compared with 601,172 and 380,007, respectively, five and ten years earlier. Both geese at 67,324 and ducks at 77,548 showed increases last year over 1941 and 1945.

DEALERS' STOCKS OF NON-FERROUS SCRAP METAL

Dealers' stocks of non-ferrous scrap metal at the end of March were as follows, totals for the beginning of the month being in brackets: aluminum, 4,750,958 (4,613,894) pounds; brass and bronze, 5,411,672 (5,571,514); copper, 4,012,893 (3,985,251); magnesium, 121,975 (122,137); nickel, 229,083 (256,318); tin-lead, 5,526,602 (4,798,217); zinc, 1,227,235 (1,308,528); drosses, 1,749,613 (1,863,956).

DIVORCES GRANTED IN 1946

Rising sharply over the total for the preceding year, the number of divorces granted in Canada in 1946 was 7,554 as compared with 5,076 in 1945, an increase of 49 per cent, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. All provinces had more divorces than in 1945, advances ranging from a low of 29 per cent for Ontario to 123 per cent for New Brunswick. Although Ontario and British Columbia granted more divorces in 1946 than other sections of Canada, percentage increases in these two provinces were lower than the average for the Dominion as a whole.

Ontario, with 2,510 divorces, accounted for 33.2 per cent of the all-Canada total in 1946, compared with 1,940 in 1945. British Columbia had 2,005 divorces, or 26.5 per cent of the Dominion total, compared with 1,366 in 1945. Alberta had 962 divorces compared with 575 in 1945, Manitoba 636 compared with 405, Saskatchewan 505 compared with 282, New Brunswick 382 compared with 171, Quebec 290 compared with 177, Nova Scotia 260 compared with 158, and Prince Edward Island four compared with two.

PROCESSED CHEESE INDUSTRY IN 1946

Processed cheese made in Canada during 1946 amounted to 34,051,018 pounds valued at \$10,854,510 as compared with 33,448,482 pounds with a value of \$9,850,077 in 1945, according to a report by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Other products of the processed cheese industry, including egg powder, sandwich spread, salad and mayonnaise dressing, totalled \$5,313,368 in value as against \$9,398,924 the preceding year, making total value of output \$16,167,878 in 1946 compared with \$19,249,001 in 1945. There were 23 plants manufacturing processed cheese in 1946; nine in Quebec, eight in Ontario, three in Manitoba, two in Alberta and one in Saskatchewan. Cheese used by the industry for processing totalled 23,992,999 pounds compared with 24,898,609 pounds in 1945, and other materials used were valued at \$6,043,663 as against \$8,705,687 the previous year.

REPORTS ISSUED DURING THE WEEK

1. Production of Iron and Steel, April (10 cents).
2. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, March (10 cents).
3. Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada (10 cents).
4. Stocks of Canadian Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Nine Principal Cities, June 1 (10 cents).
5. Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation, (10 cents).
6. Oiled and Waterproofed Clothing Industry, 1945 (15 cents).
7. Refined Petroleum Products, March (10 cents).
8. Production, Shipments and Stocks of Hand of Sawmills, March (25 cents).
9. Processed Cheese Industry, 1946 (10 cents).
10. Indexes of Country General Store Sales, April (10 cents).
11. Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, March (10 cents).
12. Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries, March (10 cents).
13. Lumber Industry in Alberta, 1945 (10 cents).
14. Lumber Industry in Manitoba, 1945 (10 cents).
15. Lumber Industry in Saskatchewan, 1945 (10 cents).
16. Indexes of Retail Sales, April (10 cents).
17. Central Electric Stations, April (10 cents).
18. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
19. Primary Iron and Steel, March (10 cents).
20. Population of Manitoba, 14 years of age and over, by Status, for Rural and Urban Subdivisions, 1946 (10 cents).
21. Price Movements, May (10 cents).
22. Average Hours Worked and Average Hourly Earnings, April (10 cents).
23. Employment Situation at Beginning of April (10 cents).
24. Summary Report of the Manufacturing Industries of Canada, 1944 (50 cents).
25. Hat and Cap Industry, 1945 (25 cents).
26. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, March (10 cents).
27. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, April (10 cents).
28. Number and Value of Live Stock, Manitoba, June 1, 1946 (10 cents).
29. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
30. Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, March (10 cents).
31. Dealers' Report on Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal, March (10 cents).
32. Coal and Coke Statistics, February (10 cents).
33. Motor Vehicle Production, April (10 cents).
34. Sugar Report, April 26 to May 17 (10 cents).
35. Fluid Milk Trade, March (10 cents).

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