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## EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS IN CANADA STABLE OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS

There were 4,847,000 persons in Canada with jobs during the week ending November 8, a seasonal decrease of 160,000 since mid-August when employment topped 5,000,000, but an increase of 112,000 over the comparable period last year when 4,735,000 persons were in employment. The unemployed totalled 87,000 as against 73,000 on August 16 and 115,000 a year ago.

The changes in the number of persons in different labour force classes in the last two years show a substantial growth in total employment as well as in the number not in the labour force. Comparative figures for 1945, 1946 and 1947 follow:

November 17, 1945    November 9, 1946    November 8, 1947

Employed .....	4,326,000	4,735,000	4,847,000
Unemployed .....	172,000	115,000	87,000
Not in the labour force .....	3,835,000	4,018,000	4,069,000

The effect of seasonal influences between mid-August and the first of the week in November on the employment characteristics of men and women is shown in the following table:

	<u>August 16</u>	<u>November 8</u>	<u>change</u>
<u>men</u>			
Employed .....	3,880,000	3,791,000	- 89,000
Unemployed .....	60,000	70,000	+ 10,000
Not in labour force .....	539,000	680,000	+ 91,000
<u>women</u>			
Employed .....	1,128,000	1,056,000	- 72,000
Unemployed .....	13,000	17,000	+ 4,000
Not in labour force .....	3,301,000	3,339,000	+ 88,000

These estimates, released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, are based on the first nine quarterly surveys of the labour force. These surveys cover a scientifically selected cross-section of approximately one per cent of the civilian population of Canada living outside of institutions. More than 20,000 households selected at random in every province are interviewed in these surveys at roughly three-month intervals. The ninth labour force survey, which began on November 10, was designed to give a breakdown of the total non-institutional population to show the level of employment and unemployment on the basis of the activity of individuals 14 years and over in the survey week ending November 8. Persons who did any work in that week or who had jobs from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, bad weather, labour disputes or layoff of less than 30 days are counted as employed. The unemployed are those who are looking for work but who are not at work in the survey week. Together, the employed and unemployed make up the civilian labour force. Others, such as those going to school, keeping house, retired persons or those too old or unable to work, are classed as not in the labour force.

CANADA'S MERCHANDISE EXPORTS IN NOVEMBER

Canada's merchandise export trade was maintained at a high level in November, being valued at \$253,100,000 compared with \$250,300,000 in October and \$232,200,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total for November was \$27,500,000 in excess of the monthly average to the end of October. Aggregate value of commodities exported during the eleven months ending November was \$2,508,700,000 compared with \$2,100,300,000 in the similar period of 1946, an advance of 19.4 per cent.

A gain in exports to countries of the British Empire was a feature of the month's trade, the total rising from \$91,531,000 in November last year to \$111,202,000, while the aggregate for the eleven months ending November increased from \$316,720,000 to \$1,061,171,000. Exports to foreign countries in November rose from \$140,687,000 to \$141,901,000, and in the eleven months from \$1,283,593,000 to \$1,447,576,000.

Exports to the United Kingdom advanced from \$57,885,000 in November last year to \$69,254,000, and in the eleven months from \$538,146,000 to \$678,657,000. November exports to the United States advanced from \$89,228,000 to \$92,856,000, and in the cumulative period from \$804,073,000 to \$928,273,000.

Exports to other leading markets in November were as follows, totals for November last year being in brackets: Newfoundland, \$6,511,000 (\$4,050,000); British South Africa, \$5,121,000 (\$3,570,000); Australia, \$3,942,000 (\$4,991,000); New Zealand, \$6,307,000 (\$1,754,000); Argentina, \$3,992,000 (\$2,757,000); Brazil, \$5,800,000 (\$5,230,000); Belgium, \$6,310,000 (\$3,643,000); France, \$4,400,000 (\$7,911,000); China, \$3,873,000 (\$5,616,000).

From the commodity angle, the advance in the wood and paper group continued to be the outstanding factor in the month's gain, the group total rising from \$67,808,000 in November last year to \$78,228,000, bringing the aggregate for the eleven months of the year to \$800,345,000 as against \$563,783,000. The agricultural group showed a small decline in the month from \$68,802,000 to \$67,003,000, but the total to the end of November rose from \$521,465,000 to \$617,736,000. Total for the animal products group moved up from \$26,359,000 in November, 1946, to \$29,339,000, but the eleven-month figure fell from \$327,942,000 to \$294,355,000.

The iron and products group of exports increased from \$13,900,000 in November last year to \$23,900,000, and the eleven-month aggregate from \$210,700,000 to \$250,100,000. Non-ferrous metals and their products were exported in November to the value of \$28,700,000 as against \$27,500,000 a year ago, and in the eleven months, \$278,000,000 compared with \$223,600,000.

November exports of non-metallic minerals and products totalled \$6,700,000 as against \$5,700,000, and in the eleven months, \$67,900,000 compared with \$51,700,000. Exports of chemicals and allied products in November were valued at \$6,700,000 as against \$5,400,000, and in the eleven months, \$76,600,000 compared with \$62,000,000. In the miscellaneous commodities group, the month's exports were valued at \$8,500,000 compared with \$7,900,000, and in the eleven months at \$73,400,000 compared with \$89,200,000.

ESTIMATES OF CANADIAN LABOUR INCOME

A total of \$530,000,000 was received by residents of Canada in wages, salaries and supplementary labour income in September, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The figure was \$13,000,000 higher than the corresponding total for August, and \$84,000,000, or 19 per cent higher than in September, 1946. For the first nine months of 1947, labour income amounted to \$4,404,000,000, an increase of 18 per cent over the similar period of last year.

A comparison of the nine-month totals show that larger payments of wages and salaries were made in almost all industries. Labour income to the end of September in the construction and logging industries was almost 40 per cent higher this year than in 1946. The manufacturing, electric power, trade and transportation industries paid out between 15 and 20 per cent more in wages and salaries. Somewhat smaller gains were registered in all other industries, except agriculture and fishing. In these industries labour income payments have so far been considerably lower than last year. However, the monthly wage rates for farm help are almost nine per cent higher this year than last.

A decrease in the domestic purchasing power of the Canadian dollar is indicated by a ten per cent rise in the average cost-of-living index for the month from January to September, 1947, over the comparable average for 1946. At the same time, the average index of employment in nine leading industries for the two periods, rose nine per cent, reflecting distribution of aggregate earnings among larger numbers of workers. It would appear, therefore, that there was little change in the average workers' total income to the end of September, 1947 compared with the first nine months of 1946.

#### STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on December 11 amounted to 144,674,675 bushels compared with 145,320,522 on December 4 and 158,406,609 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Visible supplies on December 11 comprised 129,965,042 bushels in Canadian positions and 14,709,633 in United States positions.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending December 11 totalled 2,678,021 bushels compared with 2,361,167 in the preceding week. Marketings during the period August 1 to December 11 aggregated 134,774,088 bushels compared with 226,231,649 in the similar period of last year.

The following quantities of coarse grains also were delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending December 11, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 1,552,957 (1,663,156) bushels; barley, 1,447,601 (1,642,567); rye, 41,314 (40,362); flaxseed, 43,769 (55,291).

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending December 11 amounted to 1,199,831 bushels compared with 2,297,506 in the preceding week, bringing the total for the period August 1 to December 11 to 43,540,730 bushels as compared with 54,149,821 in the like period of 1946.

#### Weekly Security Price Indexes

The following are security price index numbers of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for the week ending December 18, 1947, a week and month earlier:

	<u>December 18</u>	<u>December 11</u>	<u>November 20</u>
		(1935-39=100)	
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(100 Common Stocks) .....	105.5	106.4	108.1
74 Industrials .....	99.7	100.4	102.0
18 Utilities .....	111.2	112.1	114.8
3 Banks .....	132.2	134.1	135.4
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(27 Stocks) .....	84.5	88.4	92.3
23 Golds .....	72.3	77.3	81.7
4 Base Metals .....	107.2	108.6	111.2

#### PRODUCTION OF CONCRETE BUILDING BLOCKS

Production of concrete building blocks, solid, hollow and cinder in October amounted to 3,279,116 compared with 3,112,223 in September, and 1,746,534 in October last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output for the ten months ending October amounted to 21,943,716 compared with 14,062,843 for the corresponding period of 1946.

### OUTPUT OF CRUDE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS IN OCTOBER

Output of crude petroleum and natural gasoline was increased in October, amounting to 724,149 barrels compared with 652,989 in the preceding month and 639,222 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the ten months ending October, 6,249,570 barrels were produced compared with 6,392,569 in the like period of 1946.

Production of natural gas in October totalled 4,261,154,000 cubic feet compared with 3,639,197,000 in September and 3,396,136,000 a year ago. In the ten months ending October, 43,860,005,000 cubic feet were produced compared with 37,741,776,000 in the similar period of 1946.

### PRODUCTION OF GOLD IN SEPTEMBER

Production of gold in September decreased to 247,643 fine ounces from 260,891 ounces in August but increased 7.7 per cent over the 229,904 ounces produced in September last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output for the nine months ending September amounted to 2,233,851 fine ounces compared with 2,128,903 fine ounces in the like period of 1946.

Output for the nine months by areas was as follows, totals for the same period last year being in brackets: Ontario, 1,471,258 (1,341,946) fine ounces; Quebec, 439,922 (494,472); British Columbia, 169,700 (111,582); Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 139,196 (149,650); Northwest Territories, 41,963 (12,109); Yukon, 29,617 (25,818); and Nova Scotia, 1,145 (3,036).

### PRODUCTION OF NICKEL AND COPPER

Production of new copper in all forms reached a new high for 1947 in October, the month's total standing at 22,664 tons compared with 17,582 tons for the preceding month, and 15,046 for October last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output for the first ten months of this year amounted to 189,091 tons, an increase of 25.5 per cent over the 150,575 tons produced in the like period of 1946.

Output of primary nickel in October amounted to 11,487 tons compared with 7,577 tons in September and 8,721 tons in October last year. Production for the ten months ending October amounted to 96,822 tons compared with 78,612 tons in the corresponding period of 1946.

### STOCKS, PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF RUBBER

Stocks of natural rubber decreased in October to 7,167 long tons from 8,129 long tons in the preceding month and reclaim rubber to 2,440 tons from 2,451 tons, while synthetic rubber increased to 3,475 tons from 3,349 tons, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports.

Domestic production of synthetic rubber increased to 3,034 tons compared with 1,944 tons in September, and reclaim rubber to 424 tons from 337 tons in the preceding month.

Consumption of natural and reclaim rubber increased in October, natural from 3,226 tons in September to 3,330 tons, and reclaim 1,393 tons to 1,397 tons, while the consumption of synthetic rubber decreased to 2,080 tons from 2,113 tons in the preceding month.

### PRODUCTION OF STEEL INGOTS IN NOVEMBER

Production of steel ingots decreased slightly in November to 246,785 tons, compared with 247,171 tons in the preceding month, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Output for November last year was 216,330 tons. Over the eleven months ending November, production amounted to 2,613,467 tons against 2,032,330 tons for the same period of 1946.

### SHIPMENTS OF PRIMARY IRON AND STEEL

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 203,988 tons in October compared with 184,182 tons in the preceding month, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The October total included 9,153 tons of semi-finished shapes, 16,629 tons of structurals, 16,793 tons of plates, 24,529 tons of rails, 50,354 tons of hot rolled bars, 12,437 tons of pipes and tubes, 15,536 tons of wire rods, 22,161 tons of black sheets, 8,055 tons of galvanized sheets, 553 tons of tool steel, 9,159 tons of castings, and 18,079 tons of other shapes. The amount of producers' interchange was 70,384 tons in October and 63,552 tons in September.

### STOCKS OF RAW AND REFINED SUGAR

Refinery stocks of raw sugar on November 29 amounted to 136,701,433 pounds compared with 142,398,354 pounds on the same date last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Refined stocks totalled 110,122,012 pounds, a reduction of 36 per cent below the 173,941,766 pounds in stock for the same period of last year.

### PRODUCTION OF WASHING MACHINES IN OCTOBER

Production of domestic type washing machines was maintained at a high level in October when 21,701 units were turned out compared with 22,320 in September, and 11,433 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the ten months ending October, 173,727 units were produced compared with 99,404 in the similar period of 1946.

In October, 21,827 units were shipped from the factories compared with 11,912 in the corresponding month last year, bringing the aggregate for the ten-month period to 173,275 units compared with 93,612 a year ago. Stocks at the end of October totalled 1,176 units compared with 1,413 units on the same date last year.

During October, 10,547 units were imported compared with 1,911 in the corresponding month last year, and in the ten months, 57,322 units compared with 9,659. Exports in the month numbered 2,232 units compared with 531, and in the ten-month period, 13,433 compared with 6,450.

### PRODUCTION OF ASPHALT ROOFING MATERIALS

Production of asphalt roofing in November comprised 450,400 squares of shingles and rolled roofing and 5,487 tons of felts and sheathings compared with 492,793 squares of the former and 3,789 tons of the latter in the same month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Domestic sales in November were made up of 385,797 squares of shingles and rolled roofing compared with 435,673, and 5,591 tons of felts and sheathing compared with 4,350 a year ago.

### BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

Births registered in cities, towns and villages of Canada have a population of 10,000 and over numbered 14,678 in October, a decrease of one per cent under October last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Deaths increased five per cent to 5,251, while marriages decreased seven per cent to 6,431 from 6,898 a year ago.

### RAILWAY REVENUES AND EXPENSES IN SEPTEMBER

Canadian railways earned \$66,135,733 in September, an increase of 6.4 per cent over September last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Freight revenues were greater by \$4,265,632 or 9.2 per cent, but passenger revenues declined by \$956,421 or by 11.6 per cent. Operating expenses increased by 1.4 per cent to \$59,199,646, and the operating income was increased from \$1,734,706 to \$3,105,343. For the period January to September, operating revenues increased from \$519,363,393 in 1946 to \$571,474,014 operating expenses from \$458,958,545 to \$510,310,326, and the operating income decreased from \$36,163,263 to \$29,918,537.

CAR LOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ending December 13 declined to 79,191 cars from 81,360 cars for the preceding week but were 6.5 per cent above loadings of 74,373 cars in the same week last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The increase over last year's loadings was about equally divided between the eastern and western divisions.

Loadings of grain showed a seasonal decline to 7,199 cars, but were 700 cars above 1946. Grain products declined from 3,743 cars last year to 2,817, and fresh fruits from 807 to 367 cars. Live stock increased from 2,253 to 3,110 cars, ores from 1,594 to 2,177 cars, sand, stone, gravel, etc. from 2,910 to 3,317 cars, pulpwood from 2,549 to 4,000 cars, lumber from 3,550 to 4,398 cars, gasoline and oils from 3,423 to 3,846 cars, and implements, tractors, machinery, boilers from 427 to 699 cars.

REPORTS ISSUED DURING THE WEEK

1. Animal Products on Farms, Manitoba, 1946 (10 cents). ✓
2. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - weekly (10 cents).
3. Domestic Washing Machines, October (10 cents).
4. Copper and Nickel Production, October (10 cents).
5. Concrete Building Blocks and Cement Pipe, October (10 cents).
6. Steel Ingots, November (10 cents).
7. Births, Deaths and Marriages, October (10 cents).
8. Gold Production, September (10 cents).
9. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, October (10 cents).
10. Construction Industry of Canada, 1946 (25 cents). ✓
11. Asphalt Roofing Industry, November (10 cents).
12. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
13. Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, October (25 cents).
14. Trade of Canada: Imports Entered for Consumption, October (25 cents).
15. Sugar Report, November 1 to November 29, 1947 (10 cents).
16. Domestic Exports, November (10 cents).
17. Monthly Estimates of Canadian Labour Income, September (10 cents).
18. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, September (10 cents).
19. Primary Iron and Steel, October (10 cents).
20. Compressed Gases Industry, 1946 (15 cents). ✓
21. Manufacturing Industries of the Maritime Provinces, 1945 (25 cents). ✓
22. Animal Products of Farms, Saskatchewan, 1945 (10 cents). ✓

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