



# D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA - CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU  
OF STATISTICS

JUN 14 1948

\$1 a year

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Vol. XVI - No. 24

Saturday, June 12, 1948

## --- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION in May amounted to 30,698,000 pounds, down 2.5 per cent from the same month last year.

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INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT in Canada at the beginning of April showed its fourth successive decline.

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RETAIL SALES OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES in April totalled 19,000 units, down both from March and April last year.

. . .

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX, on the base 1935-39=100, rose from 151.6 for April 1 to 153.3 for May 1, with substantial increases for meats and vegetables accounting for a major proportion of the advance.

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SALES OF SECURITIES by residents of Canada to buyers in other countries in March were approximately equal to purchases from other countries.

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EMPLOYMENT AMONG HOURLY-RATED WAGE-EARNERS in leading manufacturing plants was moderately downward at April 1.

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GOLD PRODUCTION in the first quarter of this year was 14 per cent above the similar period of 1947.

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HIGHWAY TRAFFIC at the Canada-U.S. border in April advanced 12 per cent over the same month last year.

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STOCKS OF CANADIAN WHEAT in store or in transit in North America at midnight on June 3 were 53,096,000 bushels compared with 77,248,000 a year ago.

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AVERAGE NET INCOME OF CANADIAN CIVILIAN DOCTORS, including doctors on salary, rose approximately 60 per cent from 1939 to 1945.

### STOCKS OF UNMANUFACTURED TOBACCO DURING MARCH

Stocks of unmanufactured tobacco on hand in Canada at the end of March this year were 152,884,000 pounds as compared with 152,304,000 in the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks of Canadian tobacco totalled 149,083,000 pounds compared with 149,459,000, and imported tobacco, 3,200,000 pounds compared with 2,845,000.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX FOR MAY 1 The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index, on the base 1935-39=100, rose from 151.6 for April 1 to 153.3 for May 1, with substantial increases for meats and vegetables accounting for a major proportion of the advance. A year ago the index was 133.1. From August 1939 to May 1 this year the cost-of-living index has advanced 52.1 per cent.

The food index mounted from 186.8 on April 1 to 191.2; apart from meats and vegetables, price changes were moderate with slightly lower citrus fruit quotations partially offsetting scattered advances in other food sub-groups. Increases for coal, coke and gas moved the fuel and light index from 121.3 to 122.7.

The rentals index rose from 119.9 to 120.9. Changes in clothing and home-furnishings were small when compared with those of the past few months. The clothing index rose fractionally from 172.9 to 173.6, while advances and declines in the homefurnishings and services group balanced, leaving this index at 161.9. The miscellaneous item index likewise remained unchanged at 122.9.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES  
FOR EIGHT REGIONAL CITIES

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics released cost-of-living indexes for eight regional cities for May 1, together with those for April 1 and May 1, 1947.

Between April 1 and May 1, six of the eight city cost-of-living indexes showed advances slightly greater than the Dominion increase of 1.7 points. Winnipeg and Edmonton failed by a slight margin to equal the Dominion change. The largest increases were recorded in the Montreal and Vancouver indexes, both of which advanced 2.5 points. Of the group indexes those for food and clothing increased in all of the eight cities. Food prices increased quite substantially while clothing prices gained only slightly.

The Bureau points out that in interpreting the city indexes, it should be borne in mind that they show changes in living costs for each city and compare the extent of the price rise as between cities. They do not, however, compare actual levels of living costs.

The following table compares the latest city and Dominion cost-of-living indexes.

| <u>City</u>      | <u>May 1, 1947</u> | <u>April 1, 1948</u> | <u>May 1, 1948</u> |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
|                  | (August, 1939=100) |                      |                    |
| Halifax .....    | 129.4              | 146.2                | 148.3              |
| Saint John ..... | 130.6              | 149.3                | 151.5              |
| Montreal .....   | 136.4              | 154.9                | 157.4              |
| Toronto .....    | 131.2              | 148.6                | 150.5              |
| Winnipeg .....   | 128.4              | 146.3                | 147.6              |
| Saskatoon .....  | 135.1              | 153.7                | 156.5              |
| Edmonton .....   | 129.6              | 146.5                | 148.1              |
| Vancouver .....  | 132.6              | 151.0                | 153.5              |
| Dominion .....   | 132.0              | 150.4                | 152.1              |

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES The weekly index number of industrial material prices, on the base 1926=100, continued to rise, moving from 150.1 for the week ending April 30 to 151.5 for the week ending May 28. Among the more important commodities to show increases were wool, structural shapes, coal, oats and livestock, while raw rubber and raw cotton were somewhat easier. The sharp rise, from 141.7 to 144.3, in the Canadian farm products index was due largely to increases in grains, potatoes, livestock, hides and wool. At the present level this index shows an advance of approximately 120 per cent over May, 1939.

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT AT APRIL 1 Industrial employment in Canada at the beginning of April showed its fourth successive decline. The general contraction was seasonal in character, conforming to the pattern indicated in 21 of the 27 years during which monthly statistics have been compiled, but was rather above-average in extent. The index number of employment, based on 1926 as 100, fell from 188.9 at March 1 to 186.5 at April 1, when it was higher than at the same date in any earlier year of the record, exceeding by 3.2 per cent the index of 130.7 at April 1, 1947, previously the maximum for the early spring.

The weekly salaries and wages disbursed at April 1 by the leading firms furnishing returns in the eight major industrial groups aggregated \$75,322,239 as compared with \$77,192,239 disbursed by the same employers on or about March 1. The decrease, amounting to 2.4 per cent, was due in part to the decline in employment, and in part to the loss in working time occasioned by the observance of the Easter holidays.

Data were tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 18,686 of the larger employers in the eight major industrial divisions, whose staffs numbered 1,929,820 at the beginning of April; as compared with 1,954,410 at March 1, there was a decrease of 24,590 persons, or 1.3 per cent. Employment generally for workers of both sexes showed a slackening, the loss among men being particularly marked.

The most pronounced change in employment at April 1 as compared with March 1 was the large seasonal reduction of 25.6 per cent in logging. There were relatively small declines in manufacturing and transportation, while the trend was upward in mining, communications, building and highway construction and maintenance, laundries and dry-cleaning establishments, and retail trade. The improvement in mining partly resulted from the final settlement of the dispute in the Western coal fields, although other branches of the group also showed increased activity. In most cases, the changes in the various industries were in accordance with the seasonal movements, although the recession in manufacturing was contrary to the trend usually indicated at April 1.

MAN-HOURS AND HOURLY EARNINGS The trend of employment among hourly-rated wage-earners employed in leading manufacturing plants was moderately downward at April 1 compared with March 1; the hours worked and their hourly wages were also lower, the declines being due in part to the Easter holidays.

The latest survey of man-hours and hourly earnings made by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics showed a total of 777,540 hourly-rated wage-earners on the staffs of the 6,390 factories furnishing data, in which the hours worked in the week preceding April 1 numbered 32,350,929, while the wages paid for services rendered in these hours amounted to \$28,759,531.

At March 1 the same plants had employed 780,408 hourly-rated wage-earners, working 33,714,821 hours, for which they received \$29,658,702. There was accordingly a decrease of 0.4 per cent in the number of their wage-earners paid at hourly rates, accompanied by that of three per cent in their aggregate weekly wages, while the reported hours showed a reduction of four per cent.

SALES AND PURCHASES OF SECURITIES  
BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

Sales of securities by residents of Canada to buyers in other countries in March, were approximately equal to purchases from other countries, the transactions in each case aggregating \$15,600,000, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Sales increased by \$2,600,000 from the previous month and purchases increased by \$100,000. During the first quarter of 1948, net purchases from all countries totalled \$5,100,000, representing a continuation of the general trend of 1947 which resulted in a purchase balance of \$18,000,000 in the year's transactions.

Transactions with the United States in March resulted in a sales balance for the first time since October 1947. The balance was not large, amounting to \$600,000, and was due principally to sales of new Canadian bond issues floated in Canada. Transactions in outstanding bond issues and in common and preferred stocks resulted in a small purchase balance of \$400,000.

The volume of trade with the United Kingdom in March was the largest in any month since September 1947. The purchase balance of \$500,000 was principally due to repurchases of Canadian provincials and municipals and Canadian stocks. In transactions with other countries, sales and purchases each amounted to \$200,000.

CROP CONDITIONS IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Another week of above-normal temperatures throughout the Prairie Provinces has facilitated progress of seeding and promoted rapid growth of crops. Rains have further aided growth in Manitoba and parts of Saskatchewan and conditions here are not too far behind normal for this time of year. In north-western, west-central and northern areas of Saskatchewan and in wide areas of Alberta early rains are required to replenish top-soil moisture supplies and to promote germination and growth of large acreages of late-seeded crops. In some local areas immediate rainfall is required to prevent serious deterioration. Grasshopper infestations are particularly serious in central and south-central Saskatchewan and extensive control measures are being undertaken. In general, the outlook at this time is promising but the lateness of the crops over the greater part of Alberta and much of Saskatchewan is giving rise to some concern over possible damage from early frosts.

Crops are very little behind average in Manitoba due to higher temperatures during the past few weeks. Seeding is completed except for a small percentage of flax. Good rains in southern sections with lighter falls in the central and northern areas have been most beneficial in aiding germination of a large acreage of late seeded crops. Early seeded stands are stooling well and the growth is about eight inches high. Precipitation since April 1 has been above normal and temperatures have averaged 10 degrees above normal during the past week. Some grasshopper damage is occurring in the south-central areas of the province. In general the outlook in Manitoba is promising.

Crop growth to date in Saskatchewan has been generally good although germination of late-sown grains is slow on account of drying top-soil. Above normal temperatures again prevailed during the past week with some rainfall in the southern and east-central districts. No rain was received in west-central and northern areas, and is urgently needed in the north-western area. General rains throughout the province would be most helpful. Grasshopper infestations are heavy in central and south-central districts and extensive control measures are under way.

With some exceptions crops throughout Alberta, though late, are in good condition with soil moisture in fair to good supply. Wheat seeding is nearing completion and in most districts wheat is up from one to six inches. Sowing of coarse grains will be completed by June 20. Hay crops and pastures are growing well and live stock is in generally fair to good condition. Insect damage to date has not been too serious. During the past week temperatures have averaged 9.6 degrees above normal and correspondents in south-eastern, east-central, central and northern portions of the province state that early rains are required to replenish top-soil moisture and to promote germination of late-seeded crops.

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FEED SITUATION IN CANADA Commercial visible supplies of Canadian oats in all positions at May 27 this year were 11.1 million bushels as against 20.7 million bushels on May 29, 1947. This distribution of stocks, however, is considerably changed from the situation existing a year ago. While commercial oat supplies in western positions generally are sharply below last year's levels, eastern elevator stocks are in excess of five million bushels as compared with 3.5 million at the same time last year.

Total visible supplies of Canadian barley at May 27 amounted to 17.4 million bushels, more than two million bushels greater than the commercial stocks of a year ago. As in the case of oats, the geographical distribution of barley stocks is unlike that existing at the end of May 1947. Stocks in western elevators (excluding the lakehead) are more than two million bushels lower than last year while lakehead stocks are nearly 2.5 million bushels greater. Stocks in eastern elevators at May 27 stood at 4.9 million bushels as compared with 2.1 million at the same time last year.

While commercial stocks of both oats and barley are, perhaps, more evenly distributed throughout the country this year, it is interesting to note that at March 31, 1948, 92 million bushels of oats or 82 per cent of total Canadian farm stocks of 112.2 million bushels were located on western Canadian farms. At the same time Prairie farmers held 45 million bushels of barley or about 96 per cent of the total farm-held stocks of 46.8 million.

In general, the feed situation throughout Canada has not been too acute during the greater part of the current crop year. Several factors have contributed to this situation. Fall weather in many areas of the country was favourable to late pasture feeding and thus relieved early pressure on feed grain supplies. Movement of wheat for export during the current crop year has been on a smaller scale than in recent years and more timely transportation of western feed grains to eastern deficit areas has been possible as a result. Despite smaller western crops in 1947, freight-assisted shipments of western feed grain during the first eight months of the current crop year were roughly equal to shipments recorded during the same period of 1946-47.

A reduction in feed wheat movements has been offset by increases in oats and barley shipments. Movement of millfeeds and screenings under the freight assistance plan has, however, been on a smaller scale than in 1946-47. Again, a moderate decline in live-stock numbers occurred between December 1, 1946 and December 1, 1947, and this has been reflected in correspondingly reduced requirements of feed grain. Generally excellent hay and clover crops were harvested in 1947 and, consequently, good supplies of fodder have been available as a partial substitute for grain rations in most areas where such was required. Again, exports of oats and barley have been held until recently under strict export control in order to retain adequate supplies of these feedstuffs for domestic use, and millfeed exports are still closely restricted.

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FRUIT CROP PROSPECTS Reports of conditions at the middle of May in the fruit producing areas of Canada indicated that the spring in both the Maritimes and British Columbia had been cool and backward. In the Maritimes, while growth has been slow, fruit bud development in the orchards is promising. The early crop prospects for strawberries is generally good. Raspberry canes on the other hand show winter injury but the extent of the damage is not yet known.

The bloom in the apple orchards of Ontario and Quebec appears to be irregular with early winter varieties bearing the heaviest loads of bloom. Pear trees in western Ontario bloomed heavily except in the Peel-York and Georgian Bay areas. Other tree fruits were in full bloom or past the peak on May 15. The outlook for strawberries in both Ontario and Quebec is good. While raspberries wintered well in Quebec, some injury is reported in eastern Ontario.

Mid-May prospects for all fruit crops in British Columbia were good. Judged by the bloom, heavy crops of strawberries and raspberries were looked for. Apricots, peaches, cherries and pears were promising and apples were expected to be a larger crop than in 1947. The recent serious floods in British Columbia have done no damage to the orchards in the interior. In the Fraser Valley, however, preliminary indications are that there will be a reduction of 25 per cent in the raspberry crop and 30 per cent in strawberry production.

MAY PRODUCTION OF BUTTER AND CHEESE Creamery butter production in May amounted to 30,693,000 pounds as compared with 31,487,000 in the corresponding month last year, a decrease of 2.5 per cent, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the five months ending May, 77,422,000 pounds were produced as compared with 82,853,000 in the like period of 1947, a decrease of 6.6 per cent.

Cheddar cheese output in May totalled 9,606,000 pounds as against 13,393,000 in the same month last year, while the five-month figure stood at 16,603,000 pounds compared with 25,046,000. Production of concentrated milk products in May amounted to 45,234,000 pounds compared with 37,382,000 a year ago, and in the five months, 120,710,000 pounds compared with 115,679,000.

FIRST QUARTER GOLD PRODUCTION SHOWS 14 PER CENT GAIN Continuing the gains recorded in January and February, gold production in Canada during March rose to 288,060 fine ounces compared with 263,869 fine ounces in March last year, bringing the output for the first quarter of the year to 823,029 fine ounces for a gain of 14 per cent over the 1947 first-quarter production of 721,023 fine ounces, according to the monthly figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Quarterly totals show increases for all the main producing areas, with largest gains in Quebec, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories, while in March all except Ontario reported higher output.

Production in March by provinces and territories, with totals for March 1947 in brackets, was as follows: Nova Scotia, nil (444) fine ounces; Quebec, 64,285 (53,072); Ontario, 172,344 (173,978); Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 15,287 (14,499); British Columbia, 27,415 (16,727); Yukon, 47 (432); Northwest Territories, 8,682 (4,708). Following are the comparative quarter totals: Quebec, 178,108 (127,115) fine ounces; Ontario, 498,466 (438,678); Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 44,508 (43,141); British Columbia, 30,434 (47,012); Yukon, 594 (803); Northwest Territories, 20,919 (13,165).

STOCKS OF INGOT-MAKERS' NON-FERROUS SCRAP METAL

Stocks of ingot-makers' non-ferrous scrap metal at the end of April amounted to 2,488,359 pounds as compared with 2,709,564 pounds held on the first of the month, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Amount purchased or received during the month was 4,364,954 pounds compared with 4,274,562 in March, and the total used or sold, 4,586,159 pounds as against 3,931,313 in the preceding month. Stocks of non-ferrous ingot at the end of April amounted to 3,585,828 pounds as against 3,003,693 pounds in March.

STOCKS OF HIDES AND SKINS AND PRODUCTION OF FINISHED LEATHER

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers at the end of April amounted to 562,500, a decrease of 7.6 per cent as compared with the April 1947 figure of 609,300, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks of calf and kip skins increased from 586,700 to 732,000, horse hides from 54,400 to 52,800, goat and kid skins from 142,200 to 188,600, but sheep and lamb skins fell from 68,400 (dozen) to 52,600 (dozen).

Production of cattle sole leather in April amounted to 2,122,800 pounds compared with 2,625,600 in the same month last year. Output of cattle upper leather totalled 2,800,000 square feet compared with 3,397,700, while the production of glove and garment leather amounted to 329,700 compared with 398,800. Production of calf and kip skin upper leather totalled 1,189,200 square feet compared with 1,751,500 in April last year.

SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN APRIL

Retail sales of new motor vehicles in April totalled 19,007 units, involving a total of \$36,165,000, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was slightly lower than the sales made in March and there was also a reduction below April 1947 when 19,776 vehicles sold for \$33,468,000. Passenger car sales totalled 11,603 compared with 12,299 a year ago, while the number of commercial units sold was 7,404 compared with 6,877.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

|                                 | <u>June 3, 1948</u> | <u>May 27, 1948</u> | <u>May 6, 1948</u> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
|                                 | (1935-39=100)       |                     |                    |
| <u>Investors' Price Index</u>   |                     |                     |                    |
| (100 Common Stocks) .....       | 119.8               | 119.5               | 111.8              |
| 76 Industrials .....            | 114.6               | 114.3               | 106.4              |
| 16 Utilities .....              | 130.4               | 130.8               | 119.9              |
| 8 Banks .....                   | 128.5               | 126.8               | 128.5              |
| <u>Mining Stock Price Index</u> |                     |                     |                    |
| (30 Stocks) .....               | 82.9                | 84.3                | 84.3               |
| 25 Golds .....                  | 65.4                | 66.5                | 67.3               |
| 5 Base Metals .....             | 117.5               | 119.8               | 113.0              |

HIGHWAY TRAFFIC AT CANADIAN  
BORDER POINTS IN APRIL

Volume of highway traffic at the Canada-United States boundary in April advanced over the same month of last year by 12 per cent, representing about the same advance proportionately that was recorded in the first quarter of 1948 over the first quarter of 1947. American traffic entering Canada in April was 25 per cent greater than in April 1947, and Canadian traffic returning from the United States was 15 per cent less. The aggregate number of border crossings in April was 538,700, consisting of 396,700 foreign entries and 142,000 Canadian vehicle returning. Of the foreign inflow, 69,900 cars entered on traveller's vehicle permits, 310,500 were non-permit or local entries, and 16,300 were commercial vehicles. The Canadian traffic comprised 9,500 units remaining abroad for more than 24 hours, 120,000 staying for shorter periods, and 12,500 commercial vehicles.

An early spring in eastern Canada in 1948, contrasting with a late spring in 1947, contributed to substantial increases in the volume of foreign vehicles entering the Maritime Provinces, Quebec and Ontario on traveller's vehicle permits in April as compared with April 1947. Percentage increases over the preceding year in this type of traffic were 35 in the Maritimes, 21 in Quebec, and 29 in Ontario. The corresponding rise over April 1946 when traffic was not depressed by inclement weather was eight per cent.

The western provinces recorded a drop of nine per cent below the preceding year in the number of vehicles entering on permits in April 1948. The drop was reflected in the volume of traffic entering Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, but a small increase was recorded in Alberta. When eastern and western provinces are considered in the aggregate, the number of entries on traveller's vehicle permits shows a gain of 20 per cent in April this year. The corresponding gain in the first quarter of 1948 was 29 per cent.

Non-permit or local traffic increased from 241,500 units in April 1947 to 310,500 in April 1948, a gain of 29 per cent. The corresponding gain in the first quarter was slightly smaller at 25 per cent.

The volume of Canadian vehicles returning to Canada in April after remaining abroad longer than 24 hours showed the largest proportional drop from the previous year that has occurred in any month since restrictions on pleasure travel involving United States dollars were imposed in November, 1947.

AVERAGE INCOMES IN MEDICAL PROFESSION  
SHOWED 60 PER CENT WARTIME GAIN

Average net income of Canadian civilian doctors, including doctors on salary, rose approximately 60 per cent from 1939 to 1945, according to a survey of incomes in the medical profession conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The survey covers the years 1939, 1944, 1945 and 1946 and applies to income from independent practice, salary or both.

For 1939 the average net income of doctors is estimated by the Bureau at \$3,900. In 1944 it had risen to \$6,100 and 1945 showed a further moderate advance to \$6,200. In the latter year 17 per cent of doctors had incomes over \$10,000 as compared with only 4.2 per cent six years earlier. In 1946 the average net income fell off \$400 to an estimated \$5,800. This decline is explained by the large number of new doctors entering practice from the armed forces or medical schools in that year. Net income of established doctors continued to rise from 1945 to 1946.

A breakdown of the income figures shows that the highest average net incomes were earned in British Columbia. Doctors in that province averaged \$6,700 in 1946, compared with \$6,400 in the Prairies, \$5,800 in Ontario, \$5,600 in the Maritimes, and \$4,800 in Quebec.



Doctors with an independent practice did best in medium-sized cities. In 1945, the average net income of men practising in cities with a population from 25,000 to 100,000 was \$8,500 compared with \$5,900 for independent practitioners in cities over 500,000, and \$8,100 for those in cities from 5,000 to 25,000. Doctors who combined an independent practice with salaried work earned most in cities from 100,000 to 500,000.

Incomes in the medical profession vary with the degree of specialization. In 1946, the average net income of general practitioners was \$4,500, while doctors with a partly specialized practice earned \$7,000 and doctors with a fully specialized practice earned \$9,700. Among full specialists, the incomes of obstetricians, gynaecologists and surgeons were well ahead of doctors with other specialties. Obstetricians and gynaecologists averaged \$13,500 in 1946, surgeons \$12,300, specialists in eye, ear, nose and throat \$9,100, pediatricians and specialists in internal medicine \$8,400, and specialists in other branches of medicine \$7,400.

In all the four years covered by the survey, doctors from 45 to 49 years of age had higher net incomes than any other age group. A similar breakdown shows that, on the average, doctors with 20 to 24 years of practice were at the height of their earnings power.

Post-graduate training is shown to have a marked effect on subsequent income. In 1946, doctors with no post-graduate training had an average net income of \$4,000, doctors with one year of post-graduate training \$4,800, two years, \$6,200, three to five years, \$7,500 and six or more years, \$8,300.

For full-time salaried doctors, the survey shows that salaries in medical administration are well ahead of other types of salaried employment. For instance, while doctors in medical administration were paid an average salary of \$5,900 in 1946, doctors in public health service aggregated \$4,400 and doctors in hospital service aggregated \$4,300.

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LABOUR FORCE SURVEYS For many years there has been a growing demand in Canada for comprehensive figures on employment and unemployment, states the April issue of the Canadian Statistical Review. This was especially true during the depression when unemployment was widespread. During the war, information on the size and characteristics of the total labour supply became vitally necessary. The possibility of disturbed economic conditions in the post-war period meant that some way of getting a current and periodic analysis of Canadian manpower had to be found.

Using sampling techniques, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in 1945 began to conduct **quarterly** surveys of the labour force. They provide an up-to-date statistical picture of the country's human resources and their utilization. The surveys measure the volume of employment and unemployment and estimate the numbers of people currently outside the labour force.

Censuses have long been used to count the population and to give a detailed factual picture of the whole country. Since they are taken only at 10-year intervals they cannot throw much light on what is happening to the population between Censuses; also, they are necessarily slow and costly operations. Satisfactory statistics on the whole labour force can be obtained relatively cheaply by taking small scientifically-selected samples of the population.

As the first step in designing the sample, the whole country -- excepting remote parts which are excluded, and cities of over 30,000 which are covered separately -- is divided into about 500 areas. Boundaries are adjusted so that each division represents a varied group of activities and where possible, both rural and urban inhabitants. Each of these divisions, consisting of from one to 10 townships in rural areas, can be covered by a small group of enumerators.

Since only 70 of these 500 areas are to be picked for sampling, great care is required to ensure that these will be representative of the 430-odd not to be sampled. To do this, the areas are grouped into strata, each made up of areas as similar as possible. For example, one would represent dairy farming in Ontario, another fruit farming, and so on. A sample area is chosen to represent the whole stratum. The selected area may not exactly represent the others, but unbiased selection ensures that errors will balance out for the country as a whole to an extent that can be precisely calculated.

By successive selection these sample areas are then divided into much smaller ones, each containing a small number of households and bounded by something easily recognizable such as a road, stream or railroad, to help the enumerators in finding the sample area. Enough of these smaller groups are selected to give a one per cent sample of the entire stratum, and the enumerators are instructed to interview some responsible person in every sample household. They are not limited to households which appear on the map from which the area was selected, but must cover every household appearing in that area. In this way they include all new dwellings in the sample area, the omission of which might involve a significant error for some results.

Cities are sampled by the same method of area selection. With the aid of maps, the 1941 Census and city directories, they are divided into strata each containing houses of approximately the same rents. From these homogeneous strata the blocks to be surveyed are then chosen, and from each block five households are picked at random. City areas which are not built up when the sample is designed are always attached to the nearest block to give those in new buildings an equal chance of inclusion in the sample. The sample of households is changed from time to time so that the same people will not always be interviewed.

The important feature of this kind of area sampling is that the households to be visited are selected impartially by the rules of the sample design -- which eliminate any possibility of bias in the choice. Once the sample has been designed, no option is allowed to the enumerators themselves in deciding what households to visit. Upper-story apartments and homes with fierce-looking dogs on the porch would probably receive inadequate coverage if such options were allowed. Also, if enumerators who found no one at home at a designated address were allowed to call next door, there would be a definite danger that the survey might exclude a large number of families in which all members are working.

The main purpose of the household interviews is to find out about the current activities of all people in the sample. In order to measure employment and unemployment, a clear-cut system of definitions is necessary. In the labour force surveys people are classified by what they were doing at a particular time. These questions all refer to the week immediately before the survey begins, called the "survey week", and people are classified on the basis of what they were doing during this week. Questions on employment status refer only to persons 14 years of age and over. Members of the armed forces and persons in institutions such as sanatoria are not included in the labour force surveys. The remainder, about 98 per cent of the civilian population of Canada over 14 years of age, are classified into definite categories. The main ones are the employed, the unemployed, the labour force, and persons not in the labour force.

Information is also obtained from the sample individuals about their age, sex, marital status, and their occupation, industry and class of worker, if they are in the labour force. The survey estimates can therefore be broken down into cross-classifications -- e.g. the number of married women who are employed in manufacturing, or the number of male unpaid family workers in agriculture. These increase the usefulness of the data in analysing the composition of the labour force.

The virtue of the labour force survey is that it covers the total population with very minor exceptions. There are of course other sources of information on employment and unemployment, but generally they refer only to some particular segment of the population, such as those employed in establishments of a certain size or those covered by unemployment insurance or registered at employment offices.

The sample of areas and households used in the labour force surveys can also be used for other surveys of population or household characteristics. The sample has been used extensively for the collection of housing statistics. Special surveys have been carried out on such diverse subjects as: accidents and fires on farms; family composition; heating facilities, radios and telephones; the labour force status of veterans; the amount of time lost through illness; the incidence of arthritis and rheumatism. Plans are now being made for a large-scale survey of family expenditures in the fall of 1948.

The Bureau is continuing its research in the use of sampling methods. The present household sample can be used to survey any subject that is widely distributed throughout the country's homes. With the further application of sample surveys our knowledge of the Canadian people in the periods between censuses can be appreciably widened.

#### OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES OF RAILWAYS HIGHER IN MARCH

Earnings from the operations of Canadian railways in March reached \$69,106,000, the highest March figure on record, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The gain over March last year was 5.2 per cent. Freight revenues for the month were \$54,779,000 as compared with \$51,550,000, and passenger revenues totalled \$6,574,000 compared with \$6,353,000. Operating expenses amounted to \$60,857,000 as against \$55,703,000. The number of employees at 173,000 was up fractionally, while the total of all pay-rolls for the month was \$35,404,000 as against \$33,837,000.

Revenue freight carried reached 14,595,000 tons in March, a gain of 4.5 per cent or 632,000 tons over March last year to establish a new peacetime record for the month. The average length of haul was down from last year. Number of passengers carried receded from 3,478,000 to 3,308,000, but average passenger journey increased from 77 to 82 miles.

#### CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

The disastrous floods in the Fraser Valley, having severed freight connections with the west coast for the first time in railway history, the present car loading report appears as a preliminary edition due to incomplete figures from the western lines of one system. Revised totals and the index will appear subsequently.

In the eastern division, 49,626 cars were loaded during the week compared with 53,090 in the preceding week and 54,269 in the week ending May 31, 1947. The cumulative total of loadings for the eastern division in the first 22 weeks was 1,085,830 cars, an increase of 61,711 cars or six per cent over the same period of 1947, due mainly to increases in loadings of coal, ores and products of the forest.

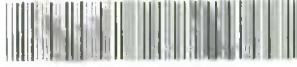
REPORTS ISSUED DURING THE WEEK

1. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
2. Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries, March (10 cents).
3. Price Movements, May (10 cents).
4. Transit Report, December (10 cents).
5. Traffic Report of Railways, February (10 cents).
6. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, March (10 cents).
7. Shipments of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, March (10 cents).
8. Miscellaneous Leather Goods, Leather Belting, Leather Boot and Shoe Findings, 1946 (25 cents).
9. Canadian Coarse Grains Quarterly Review (25 cents).
10. Classifications of Population by Age Groups, Manitoba, 1946 (10 cents).
11. Dairy Factory Production, May (10 cents).
12. Musical Instrument Industry, 1946 (15 cents).
13. Talc and Soapstone Industry, 1946 (15 cents).
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15. Contract Drilling in the Canadian Mining Industry, 1946 (25 cents).
16. Hides, Skins and Leather, April (10 cents).
17. Gold Production, March (10 cents).
18. Ingot Makers' Report on Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal and Secondary Non-Ferrous Ingot, April (10 cents).
19. Hardwood Distillation Industry, 1946 (15 cents).
20. Average Hours Worked and Average Hourly Earnings as at the Beginning of April (10 cents).
21. Sugar Report, April 17 to May 15, 1948 (10 cents).
22. Stocks and Consumption of Unmanufactured Tobacco during the Quarter Ending March 31, 1948 (15 cents).
23. Sales of New Motor Vehicles in Canada, April (10 cents).
24. Employment Situation at the Beginning of April Together with Payrolls (10 cents).
25. Fruit Crop Report (10 cents).
26. Sales of New Motor Vehicles, April (10 cents).
27. Highway Traffic at Canadian Border Points, April (10 cents).
28. Telegraphic Crop Report - Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
29. Chemical and Allied Products, 1946 (15 cents).
30. Trade of Canada: Articles Imported from Each Country, Three Months Ended March (25 cents).
31. Registrations of Births, Deaths and Marriages, April (10 cents).
32. Survey of Incomes in the Medical Profession in Canada, 1939, 1944, 1945 and 1946 (25 cents).

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