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CROP CONDITIONS IN CANADA

Wet, cool weather during the past week has delayed harvesting throughout the Prairie Provinces, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Dry weather is urgently needed to prevent loss in southern Manitoba where a large part of the crop is swathed or cut and the remainder is dead ripe. Elsewhere in the west this problem is not so pressing and rain is benefiting late crops.

Harvesting has been held at a standstill in Manitoba because of general rain during the past week. The Red River Valley area is very wet and most crops are ripe. Only a start has been made in swathing and several drying days will be needed to permit tractors to operate. West of the Valley to the Saskatchewan boundary and south of the main line, 50 per cent has been swathed or cut. Unless the weather changes there will be considerable sprouting. In central and northern sections the problem is less pressing and the crop is only just ready and given favourable weather, harvesting should progress normally. In southern Manitoba the sample and yield of grain has been affected by heat with the outturn somewhat below expectations. Beets, corn, sunflowers and pastures have been favoured by the weather.

Rains during the past week have delayed harvesting operations in central and northern districts of Saskatchewan but are proving beneficial to late fields of coarse grains and flax. Sawfly damage is causing considerable loss in wheat over wide areas, especially in southern and western districts, and grasshoppers are becoming more numerous in some areas. Good progress has been made with harvesting in the south-west where many fields have been swathed to prevent further losses from sawfly damage.

In Alberta, continued cool weather and rains have delayed harvesting operations and retarded ripening of the more advanced crops. However, the added rainfall was beneficial to filling of late crops in most districts. Warmer weather is required to bring the crops to maturity before the occurrence of early frosts, particularly in the northern districts. Harvesting is expected to become general over the southern half of the province next week but in the northern areas only some barley fields will be cut before the end of the month. Prospects remain fair to good except in the south-eastern and east-central districts where earlier drought conditions adversely affected prospective yields.

The weather has been very hot and dry in Ontario for the past several weeks with the exception of local thundershowers in south-western Ontario last week-end. Late crops need rain badly. Pastures are drying up and the flow of milk is beginning to decline. Haying is nearly completed and the cutting of oats and barley is becoming general. Late-sown grain fields are ripening too fast and will yield poorly. Flue-cured tobacco is being harvested and the yields are generally good. Potatoes are promising but there is danger of late blight due to the weather. Early peaches are being marketed.

During the last two weeks of hot, dry weather farmers in Quebec have almost finished the harvest of a heavy yield of good quality hay. However, pastures have suffered from the drought and generally speaking milk production seems to be decreasing almost everywhere in the province. The harvesting of grains is just getting started and present indications suggest fair yields in the Quebec area. On the other hand, the outturn in the Montreal district is expected to be disappointing. Potatoes look promising but the appearance of other vegetables is only fair. The canning pea crop is a near failure and tobacco growth is very uneven. Unless rain comes soon to relieve the drought and heat of the past two weeks, many crops may burn up.

Satisfactory harvesting weather has prevailed throughout the week in the southern coastal and interior areas of British Columbia. Harvesting of grain crops is under way and yields, except in the Prince George and Peace River areas, are satisfactory. Picking of hops has commenced and good yields are expected. Record peach and pear crops are now moving to market and apples are beginning to take on colour.

The weather continues to be hot and dry throughout the Maritime Provinces. Haying is completed in most areas and harvesting of grains is now under way. With heavy top growth the prospects are for satisfactory yields of potatoes, however, more rain is needed for the continued development of the apple crop.

CARRY-OVER OF CANADIAN GRAINS AT JULY 31

The carry-over of Canadian wheat in all positions at July 31 stood at 84,472,580 bushels as compared with a revised estimate of 73,600,209 bushels carried over at the end of July 1946, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A high level of exports relative to the total supply of wheat available in 1946-47 is largely responsible for keeping present wheat stocks at near minimum levels. Compared with a year ago, stocks of oats, barley, rye and flax at July 31, 1947 were down slightly.

Farm stocks of wheat at 25,988,000 bushels were moderately below the 27,203,000 bushels on farms at the same date a year ago and compared with 28,650,000 bushels at the end of July, 1945. With the exception of flaxseed, small gains were noted in the farm carry-over stocks of other grains this year as against last.

Carry-over stocks of oats in all positions at the end of July totalled 67,996,-649 bushels compared with 77,491,528 a year ago, barley 28,636,494 bushels compared with 29,937,099, rye 702,034 bushels compared with 768,149, and flaxseed 777,034 bushels compared with 1,649,218.

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on August 14 amounted to 49,948,616 bushels compared with 53,610,837 on August 7, and 37,977,102 on the corresponding date last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Visible on the latest date comprised 49,861,616 bushels in Canadian positions and 87,000 bushels in United States positions.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending August 14 totalled 1,522,190 bushels, compared with 728,890 in the preceding week. During the first two weeks of the present crop year, 2,251,080 bushels of wheat were marketed as compared with 3,784,388 in the similar period of last year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending August 14, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 383,795 (392,362);bushels; barley, 961,521 (261,405); rye, 779,164 (86,651); flaxseed, 83,196 (2,285).

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER IN NINE PRINCIPAL CITIES

Stocks of creamery butter in nine of the principal cities of Canada as at the close of business on August 15 amounted to 42,751,516 pounds as compared with 40,535,366 on August 8, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Following were the stocks by cities, totals for August 8 being in brackets: Quebec, 4,379,052 (3,960,500) pounds; Montreal, 17,614,861 (16,902,866); Toronto, 3,941,675 (3,717,475); Winnipeg, 7,451,802 (7,190,080); Regina, 544,088 (555,103); Saskatoon, 267,141 (276,089); Edmonton, 2,406,854 (2,164,279); Calgary, 1,628,813 (1,508,763); Vancouver, 4,517,230 (4,260,211).

STOCKS OF HIDES AND SKINS

Stocks of raw cattle hides at the end of June were 545,209, showing a decrease of 3.6 per cent as compared with May, and a decrease of 5.1 per cent as compared with June last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Number of calf and kip skins on hand was 636,784 compared with 567,581 at the end of May and 489,269 on the same date last year. Goat and kid skins totalled 132,891 compared with 280,627 a year ago, horse hides 75,575 compared with 39,286, and sheep and lamb skins, 62,256 (dozen) compared with 54,211 (dozen).

ESTIMATES OF LABOUR INCOME

Labour income was estimated to be about $1,864,000,000 for the four months ending April, an increase of $255,000,000, or 16 per cent over the same period of 1946, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Labour income includes all wages, salaries and supplementary labour income such as board and lodging supplied by employers and employees contributions to pension funds. It is the largest single component of the Net National Income which is estimated annually by the Bureau. Estimates of labour income will be published monthly.

Increases were distributed through all industrial groups except agriculture. The greatest proportionate increases were those in logging and communication, while the percentage increases in trade, transportation and communications were also above the average. Over one-third of the increase between the two four month periods was accounted for by wages and salaries in manufacturing.

Estimates of labour income by groups were as follows for the four months ending April, (in millions of dollars), totals for the same period of last year being in brackets: agriculture, logging, fishing and trapping $111 ($100); manufacturing, mining and electric power, $710 ($614); construction, $79 ($59); transportation, storage, communications and trade, $472 ($400); finance and services, including government, $397 ($355); supplementary labour income, $96 ($82).

MAN-HOURS AND HOURLY-EARNINGS

Number of hourly-rated wage-earners reported by leading manufacturing establishments throughout Canada showed a slight increase at June 1, the fifth in succession, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. There were also advances in the aggregate hourly earnings, but partly as a result of seasonal movements in certain industries, the total of hours worked was lower than in the week of May 1.

Information was compiled by the Bureau from 6,384 factories employing 764,822 hourly-rated wage-earners, who received the sum of $26,187,837 for services performed in 32,811,753 hours of work, as compared with totals of 760,538 hourly-rated wage-earners, and $25,745,503 paid in wages to such persons for an aggregate of 32,868,793 hours of work in the preceding period of observation. There was thus a rise of 0.6 per cent in the indicated wage-earners, accompanied by that of 1.7 per cent in the hourly wages, but the hours declined by 0.2 per cent. The payment of higher wage-rates in several industries contributed to the higher aggregate of weekly wages.

Average hours worked in the plants from which data were tabulated declined from 43.2 in the week of May 1, to 42.9 in that of June 1, as compared with 42.0 and 44.3 at June 1 in 1946 and 1945, respectively.

The hourly earnings averaged 79.8 cents, the maximum in the record, which goes back only to November 1, 1944. At May 1 the mean was 78.3 cents, previously the high figure. At June 1 in 1946 and 1945, the averages had been 69.1 cents and 70.3 cents, respectively. A factor in the increase in the hourly rate as compared with a month earlier was the payment of higher wage-rates in several industries.

The weekly wages of the wage-earners for whom data were available at June 1 averaged $34.23, exceeding the figure of $33.83 indicated in the week ending May 1, and those of $29.02 and $31.14 in the week of June 1, 1946 and 1945, respectively. In the 12 months, there was an increase of 18 per cent in the average weekly wages of the hourly-rated wage-earners employed by the co-operating manufacturers, while the advance in the 24 months' comparison with 9.9 per cent.

SALES OF MANUFACTURED AND NATURAL GAS IN JUNE

Sales of manufactured gas by distributing companies in Canada in June totalled 1,969,764 M cubic feet compared with 1,920,857 M in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first six months of this year, 13,948,874 M cubic feet were sold, compared with 12,664,117 M in the similar period of 1946.

Sales in June of natural gas were recorded at 2,225,836 M cubic feet, compared with 1,770,878 M in the same month last year, bringing the total for the first half of this year to 23,594,403 M cubic feet as against 19,020,235 M in the like period of last year.

WHOLESALE SALES IN JUNE

Dollar volume of wholesale sales in June increased 11 per cent over the corresponding month last year, but was five per cent lower than in May, according to figures received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, from wholesalers representing nine lines of trade. The general unadjusted index, on the base, average for 1935-1939=100, stood at 267.6 for June this year, 280.6 for May, and 241.5 for June, 1946. Dollar volume of sales for the first six months of 1947 was 10 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1946.

All regions of the country recorded increases in wholesale sales over June 1946, with British Columbia and Quebec showing the largest gains of 18 per cent. Sales in Ontario were 12 per cent higher, while the Maritime Provinces showed an increase of six per cent, and the Prairie Provinces, three per cent.

Dry goods trade again had the greatest increase with sales 23 per cent higher than in June last year. This increase, however, was less than those recorded in the past three months. Sales in the grocery trade were 18 per cent above June 1946, while the clothing and hardware trades followed with increases of 17 and 12 per cent, respectively. Sales in the automotive equipment and drug trades were eight per cent in excess of those for the same month last year. A lesser gain of three per cent was recorded by footwear wholesalers, while fruit and vegetable dealers' sales continued below last year's level with a drop of five per cent below June, 1946.

Stocks on hand at the end of June were valued 37 per cent higher than those held at the same date a year ago. Wholesalers of clothing and footwear, with increases of 67 and 54 per cent, respectively, continued to show the greatest increases in value of stock on hand compared with last year. The automotive equipment trade and dry goods trade followed closely with stocks valued 53 and 49 per cent higher than at the end of June, 1946. Hardware and grocery wholesalers also recorded substantial increases, stocks in these trades being 38 per cent higher in value than at the end of June a year ago. The tobacco and confectionery and drug trades reported more moderate gains of 12 and 10 per cent, while stocks held by fruit and vegetable wholesalers were valued four per cent lower than at the same date last year.

CONSUMPTION, PRODUCTION AND INVENTORIES OF RUBBER

Consumption of natural rubber by manufacturers in May amounted to 2,643 long tons compared with 2,476 in the preceding month, synthetic rubber 2,889 long tons compared with 2,942, and reclaim 1,438 long tons compared with 1,395, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Domestic production of synthetic rubber duing the month totalled 3,467 long tons compared with 4,628 in April, and of reclaim 359 long tons compared with 360.

Stocks of natural rubber at the end of May were increased to 9,992 long tons as against 7,187 at the end of April. Synthetic and reclaim stocks were reduced, the former at 4,953 long tons comparing with 5,473, and the latter, 2,772 long tons compared with 2,931.

SHIPMENTS OF ASBESTOS IN JUNE

Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines during June totalled 50,102 tons, compared with 60,036 in the preceding month, and 47,353 in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first six months of this year, 314,077 tons were shipped compared with 250,218 in the similar period of 1946.

SHIPMENTS OF CEMENT IN JUNE

Shipments to customers by Canadian manufacturers of Portland cement totalled 1,276,795 barrels in June, compared with 1,290,762 in May, and 1,450,302 in June last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first six months of this year, shipments aggregated 5,258,162 barrels compared with 5,172,311 in the similar period of 1946.

MANUFACTURES OF IRON AND STEEL AND THEIR PRODUCTS

Gross factory selling value of products turned out by manufacturers of articles of iron and steel in 1945 aggregated $1,975,310,000 compared with $2,540,993,000 in the preceding year, a decrease of 22 per cent, according to final figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The decrease was due, in the main, to curtailment in the aircraft, shipbuilding, automobile, and automobile parts industries. There was on the other hand, increase in iron castings, heating and cooking apparatus, and railway rolling stock industries.

In 1945 a total of 2,188 factories operated in this group, four fewer than in 1944. These works employed a monthly average of 321,719 persons in 1945 as compared with 411,944, payments for the year in salaries and wages aggregating $637,336,000 compared with $818,452,000 in 1944. Materials used in manufacturing processes cost $887,426,-000 as against $1,104,084,000.

Values by industries for 1945 were as follows, in millions of dollars, totals for 1944 being in brackets: pig iron, ferro-albys, steel and rolled products, $192.3 ($212.5); iron castings, $76.6 ($74); heating and cooking apparatus, $29.9 ($27.2); boilers, tanks and platework, $23.9 ($32.3); farm implements, $57.6 ($61.1); machinery, $138.2 ($147.5); automobiles, $228.7 ($324.1); automobile parts, $126.6 ($160.2); bicycles, $3.1 ($3.0); aircraft, $278.7 ($427.0); shipbuilding, $204.6 ($329.3); railway rolling stock and parts, $181.2 ($167.8); wire and wire goods, $41.0 ($41.6); sheet metal products, $106.3 ($109.9); hardware, cutlery and tools, $68.9 ($78.9); bridge and structural steel work, $46.4 ($58.4); machine shops, $25.6 ($29.9); and miscellaneous iron and steel products, $145.7 ($256.4).

SALES OF CLAY PRODUCTS IN MAY

Sales in May by concerns in Canada which made products from domestic clay totalled $1,228,316 compared with $999,807 in April, and $1,009,416 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first five months of this year, sales aggregated $4,973,522 compared with $4,067,228 in the similar period of 1946.

Sales in May comprised the following, totals for May last year being in brackets: building brick, $643,680 ($523,303); structural tile, $168,476 ($154,911); drain tile, $62,688 ($45,089); sewer pipe, $187,299 ($115,063); fireclay blocks and shapes, $20,556 ($15,723); pottery, $105,772 ($103,676); other clay products, $39,845 ($51,651).

PRODUCTION OF LEATHER FOOTWEAR IN JUNE

Production of leather footwear was reduced in June, the month's output amounting to 2,876,156 pairs, compared with 3,276,768 in the preceding month and 3,655,444 in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first six months of this year, 19,445,460 pairs were produced, compared with 22,553,508 in the similar period of 1946, a decline of almost 14 per cent.

LUMBER INDUSTRY OF CANADA IN 1945

Gross value of products of the Canadian lumber industry in 1945 was $231,108,030 as compared with $216,556,623 in the preceding year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. There were increases in both quantity and value for lumber, lath, cut-up and barked pulpwood, spoolwood and staves. Shingles, pickets and box shooks decreased in quantity but increased in total value. Heading and sawn ties decreased in quantity and value.

Production of sawn lumber amounted to 4,514,160 M feet board measure, slightly higher than in 1944 when 4,512,232 M feet were produced. In 1941 -- the peak year -- 4,941,084 M feet were produced. Value of lumber sawn in 1945, at $181,045,952 was the higher ever recorded, exceeding the 1944 total of $170,351,406, by 6.3 per cent.

Prepared pulpwood was second in importance with 668,126 cords valued at $12,380,-071, as compared with 564,271 cords valued at $9,542,128 in 1944. Production of shingles amounted to 2,665,432 squares, as against 2,697,724 in 1944, respective values standing at $11,737,224 and $11,411,359. Sawn ties numbered 6,340,176 and were valued at $6,486,261 as against 7,579,560 valued at $7,621,538 in 1944.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

Births registered in cities, towns and villages of Canada, having a population of 10,000 and over numbered 15,330 in June, as compared with 13,479 in the corresponding month last year, an increase of 14 per cent, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Deaths totalled 5,031, an increase of 10 per cent, and marriages 9,129, an increase of four per cent.

CIVIL AVIATION IN APRIL

Canadian scheduled air carriers reported revenues for April of $1,865,698 as compared with $1,509,309 in the corresponding month last year, an increase of 24 per cent, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This increase was offset by an advance in operating expenses of $603,031 or from $1,471,625 to $2,074,656. Consequently the net operating revenue declined from $37,684 to a debit of $208,958. Revenues of non-scheduled carriers increased from $62,033 in April last year to $242,256, expenses from $82,725 to $261,013, and the operating loss declined from $20,692 to $18,757.

DWELLINGS AND HOUSEHOLDS IN MANITOBA

There were 175,587 occupied dwellings in Manitoba at date of the 1946 Census of the Prairie Provinces, as compared with 164,985 in 1941, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This represents an increase of 6.4 per cent for the 5-year interval. The increase has taken place chiefly in the urban centres which reported 83,287 occupied dwellings in 1946 as against 72,924 in 1941, an increase of 14.2 per cent. The rural areas remained practically unchanged, increasing from 92,061 occupied dwellings in 1941 to 92,300 in 1946.

A shift in tenure since the 1941 Census is revealed by the 1946 figures which show that on June 1, 1946, there were 119,007 owner-occupied dwellings in Manitoba as against 55,749 tenant-occupied dwellings, whereas at the 1941 Census the owner-occupied dwellings numbered 101,836 and the tenant-occupied dwellings, 61,819. This represents an increase of almost 18 per cent in the number of owner-occupied homes and a decrease of about eight per cent in the number of those occupied by tenants. In urban centres the number of owner-occupied homes increased by 33 per cent while the number of dwellings occupied by tenants fell by about two per cent during the 5-year period since the 1941 Census.

Of the 36,450 tenant-occupied dwellings in urban centres at the 1946 Census, 11,764 or nearly one-third of the households reported that they paid less than $20 rent per month. Households paying between $20 and $29 rent per month numbered 9,113 or about one-fourth of the total, while another 8,014 or also nearly one-fourth paid between $30 and $39. Only 4,441 households or about one-eighth paid between $40 and $49, and 2,754 or 7.6 per cent paid a rental of $50 or more per month.

The Bureau's release further shows that 17,134 or 9.8 per cent of the dwelling units in Manitoba as a whole were built between 1941 and 1946, and 11,529 or 6.6 per cent between 1936 and 1941, 14,314 or 8.2 per cent between 1931 and 1936, and 128,687 or 73.3 per cent prior to 1931. It should be mentioned that 5,613 or 32.8 per cent of the dwelling units built between 1941 and 1946 were located in urban centres as against 2,299 or 19.9 per cent, and 3,212 or 22.4 per cent were built during the other two five-year intervals, respectively.

There were 42,723 owner-occupied single homes in urban centres throughout Manitoba at the 1946 Census, of which 14,943 or 34.9 per cent were valued by their owners at less than $3,000, 12,164 or 28.4 per cent at between $3,000 and $5,000, 12,932 or 30.2 per cent at between $5,000 and $10,000, and 2,064 or 4.8 per cent over $10,000.

On the average, just about four persons per dwelling were reported in the urban centres of Manitoba in 1946. Of the 83,287 occupied dwellings in urban centres, 41,953 or 50.4 per cent were occupied by households consisting of less than three persons, 32,639 or 39.2 per cent by households of four to six persons, and 8,695 or 10.4 per cent by seven or more persons to the household.

STOCKS OF INGOT MAKERS' NON-FERROUS SCRAP METAL

Stocks of ingot makers' non-ferrous scrap metal were increased during June, month-end stocks amounting to 3,245,058 pounds, compared with 2,936,483 at the first of the month, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. End-of-the-month stocks of secondary non-ferrous ingot were 3,105,231 pounds, compared with 2,933,731.

CAR LOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended August 9 declined to 72,662 cars from 79,010 cars for the preceding week, the holiday on Monday, August 4, undoubtedly being a factor in the decrease, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In the corresponding week last year loadings amounted to 66,847 cars.

Loadings of western grain declined from 5,074 cars for the preceding week and 3,218 cars in 1946 to 2,816 cars, and total loadings of coal declined from 4,739 cars in 1946 to 4,449 cars. Ores and concentrates increased from 2,648 cars last year to 3,644 cars; and stone, gravel, etc. from 4,043 to 5,065 cars, pulpwood from 4,057 to 5,283 cars; iron and steel products from 585 to 1,183 cars; and l.c.l. merchandise from 15,769 to 16,175 cars.

REPORTS ISSUED DURING THE WEEK

1. Products Made from Canadian Clays, May (10 cents).
2. Births, Deaths and Marriages, June (10 cents).
3. Civil Aviation, April (10 cents).
4. Births, Deaths and Marriages, Third Quarter of 1946 (25 cents).
5. Dwellings by Tenure, Period of Construction, Rooms and Persons, Manitoba, 1946 (10 cents).
6. Trade of Canada: Exports of Canadian and Foreign Produce, June (25 cents).
7. Production of Leather Footwear, June (10 cents).
8. Lumber Industry of Canada, 1945 (35 cents).
9. Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada (10 cents).
10. Iron and Steel and Their Products, 1945 (10 cents).
11. Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, May (25 cents).
12. Stocks of Grain at July 31 (10 cents).
13. Asbestos, June (10 cents).
14. Sales of Manufactured and Natural Gas, June (10 cents).
15. Average Hours Worked and Average Hourly Earnings, June (10 cents).
16. Indexes of Wholesale Sales, June (10 cents).
17. Current Trends in Food Distribution, June (10 cents).
18. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
19. Hides, Skins and Leather, June (10 cents).
20. Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal and Secondary Non-Ferrous Ingot, June (10 cents).
21. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
22. Cement, June (10 cents).

Copies of these and other Bureau reports may be obtained on application to the Dominion Statistician, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.
