D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

OTTAWA - CANADA

$1 a year

Vol. XV - No. 47 Saturday, November 22, 1947

THIRD ESTIMATE OF 1947 FIELD CROPS OF CANADA

Canada's wheat crop is now placed at 340.8 million bushels as compared with the revised estimate of 413.7 million bushels for the 1946 crop, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Oat production for 1947 is estimated at 282.7 million (371.1 million in 1946); barley at 141.5 million (148.9 million in 1946); rye at 13.2 million (8.8 million in 1946); mixed grains at 35.7 million (53.0 million in 1946); and flaxseed at 11.5 million bushels (6.4 million in 1946).

The third estimates of wheat and coarse grains are, in general, moderately lower than the second estimates released on September 12. The wheat estimate has declined approximately 11.4 million bushels due chiefly to the very unsatisfactory harvesting and threshing weather experienced in northern sections of Saskatchewan and much of Alberta. The full effects of the mid-summer heat wave were probably underestimated, too, in earlier estimates for all three Prairie Provinces. Declines of 5.5 million bushels of oats; 9.8 million of barley, 0.9 million of rye and 0.2 million bushels of flaxseed largely attributable to similar factors.

For the Prairie Provinces the wheat crop is now expected to yield 319 million bushels as compared with the revised estimate of 393 million bushels in 1946. The estimated average yield of wheat in the Prairie Provinces this year is 13.9 bushels per seeded acre, with Manitoba averaging 17.2, Saskatchewan 12.3 and Alberta 16.1 bushels per acre. The wheat crop in the Prairie Provinces contains a small proportion of fall wheat, grown chiefly in Alberta. For the purpose of this estimate fall wheat on the Prairies has been included under spring wheat. The estimated production of wheat in the remaining provinces of Canada is 21.8 million bushels, of which Ontario's outturn of 18.3 million bushels represents the principal part. All but 563,000 bushels of the production in Ontario is fall wheat.

The 1947 production of shelled corn at 6.7 million bushels has dropped sharply from last year's crop of 10.7 million but favourable fall weather improved fodder corn and this year's outturn is only fractionally below production in 1946.

Hay and clover production in eastern Canada, with the exception of Prince Edward Island, is well above last year's level. Manitoba harvested an excellent crop of hay and clover but the other western provinces, lagged somewhat behind their production figures for 1946. This year's alfalfa crop fell below 1946 due to lower production in Ontario and Saskatchewan. Production of buckwheat is now placed at 5.3 million bushels as compared with the second estimate of 5.8 million and last year's figure of 4.9 million bushels.

Lower yields per acre more than offset a slight increase in Canada's dry pea acreage and production is placed at only 1.8 million bushels compared with the 1946 crop of 2.3 million bushels. Yields per acre of dry beans are also down significantly from last year and despite an increase in acreage the 1947 dry bean crop of 1,436,000 bushels compares unfavourably with the 1946 outturn of 1,573,000 bushels.

With the harvest of late potatoes in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Alberta exceeding earlier expectations, Canada's 1947 potato crop is now placed at 44.6 million hundredweight -- an increase of 1.1 million hundredweight from the estimate issued on October 10. Slight to moderate decreases were registered for some of the other provinces but the additional output in the provinces noted above more than compensated for the declines elsewhere. The 1946 potato crop stood at approximately 48 million hundredweight.

Sugar beet production in 1947 is now placed at 608,000 tons, down slightly from the previous estimate and comparing rather unfavourably with the 1946 crop of 733,500 tons. With both seeded acreages and yields per acre below last year's levels, production of turnips and other roots (excluding output in the Prairie Provinces) at 21.0 million hundredweight is nearly six million hundredweight below the 1946 outturn.

The area sown to fall wheat in the autumn of 1947 is estimated at 908,000 acres, an increase of 125,000 acres or 16 per cent as compared with the area sown in 1946, viz., 783,000 acres. The condition at October 31 was reported at 97 per cent of the long-time average yield per acre as compared with 101 per cent in 1946. These data on fall wheat refer to Ontario only. Fall wheat in western Canada has been included under spring wheat.

Fall rye sowings in Canada in 1947 are estimated at 1,186,000 acres, an increase of 307,000 acres or 35 per cent as compared with 879,000 acres sown in 1946. By provinces the acreages are as follows, with last year's figures within brackets: Ontario, 85,000 (77,000); Manitoba, 37,000 (32,000); Saskatchewan, 814,000 (565,000); Alberta, 250,000 (205,000). The condition at October 31 in percentage of the long-time average yield per acre is reported as follows, with last year's condition at the same date within brackets: Canada 101 (97); Ontario 96 (99); Manitoba 101 (93); Saskatchewan 101 (95); Alberta 102 (99).

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on November 6 amounted to 150,745,517 bushels compared with 149,108,430 bushels on October 30 and 154,865,674 bushels on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Visible supplies on the latest date comprised 145,986,956 bushels in Canadian positions and 4,758,561 bushels in United States positions.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending November 6 totalled 7,950,557 bushels compared with 9,774,740 in the preceding week. During the period August 1 to November 6, 165,246,842 bushels of wheat were marketed a decrease of 12.5 per cent from last year's corresponding total of 188,783,496 bushels.

Marketings of coarse grains from Prairie farms also were lighter during the week ending November 6, totals being as follows with figures for the preceding week in brackets: oats, 3,645,387 (4,445,294) bushels; barley, 2,431,457 (2,959,538); rye, 314,440 (464,258); flaxseed, 396,904 (416,930).

STOCKS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, totalled 37,030,912 pounds on November 1 as compared with 38,141,697 on October 1 and 33,535,229 pounds on the corresponding date last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Holdings of vegetables, frozen or in brine, amounted to 12,758,979 pounds as against 7,520,474 on October 1 and 8,530,898 a year ago.

Canadian apples in cold and common storage on November 1 amounted to 952,356 bushels compared with 866,488 on the same date last year. Stocks of Canadian vegetables were as follows, totals for November 1 last year being in brackets: potatoes, 11,703 (30,693) tons; onions, 5,887 (10,087); beets, 726 (1,502); carrots, 8,188 (8,267); cabbages, 3,019 (3,153); parsnips, 478 (1,489); celery, 186,374 crates (278,399 crates).

BUTTER STOCKS IN NINE CITIES

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities on November 14 amounted to 45,460,929 pounds compared with 47,404,976 on November 7, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Holdings were as follows by cities, totals for November 7 being in brackets: Quebec, 3,737,803 (4,120,440) pounds; Montreal, 18,242,840 (18,742,559); Toronto, 4,103,396 (4,223,614); Winnipeg, 9,346,400 (9,767,988); Regina, 594,424 (633,607); Saskatoon, 295,245 (277,367); Edmonton, 3,093,139 (3,278,862); Calgary, 1,816,954 (1,951,349); Vancouver, 4,230,728 (4,419,190).

ESTIMATES OF LABOUR INCOME

The total of wages, salaries and supplementary labour income received by residents of Canada in August this year was $517 million, according to the monthly estimate by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Continuing an almost unbroken series of increases since January of this year, the August total was five million dollars higher than was corresponding July figure, and $78 million more than in August, 1946. The total of labour income in the first eight months of 1947 was $3,874 million as compared with $3,301 million in the same period of 1946.

A comparison of labour income in August with other statistics for July and August reveals that the index of employment in nine leading industries showed a percentage increase between August 1 and September 1 almost as great as that for labour income. This indicates that while there were more people employed, there was probably little change in workers' remuneration. There was a two per cent rise in the cost-of-living index from August 1 to September 2. In the months of July and August, the total of "take-home" pay presumably was increased to some extent by lower personal income tax rates which came into effect on July 1.

Greater payments of labour income in the manufacturing, agricultural and construction industries accounted for most of the increase in the August total over that of July. There was little change in the wages, salaries and supplementary labour income earned in other Canadian industries.

CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Initial and renewal claims filed at local offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission in September totalled 20,883 compared with 17,281 in August and 28,555 in September last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In the Maritime Provinces, Manitoba and British Columbia claims filed during September this year showed a slight increase over those registered in the same month last year. Significant decreases occurred in Ontario and Quebec.

Ordinary claims on the live unemployment register numbered 36,666 on September 30 compared with 37,350 on August 30 and 57,682 on September 30, 1946. Thus, the number of cases of recorded unemployment as at a particular day continues to decline and has reached a new post-war low point. At the end of September, live claims in the Maritime Provinces remained at about the same level as at the end of August, but slightly higher than a year ago. In all other provinces decreases of varying magnitudes were recorded compared with September 30, 1946.

A total of 39,541 persons were paid one or more benefit payments during September aggregating $1,512,096 for 798,873 compensated unemployed days compared with 42,756 persons paid $1,515,868 for 791,850 days in August and 74,762 persons paid $3,402,460 for 1,725,426 days in September, 1946. Thus, the average duration of the unemployment compensated was 20.2 days in September, 18.5 days in August and 23.1 days in September last year; the average amount of benefit paid per beneficiary was $38.24 in September $35.45 in August and $45.51 in September 1946; the average amount of benefit paid per compensated day of unemployment was $1.89 in September, $1.91 in August and $1.97 in September a year ago.

STOCKS OF RAW AND REFINED SUGAR

Refinery stocks of raw sugar on November 1 amounted to 138,338,363 pounds, slightly lower than last year's corresponding total of 138,471,291 pounds, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Refined stocks were reduced, amounting to 79,669,325 pounds as compared with 114,450,072 pounds.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ON TRANSIT SYSTEMS IN JUNE

Urban transit systems carried 119,620,834 passengers in June, a decline of about one per cent from June last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. There was also a slight decrease in interurban passenger traffic from 8,297,429 to 8,104,711. Revenues of furban systems fell from $7,420,793 to $7,375,885, but interurban revenues rose from $3,070,361 to $3,133,889. Vehicle miles for both systems showed increases.

WHOLESALE SALES UP 17 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER

Following the relatively small increase of four per cent in August dollar volume of wholesale sales, the September index climbed 17 per cent above that for September 1946, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The general index, on the base 1935-39=100, stood at 304.4 as compared with 259.5 a year ago. Cumulative sales for the first nine months were lifted 10 per cent above the same months of 1946.

As compared with a year ago, September sales of wholesale dry goods rose 31 per cent, automotive equipment 25 per cent, and groceries 23 per cent. Indexes for these trades were at an all-time high in September, having reached 303.0, 485.3 and 274.8, respectively. Dealers in fruits and vegetables reported an increase over the high volume in 1946 for the first time this year in September when sales rose 1.4 per cent.

While September figures for wholesale clothing sales were only three per cent above 1946 as compared with the January-September increase of 11 per cent, footwear sales showed greater activity and in September rose 12 per cent as compared with the cumulative nine-month gain of six per cent. Maintaining the cumulative gain in earlier months, sales volume of wholesale hardware rose 21 per cent above September 1946. Smaller gains of six per cent and 11 per cent were recorded for drugs and tobacco and confectionery trades.

COPPER AND NICKEL PRODUCTION GAIN SUBSTANTIALLY IN NINE MONTHS

Production both of primary copper and nickel was substantially higher in the nine months ending September this year than in the corresponding period last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output of new copper in all forms for the period totalled 166,427 tons, an increase of 22.8 per cent over the 135,-529 tons in the like period of 1946, while the production of nickel amounted to 85,335 tons, a gain of 22 per cent over the 1946 total of 69,891 tons.

Output of both metals for September declined from the preceding months this year. Production of new copper in all forms decreased to 17,582 tons compared with 18,036 tons in August, but was 23.5 per cent above last year's September output of 14,225 tons. Nickel production for the month was 7,577 tons as against 9,918 tons in August and 8,084 tons in September last year.

Exports of copper ore, concentrates and matte for the nine months amounted to 20,881 tons compared with 12,780 tons for the similar period of 1946, and exports of ingots, bars, slabs and billets to 61,987 tons compared with 83,798 tons. Exports of nickel in all forms totalled 89,746 tons in the January-September period this year as against 83,637 tons in the like period of 1946.

PORTLAND CEMENT OUTPUT AT HIGH POINT IN SEPTEMBER

Continuing the advances of recent months, production of Portland cement in September reached a new peak for the year at 1,154,634 barrels compared with 1,136,877 in the preceding month and 989,714 in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the nine months ending September, 8,775,622 barrels were produced as against 7,938,868 in the similar period of 1946.

Shipments to customers during the month were recorded at 1,235,427 barrels in September compared with 1,172,744 in August and 1,141,478 in the same month last year, bringing the total for the nine months of this year to 8,916,056 barrels as against 8,892,960 in the like period of 1946. Stocks at plants and warehouses at the end of September were 305,413 barrels compared with 385,252 on the same date last year.

Imports of Portland cement have been at a considerably higher level this year, aggregate for the nine months ending September standing at 890,546 barrels as against 136,853 in the same period last year; total for September was 177,092 barrels compared with 47,109. Exports in the nine-month period fell to 64,969 barrels from 111,924 a year ago, but rose in September to 8,568 barrels from 2,210.

PRODUCTION OF CONCRETE BUILDING BLOCKS

Production of concrete building blocks, solid, hollow and cinder in September amounted to 3,112,228 compared with 2,986,490 in August and 1,794,800 in September last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output for the nine months ending September amounted to 18,664,600 compared with 13,116,309 for the like period of 1946.

PRODUCTION OF OIL BEARING SEEDS

Crop of flaxseed, sunflower seed and rapeseed was heavier this year than last, but the soy bean harvest was lower, according to estimates of the production of Canada's major oilseed crops issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The 1947 crop of flaxseed is placed at 11,500,000 bushels compared with the 1946 outturn of 6,400,000, soy beans 800,000 bushels compared with 1,100,000, sunflower seed 20,000,000 pounds compared with 13,400,000 and rapeseed 26,200,000 pounds compared with 13,000,000.

STOCKS OF UNITED STATES CORN

Stocks of United States corn in Canada on November 6 were up sharply from a year ago, amounting to 395,433 bushels as compared with 162,241, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. These stocks were located at the following points: Goderich, 67,864 bushels; Port Colborne, 10,663; Walkerville, 100,747; Prescott, 45,848; Montreal, 145,329; Quebec, 24,982.

DISPOSAL OF LIVE STOCK FROM MANITOBA FARMS

The total value of live stock sold alive from farms in Manitoba was $24,671,841 in 1945 as compared with $13,518,073 in 1940, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. This increase in total value was largely due to substantial increases in value per head rather than increases in the number sold. While the number of cattle sold alive only increased from 224,595 in 1940 to 233,864 in 1945, the total value increased from $5,957,899 in 1940 to $14,345,613 in 1945. Swine sold alive decreased 29 per cent from 439,088 in 1940 to 311,893 in 1945, while the total value increased 31.6 per cent from $5,917,389 in 1940 to $7,787,687 in 1945.

There was a sharp decrease in the number of each class of live stock slaughtered for sale and for home consumption in 1945 as compared with 1940. Total value of live stock slaughtered for sale decreased from $989,956 in 1940 to $683,933 in 1945. Due to the increase in value per head, however, the total value of live stock slaughtered for home consumption increasedfrom $1,906,378 in 1940 to $2,291,748 in 1945.

WEEKLY SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

The following are security price indexes of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for the week ending November 13, 1947, a week and month earlier:

	November 13	November 6	October 16
		(1935-39=100)	
Investors' Price Index			
(100 Common Stocks)	106.9	106.7	105.7
74 Industrials	100.3	100.2	99.4
18 Utilities	115.9	115.3	117.9
8 Banks	135.1	133.5	124.8
Mining Stock Price Index			
(27 Stocks)	89.5	88.4	87.4
23 Golds	78.9	78.8	79.1
4 Base Metals	108.7	105.2	101.8

CAR LOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Car Loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended November 8 declined to 86,757 cars from the peak of 89,788 cars for the previous week, but were 2.4 per cent above last year's loadings of 84,748 cars, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Loadings of Grain declined to 10,249 cars from 10,700 cars for the previous week and 11,334 cars last year. Fresh fruits declines to 575 cars from 1,036 in 1946. Live stock and fresh meats and packing house products were both slightly below last year's totals.

Coal increased from 6,607 cars in 1946 to 7,162 cars, sand, stone, gravel, etc. from 4,362 to 4,852 cars, pulpwood from 2,026 to 3,303 cars, woodpulp and paper from 3,728 to 3,951 cars, lumber from 4,207 to 4,668 cars, gasoline and oils from 3,679 to 4,270 cars, and l.c.l. merchandise from 17,892 to 18,507 cars.

POPULATION OF SASKATCHEWAN BY MARITAL STATUS AND SEX

Figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics relating to marital status for the population of Saskatchewan on June 1, 1946, reveal that 442,172 persons, or 53 per cent of the total production were single, while 359,091 or 43 per cent were married, 30,326 or three per cent were widowed, and 1,099 or a small fraction of one per cent were divorced.

Comparison with the Censuses of 1941 and 1936 indicates a sharp increase in the number of married persons relative to the total population, and a corresponding drop in the number of single persons. Whereas 53 out of every hundred persons in Saskatchewan in 1946 were single, the proportion in 1941 was 56, and in 1936 close to 60. Married persons per hundred of population numbered 43 in 1946, 40 in 1941, and 37 in 1936.

Although a part of this rise in the proportion married may be due to an increase in the number of marriages during the war years, it is probable that it results more from out-migration in the rural areas at the younger age levels and the advancing age trend of Saskatchewan's population. An earlier release, showing the age composition of the population, indicated that the decline in population in Saskatchewan from 1936 to 1946 was almost entirely of persons in the age groups under 54 living in rural areas, and particularly for those in the age groups under 25.

It is to be expected, therefore, that the drop in the number of single persons would be greatest in rural areas. While the population living in rural areas of the province declined by 135,346 in the ten-year period, single persons accounted for 111,133, or 82 per cent of this total, and for 98 per cent of the decline in the number of single persons in Saskatchewan as a whole. The population of all urban centres from 1936 to 1946 increased by 36,487, the number of single persons falling by only 1,549, while the number of married increased by 33,725, and widowed by 3,981.

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION OF SASKATCHEWAN

Over the decade, 1936 to 1946, the proportions of the population of Saskatchewan at the younger ages have declined, while those of middle ages and older ages have shown an increase, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Of the total population of the province of 832,688 on June 1, 1946, 48 per cent were in the age groups under 25 years, 46 per cent in the groups between 25 and 64, and the remaining six per cent were 65 years of age and over. Ten years earlier, Saskatchewan's population numbered 931,547, of which 53 per cent were under 25 years of age, 43 per cent between 25 and 64, and only four per cent were 65 years or over.

The advance in the proportion of the population over 24 years of age was slightly greater for females, than for males. A total of 49 per cent of all Saskatchewan males in 1936 were over 24 years of age, as compared with 54 per cent in 1946. Females 25 years of age and over comprised only 44 per cent of the total female population of the province in 1936, but rose to almost 51 per cent by 1946.

Males outnumbered females in rural areas at all age levels. In urban centres as a whole, females slightly outnumbered males in the age range from 15 to 39 years, and again at ages of 85 and over.

REPORTS ISSUED DURING THE WEEK

1. Copper and Nickel Production, September (10 cents).
2. Concrete Building Blocks and Cement Pipe, September (10 cents).
3. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
4. Central Electric Stations, 1945 (25 cents).
5. Saskatchewan -- Age Distribution -- 1946 (10 cents).
6. Monthly Estimates of Canadian Labour Income, August (10 cents).
7. Transit Report, June (10 cents).
8. Sugar Report, October 11 to November 1, 1947 (10 cents).
9. Population of Saskatchewan by Marital Status, 1946 (10 cents).
10. Miscellaneous Industrial or Non-Metallic Minerals, 1945 (25 cents).
11. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
12. Railway Revenue Freight, October (10 cents).
13. Disposal of Live Stock from Farms, Manitoba, 1946 (10 cents).
14. Wholesale Sales, September (10 cents).
15. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, November 1 (10 cents).
16. Third Estimate of Production of Grain, Root and Fodder Crops. Area and Condition of Fall Wheat and Fall Rye. Progress of Fall Ploughing Final Estimates of 1946 Wheat Production (10 cents).
17. Statistics Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, September (10 cents).
18. Trade of Canada, Volume III -- Imports, 1946 ($2.00).
19. Cement, September (10 cents).
20. Acreage and Production of Oil Bearing Seeds, (10 cents).

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