



D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA - CANADA

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Vol. XVI - No. 38

Saturday, September 18, 1948

--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADIAN LABOUR INCOME rose to an estimated total of \$583,000,000 in June, increasing \$22,000,000 over May and \$77,000,000 over June last year.

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WHOLESALE SALES IN JULY were three per cent above the dollar volume for the same month last year, but were two per cent below June.

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RETAIL SALES IN JULY were 14 per cent higher than in July last year, but were nine per cent under the June volume.

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TREND OF INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT at the beginning of July was decidedly upward, general improvement being indicated in all provinces.

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CANADA'S 1948 WHEAT CROP is now placed at 391,000,000 bushels, 50,000,000 higher than last year but about 16,000,000 below the 10-year 1938-47 average.

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FACTORY SHIPMENTS OF CANADIAN-MADE MOTOR VEHICLES were lower in July, totalling 15,106 units compared with 23,362 in June and 21,907 a year ago.

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STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER on September 1 amounted to 50,592,000 pounds, showing a seasonal rise over the August 1 total which stood at 44,844,000, but down from last year's September 1 total of 67,112,000 pounds.

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REVENUE FREIGHT CARRIED BY CANADIAN RAILWAYS in May totalled 12,239,205 tons, the second highest peacetime volume on record.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS continued to increase during the week ending September 4, reaching a new high point for the year of 87,227 cars.

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PROPORTION OF CASH SALES TO TOTAL SALES in the latter half of 1947 was slightly above the 1941 average of 60.2 per cent.

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FOREIGN VEHICLES ENTERING CANADA on traveller's vehicle permits in August totalled 408,026, a decline of 0.3 per cent from the August 1947 total, but 22.7 per cent higher than in August 1946.

SEPTEMBER ESTIMATE OF PRODUCTION
OF PRINCIPAL FIELD CROPS

Canada's 1948 wheat crop is now placed at 391,000,000 bushels, according to the second estimate by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This production is being obtained from an estimated seeded area of 24,100,000 acres yielding at the rate of 16.2 bushels per acre. Oat production is currently estimated at 361,700,000 bushels, barley at 157,100,000, rye at 26,600,000 and flaxseed at 17,700,000, with the outturn of hay and clover being placed at 15,700,000 tons, and alfalfa at 3,100,000 tons.

The second estimates of production of grain crops are, in general, higher than the estimates released on August 17. Exceptionally good maturing and harvesting weather prevailed quite generally throughout August and accounts largely for the enhanced production prospects. The wheat estimate has been advanced 19,000,000 bushels over the August forecast, while oats and barley are up 23,500,000 and 11,000,000 bushels respectively from the production level indicated in August. Rye production is placed slightly above the August figure but flaxseed is down somewhat, due to the onset of rust in some areas of Manitoba.

The wheat crop of 391,000,000 bushels exceeds the 1947 outturn by some 50,000,000 bushels but is about 16,000,000 below the 10-year, 1938-47 average production. In the Prairie Provinces the wheat crop is now expected to reach 358,000,000 bushels as compared with 319,000,000 in 1947 and 383,000,000 for the 10-year average. The estimated production of all wheat in the remaining provinces of Canada is 33,000,000 bushels, of which Ontario's outturn at 29,500,000 represents the principal part.

Canada's 1948 oat crop, now estimated at 361,700,000 bushels is 30 per cent greater than the 1947 outturn of 278,700,000 bushels, but is 12 per cent below the 10-year average of 410,700,000 bushels. The increase over 1947, while shared by all provinces except British Columbia is particularly heavy in Ontario where production is expected to reach 78,700,000 bushels, the largest oat crop that province has harvested since 1942.

Barley production at 157,100,000 bushels in 1948 is 15,700,000 above the 1947 outturn of 141,400,000 and compares favourably with the 10-year average of 153,800,000 bushels. The current barley crop exceeds last year's in all provinces except Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan, with Manitoba and Alberta accounting for most of the increase.

The combined output of fall and spring rye is placed at 26,600,000 bushels, a little more than double the 1947 crop -- most of the increase being attributable to the much larger acreage sown for the 1948 harvest.

The 1948 flaxseed crop is now estimated at 17,700,000 bushels some 300,000 bushels less than in the August estimate. An outbreak of rust in south-western Manitoba has caused a reduction of 1,000,000 bushels in the estimated flax crop for that province but this has been offset in large part by increases in the probable flax yields in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Production of dry peas is placed at 1,646,000 bushels, down somewhat from the 1947 crop of 1,788,000 bushels. Increased yields per acre have served to largely offset a fairly sharp decline in acreage. The 1948 dry bean crop at 1,731,000 bushels exceeds last year's 1,446,000 bushels by a good margin. In this crop the effect of a decrease in acreage has been more than offset by higher yields per acre.

The estimated 1948 outturn of shelled corn at 12,869,000 bushels is nearly double the 1947 crop. If the present estimate is realized, the 1948 corn crop will be Canada's largest since 1942 when 14,400,000 bushels were harvested. Ontario will account for the entire 1948 corn production with the exception of about a quarter of a million bushels produced in Manitoba.

With both the all-Canada acreage yield in excess of 1947 levels the 1948 outturn of potatoes is placed at 50,800,000 cwt., an increase of 5,700,000 cwt. over the 1947 crop. Average production for the 10-year period (1938-47) amounted to 41,900,000 cwt. If the current 1948 estimate is realized, Canada will harvest the largest potato crop since 1931 when production reached 52,300,000 cwt.

Sugar beet production for 1948 is currently placed at 611,000 tons, slightly above the 1947 crop of 605,600 tons.

The present estimate places the all-Canada outturn of hay and clover at 15,700,000 tons and alfalfa at 3,100,000 tons. Comparative figures for 1947 were 16,200,000 tons and 2,600,000 tons, respectively. Fodder corn production in 1948 is placed at 5,000,000 tons, well above the 1947 figure of 3,900,000.

The acreage seeded to buckwheat declined considerably from 1947, and, despite higher yields, production is placed at only 4,300,000 bushels compared to last year's 5,200,000. Acreages and yields of mixed grains are sharply above 1947 levels with the result that 1948 production is expected to reach 62,700,000 bushels, far above the 1947 crop of 34,900,000. The 1948 production of turnips and mangels for live-stock feed, excluding the Prairie Provinces for which data are not currently available, is placed at 22,200,000 cwt. as against 21,000,000 cwt. last year. An all-time record Canadian soy bean crop of 1,974,000 bushels is forecast for 1948. Canadian production of this crop is currently confined to Ontario. A revised estimate places the 1947 outturn of this crop at 1,110,000 bushels.

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

With a further sharp rise in deliveries from western farms, visible stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on September 2 rose to 64,567,000 bushels from the August 26 figure of 41,941,000 bushels, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A year ago the total was 58,742,000 bushels.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ended September 2 increased to 26,046,000 bushels from the total a week earlier of 10,443,000 bushels.

Deliveries of coarse grains from farms in the Prairie Provinces were also heavier than in the preceding week. Totals follow, those for the week of August 26 being in brackets: oats, 2,654,000 (1,431,000) bushels; barley, 3,446,000 (2,047,000); rye, 1,711,000 (1,727,000); flaxseed, 105,000 (21,000).

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on September 10 amounted to 32,750,000 pounds as compared with 47,208,000 on the nearest corresponding date last year. Holdings were as follows by cities, with last year's totals in brackets (figures in thousands): Quebec, 4,564 (4,809) pounds; Montreal, 11,691 (17,955); Toronto, 3,929 (4,764); Winnipeg, 5,517 (9,419); Regina, 413 (712); Saskatoon, 240 (319); Edmonton, 2,024 (2,645); Calgary, 1,704 (1,790); Vancouver, 2,668 (4,795).

STOCKS OF BUTTER, CHEESE
AND EGGS ON SEPTEMBER 1

Stocks of creamery butter in Canada on September 1 amounted to 50,592,000 pounds, registering a seasonal rise over the August 1 total which stood at 44,844,000 pounds, but down from last year's September 1 total of 67,112,000 pounds, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. September 1 stocks of cheese were 55,223,000 pounds compared with 51,284,000 on August 1 and 56,669,000 on September 1 last year.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on September 1 were 26,892,000 pounds compared with 22,784,000 on August 1 and 21,365,000 on the same date last year, while the holdings of skim milk powder were 9,104,000 pounds compared with 10,246,000 on August 1 and 8,546,000 last year.

September 1 stocks of shell eggs amounted to 20,034,000 dozen compared with 25,722,000 on the same date last year, while the holdings of frozen egg meats totalled 10,780,000 pounds compared with 16,463,000. Poultry meat stocks were 8,793,000 pounds compared with 15,839,000.

CANADA'S 1948 HONEY
CROP UP 13 PER CENT

The Canadian honey crop is currently estimated at 41,853,000 pounds, 13 per cent more than was harvested last season, and 17 per cent above the pre-war five-year average, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. While the number of colonies declined from 588,700 last year to 561,700 the average yield is up sharply from 63 pounds to 74.5 pounds.

Production in 1948 follows by provinces, with comparable data for 1947 in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 70,000 (57,000) pounds; Nova Scotia, 115,000 (112,000); New Brunswick, 182,000 (142,000); Quebec, 4,235,000 (5,399,000); Ontario, 15,781,000 (12,290,000); Manitoba, 7,498,000 (5,180,000); Saskatchewan, 5,038,000 (6,232,000); Alberta, 7,989,000 (6,507,000); British Columbia, 945,000 (1,159,000).

STOCKS OF FISH ON SEPTEMBER 1

Stocks of frozen fish in Canada on September 1 were 39,426,000 pounds, showing a comparatively small increase over the August 1 total of 38,709,000 pounds, but down about 23 per cent from the September 1, 1947 holdings of 51,034,000 pounds, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks on the latest date comprised 35,854,000 pounds frozen fresh and 3,572,000 pounds frozen smoked.

Cod stocks on September 1 amounted to 7,296,000 pounds compared with 8,388,000 a year ago, haddock 2,762,000 pounds compared with 2,365,000 pounds, salmon 4,681,000 pounds compared with 5,112,000, sea herring 8,518,000 pounds compared with 12,350,000, other sea fish 12,306,000 pounds compared with 18,995,000, and inland fish, 3,242,000 pounds compared with 3,822,000.

MEAT STOCKS ON SEPTEMBER 1

Stocks of Canadian meat held by packers, abattoirs, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses on September 1 were 75,381,000 pounds compared with 89,201,000 on August 1 and 62,224,000 on the corresponding date last year. Lard Stocks were 2,142,000 pounds compared with 3,818,000 on August 1 and 2,573,000 a year ago.

Meat stocks generally were higher on September 1 than on the same date last year. Pork advanced from 34,941,000 pounds to 42,720,000, beef from 19,303,000 pounds to 22,722,000, veal from 5,685,000 pounds to 7,263,000, and mutton and lamb from 2,296,000 pounds to 2,676,000.

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES
OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

The index number of prices received by Canadian farmers for agricultural products, on the base 1935-39=100, registered a new high of 250.8 during July compared with 248.6 a month earlier and 203.2 a year ago. Compared with July last year, the index number for all provinces have registered substantial increases with higher prices for grains, livestock, dairy products, potatoes and poultry and eggs. Compared with the preceding month a gain of 2.2 points was due mainly to the increased prices for livestock, potatoes, poultry and eggs and dairy products.

RETAIL CONSUMER CREDIT

The proportion of cash sales to total sale in the latter half of 1947 was slightly above the 1941 average of 60.2 per cent, according to the initial quarterly report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics concerning trends in retail consumer credit in Canada. From July 1945, when 67 per cent of sales were on a cash basis, the trend has been toward an increasing proportion of credit sales.

While total credit sales have made up a smaller percentage of sales than in 1941, a pronounced shift from instalment to charge account buying has been evident in the interval 1945 to the end of 1947 compared to 1941. This tendency was evident in most trades. Instalment sales have gradually increased from eight per cent to 13 per cent but drained off charge account trading only slightly in 1947.

As proportion of total trading, instalment sales amounted to about one-fifth in 1941, dropped to eight per cent in the first half of 1945 and rose gradually to 13 per cent by the latter half of 1947. This trend was characteristic of all trades covered, both durable and soft goods lines. Furriers and dealers in household durables reported highest proportions of instalment business.

Charge account sales increased both absolutely and as a proportion of total sales since 1941. As compared with the doubling of sales from 1941 to the latter half of 1947, charge account sales had multiplied more than 2½ times, and were 24 per cent of total sales as compared with 18 per cent in 1941.

Generally speaking, from the middle of 1946 to the latter half of 1947 the trend of total accounts receivable was more sharply upward than that of sales. In the combined trades, sales rose 21 per cent in this interval while receivables more than doubled. Between the first and second halves of 1947, sales jumped 25 per cent and receivables 37 per cent.

On December 31, 1941, instalment receivables made up 61 per cent of accounts outstanding in the trades covered, dropped to a low of 36 per cent in the middle of 1946 and rose steadily to 49 per cent by the end of 1947. Charge accounts outstanding have followed complementary patterns.

FACTORY SHIPMENTS OF MOTOR
VEHICLES LOWER IN JULY

Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles were lower in July, totalling 15,106 units compared with 23,362 in the preceding month and 21,907 in the corresponding month last year. During the first seven months of this year, 144,288 units were shipped compared with 148,122 in the similar period last year.

Factory shipments in July comprised 9,509 passenger cars and 5,597 commercial vehicles, 7,604 of the former and 4,616 of the latter being shipped for sale in Canada, with the remainder for export. In the seven-month period, 83,688 passenger units and 60,600 commercial vehicles were shipped from the factories. Passenger cars shipped for sale in Canada in the seven months numbered 71,004 and commercial vehicles, 45,217.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES
FOR EIGHT REGIONAL CITIES

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released cost-of-living indexes for eight regional cities for August 2, together with those for July 2 and August 1, 1947. Changes were rather widely scattered between July 2 and August 2, ranging from an increase of 2.3 points for Edmonton to an exceptional decrease of 1.0 point for Montreal. Indexes for the other six cities registered increases nearly paralleling the 0.6 point increase in the Dominion index.

The widest changes occurred in foods, with a sharp seasonal decrease in vegetables being compensated by increases in other foods, except in the case of Montreal where the food index fell 3.1 points. The clothing indexes increased slightly in all cities while coal prices advanced in three centres. Indexes of homefurnishings and services were generally lower as a result of the removal of the special excise tax affecting certain electrical goods.

The city indexes 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>August 1, 1947</u>	<u>July 2, 1948</u>	<u>August 2, 1948</u>
	(August 1939=100)		
Halifax	135.1	151.1	151.7
Saint John	134.9	155.3	156.0
Montreal	138.9	161.6	160.6
Toronto	135.0	153.6	154.3
Winnipeg	132.0	150.5	150.6
Saskatoon	138.6	158.4	159.5
Edmonton	134.0	151.2	153.5
Vancouver	135.6	159.2	159.5
Dominion	135.5	155.7	156.3

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

September 9, 1948 September 2, 1948 August 12, 1948

(1935-39=100)

Investors' Price Index

(100 Common Stocks) ..	113.7	116.0	112.7
76 Industrials	108.6	110.4	107.4
16 Utilities	121.1	126.1	122.2
8 Banks	129.2	129.4	125.6

Mining Stock Price Index

(30 Stocks)	80.0	82.7	78.4
25 Golds	63.1	65.3	60.5
5 Base Metals	113.7	117.4	114.4

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT DECIDEDLY
HIGHER AT BEGINNING OF JULY

The trend of industrial employment at the beginning of July was decidedly upward, general improvement in the situation being indicated in all provinces and in most of the manufacturing and non-manufacturing groups. While the expansion was seasonal in character, the percentage gain in Canada as a whole was slightly above the average for the time of year.

The 19,043 leading employers in the eight major industrial divisions co-operating in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' monthly survey of employment and payrolls had increased their staffs at July 1 by 2.4 per cent as compared with a month earlier. This advance was accompanied by that of 3.7 per cent in their disbursements in weekly salaries and wages.

Based on the 1926 average as 100, the general index number of employment stood at 197.0 as compared with 192.3 in the preceding month and 189.5 a year ago. The 1939 figure was 115.8. The latest index is the highest in the record for July. The indicated increase in employment as compared with the period of intensified activity during the war is due to improvement in the non-manufacturing classes, while that shown in comparison with other years results from general expansion in both manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries.

There were pronounced increases at July 1 as compared with a month earlier in manufacturing, notably in food-processing, lumber, pulp and paper and iron and steel plants. Among the non-manufacturing divisions, the movement was favourable in logging, mining, communications, transportation, construction and maintenance, hotels and restaurants, and in retail and wholesale trade. The most noteworthy gain was that of 7.9 per cent in construction; this was nevertheless below-normal for July 1 in the experience of earlier years for which data are available. Except in logging, the expansion was generally seasonal in character. In that industry, an increase at the beginning of July is rather unusual, although it is not without precedent. The improvement in transportation was rather less-than-average, while the gains in the remaining major industrial groups approximated the average for the time of year.

CANADIAN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

The value of work performed by the Canadian construction industry moved up sharply in 1947, aggregating \$803,646,000 compared with \$523,187,000 in the previous year, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Final value of the work performed in 1946 was placed at \$775,452,000; final total for 1947 will thus be somewhat higher than that presently indicated.

The increase over 1946 was due entirely to the advance in new construction, totals for additions, alterations and repairs being somewhat lower. New construction work was valued at \$675,596,000 compared with \$367,705,000, and additions, alterations and repairs, \$128,050,000 compared with \$155,482,000. Completed reports were received by the Bureau from 19,688 concerns or contractors, an increase of 1,378 over the preceding year.

The value of building construction rose from \$326,081,000 in 1946 to \$496,817,000, residential construction increasing from \$133,645,000 to \$170,714,000, commercial from \$48,555,000 to \$101,303,000, industrial from \$106,252,000 to \$162,906,000, churches, institutions, etc., from \$33,926,000 to \$54,493,000, and other buildings from \$3,704,000 to \$7,401,000.

Value of engineering construction advanced from \$84,106,000 in 1946 to \$152,495,000, while the value of trade work performed increased from \$104,366,000 to \$138,989,000.

LABOUR INCOME HIGHER IN JUNE With substantial increases in both employment and earnings, the estimated total of labour income rose to \$583,000,000 in June, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This figure was \$22,000,000 higher than in May and \$77,000,000 or about 15 per cent greater than in June, 1947. The increases in total payments of wages, salaries and supplementary labour income were general throughout the economy, with the largest increases appearing in the manufacturing and services industries.

Labour income in the first six months of 1948 is estimated at \$3,291,000,000, a total of \$407,000,000 more than in the same period last year. Of this 14 per cent increase, roughly 10 per cent can be attributed to higher averages of earnings and the rest to larger numbers of workers in the labour force.

Although in the early months of the year, employment appeared to be somewhat sluggish, conditions showed considerable improvement by June. The number of paid workers in the labour force at June 5 was 3,364,000, an increase of 119,000 over February 21. Between the end of January and the end of June, average weekly earnings in the nine leading non-agricultural industries rose between four and five per cent. These two factors combined to raise the estimated monthly total to a level about nine per cent higher in June than in January. The Dominion cost-of-living index rose almost six per cent from January 1 to July 1.

RETAIL SALES REMAIN AT HIGH LEVEL Retail sales were 14 per cent higher in July this year than in the corresponding month last year, but were nine per cent below the June volume, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The decline from June was consistent with the normal seasonal movement. The margin over July last year was greater than the average increase for earlier months of the year, and volume for the seven months ended July stood at 12 per cent above that for the same period a year ago. Unadjusted indexes of sales, on the base, 1935-39=100, stood at 246.5 for July, 269.7 for June and 217.0 for July, 1947.

Although department store sales were still nine per cent ahead of last year, the gain was much smaller than for several months past. The cumulative gain at the end of July was 14 per cent for this trade. Variety stores, on the other hand, showed a further tendency to expand sales volume with a July increase of 21 per cent compared with a seven-month gain of 16 per cent over last year. Country general stores reached a 1948 peak when sales were 10 per cent higher in July. The January-to-July increase for these stores in rural communities was nine per cent.

Of the 14 kinds of business covered in the monthly survey, ladies' wear stores have shown by far the greatest expansion for several months, and the July increase of 25 per cent brought the seven-month gain to 18 per cent. Sales of other apparel stores moved up uniformly, gains for family clothing, men's wear and shoe stores amounting to 11 per cent, 12 per cent and 15 per cent, respectively for July, and 10 per cent, 12 per cent and 12 per cent in the cumulative comparisons.

Food stores had a further sharp rise in July when sales were 21 per cent ahead of July volume last year. In the seven-month result, the sales gain was 15 per cent. Most other trades had moderate sales increases. Radio and electrical stores, however, continued to fall short of 1947 volume, July sales being down four per cent from last year. Candy store sales were up four per cent in July, but declined one per cent in the first seven months of the year.

WHOLESALE SALES UP THREE PER CENT IN JULY OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR

Wholesale sales in July were three per cent above the dollar volume for the same month last year but were two per cent below June, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Dollar sales for the year to date were four per cent in excess of the volume for the first seven months of 1947. The general unadjusted index, on the base 1935-39=100, stood at 284.9 for July, 290.8 for June and 276.9 for July last year. Inventories of wholesalers in the nine lines of trade included in the survey were valued 11 per cent higher at the end of July than at the same date a year ago.

Tobacco and confectionery wholesalers continued to register the greatest increase in dollar sales over 1947 with a gain of 13 per cent. Sales of grocery wholesalers were up 11 per cent, while wholesalers of drugs and hardware both reported an increase over last year of nine per cent in dollar value of business. Automotive equipment wholesalers' sales were less than one per cent above the dollar volume in July, 1947.

Fruit and vegetable dealers and footwear wholesalers, whose sales have been below last year's level each month since the beginning of the year, again reported substantial declines in July. Wholesalers of fruits and vegetables reported sales 23 per cent below July last year, while footwear wholesalers' sales were down 21 per cent. Clothing wholesalers, whose sales in June showed an increase over 1947 for the second month this year, again dropped below 1947 in July by 14 per cent. A slight decrease of one per cent was also registered in the dry goods trade.

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES UP 13 PER CENT IN AUGUST

Department store sales increased 13 per cent in August over the same month last year. Advances were shown for all sections of the country, British Columbia, Ontario and the Maritimes showing the largest gains. The advance in British Columbia was 19 per cent, Alberta 10 per cent, Saskatchewan six, Manitoba, six, Ontario 18, Quebec six, and the Maritimes 18.

FOREIGN VEHICLE ENTRIES IN AUGUST

The number of foreign vehicles entering Canada on traveller's vehicle permits in August totalled 403,026, a decline of 0.3 per cent from the August 1947 total, but 22.7 per cent higher than in August, 1946. During the first eight months of this year the aggregate was 1,319,870, an increase of 7.1 per cent over the same period of 1947.

Labour Day week-end this year fell on September 4, 5 and 6, whereas in the preceding year it fell on August 30, 31, and September 1. Had it not been for this fact, volume of traffic in August would have been higher in 1948 than in 1947.

PRIMARY IRON AND STEEL IN JUNE

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 220,351 net tons in June compared with 229,672 net tons in May. The June total included 8,431 tons of semi-finished shapes, 14,576 tons of structurals, 17,827 tons of plates, 34,168 tons of rails, 5,019 tons of tie plates and track material, 56,789 tons of hot rolled bars, 10,713 tons of pipes and tubes, 12,682 tons of wire rods, 20,776 tons of black sheets, 8,111 tons of galvanized sheets, 9,101 tons of castings, 4,700 tons of miscellaneous hot rolled products, and 17,453 tons of all other products. The amount of producers' interchange was 88,372 tons in June, and 85,885 tons in May.

FREIGHT TRAFFIC OF RAILWAYS IN MAY

Canadian railways moved 12,239,205 tons of revenue freight during May, the second highest peacetime volume on record for the month, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This, however, represented a decline of 596,111 tons or 4.6 per cent from the 1947 peak but was 1,753,711 tons above May, 1946. Flood conditions prevailing in the western division plus embargo warnings early in the month against a threatened rail strike in the United States, exerted a restraining influence on the shipments of perishables and other freight. Cumulative totals to the end of May show a peacetime record -- 60,550,433 tons of revenue freight hauled by Canadian railways, an increase of 1,255,250 tons or 2.1 per cent over the similar period of 1947.

The principal decline from May, 1947, was in agricultural products which sagged no less than 1,243,147 tons with wheat 733,253 tons lighter, oats down 185,276 tons, barley 42,806 tons, flour 72,759 tons and other mill products off 74,216 tons. The animal and animal products group declined 23,618 tons but cattle and calves improved 3,383 tons over the preceding May. Mine products rose 749,139 tons with bituminous coal up 399,298 tons, ores and concentrates 128,497 tons and stone 43,182 tons heavier. Pulpwood hauled during the month reached 606,537 tons, an increase of 78,895 tons over May, 1947. The manufacturers group showed diverse tendencies with losses offsetting gains by 129,439 tons due to sharp recessions in the movement of petroleum, miscellaneous manufactures, and fertilizers.

RAILWAY REVENUES AND EXPENSES IN JUNE

Earnings of Canadian railways in June were \$68,745,419, showing a decline of 3.2 per cent from the monthly high figure of \$71,000,817 registered in May, but a rise of 5.3 per cent over the June, 1947 earnings of \$65,315,450, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Freight revenues improved from \$49,490,315 a year ago to \$53,642,594, or by 8.4 per cent, average freight receipts per revenue ton mile increasing from 0.972 cents in June last year to 1.280. Passenger revenue fell 11.6 per cent, from \$8,318,835 to \$7,357,800.

Contrasting with the increase in earnings, operating expenses jumped \$13,397,000 or by 23.3 per cent to \$70,807,527 -- the highest for any month in railway history. The net operating income showed a deficit of \$3,421,562 in June compared with a credit of \$4,458,848 in June last year.

For the first half of 1948, operating revenues increased from \$371,791,354 in 1947 to \$398,858,283, operating expenses from \$334,997,440 to \$373,833,213, but net operating revenue declined from \$36,793,914 to \$25,025,070 and operating income from \$16,973,765 to \$7,021,756.

CARLOADINGS AT HIGH POINT FOR THE YEAR

Carloadings on Canadian railways continued to increase during the week ending September 4, reaching a new high point for the year of 87,227 cars, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Loadings for the same week last year totalled 73,120 cars, the occurrence of the Labour Day holiday affecting the total.

Grain loadings increased from 9,640 cars for the preceding week to 11,201 cars; coal was heavier by 300 cars and l.c.l. merchandise by 662 cars. Live stock declined from 2,973 cars for the week ending August 28 to 2,557 cars, pulpwood from 4,641 to 4,437 cars, and gasoline and oils from 5,009 to 4,795 cars.

JULY OUTPUT OF BEER AND LIQUOR

Production of beer in Canada in July totalled 18,310,000 gallons compared with 17,510,000 in the preceding month and 16,760,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released in this week's supplement to the Canadian Statistical Review published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first seven months of this year, 103,390,000 gallons of beer were produced compared with 95,400,000 in the similar period of 1947, an increase of eight per cent.

Production of new spirits during the month totalled 1,760,000 proof gallons as compared with 2,100,000 in June and 1,640,000 in July last year, the month's output being the lowest since August last year. Spirits bottled in July, including imported liquors, amounted to 450,000 proof gallons, down from the June figure of 580,000 proof gallons, and unchanged from that of July last year. End-of-July stocks of distilled liquor stood at 69,030,000 proof gallons compared with 68,760,000 at the end of June and 59,570,000 at July 31, 1947.

CIGARETTE RELEASES IN JULY

Cigarettes released from bond in Canada during July were substantially lower than in the preceding month but higher than in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. July releases totalled 972,000,000 compared with 1,428,000,000 in June and 883,000,000 in the corresponding month last year. During the first seven months of this year, 8,785,000,000 cigarettes were released compared with 8,321,000,000 in the like period of 1947.

Cigars released from bond in July totalled 13,600,000 as against 16,700,000 in June and 14,600,000 a year ago, the seven-month total standing at 118,900,000 compared with 123,100,000 in the like period of 1947. Cut tobacco released in the month amounted to 2,019,000 pounds compared with 2,489,000 in June and 1,735,000 a year ago, while plug tobacco totalled 144,000 pounds compared with 197,000 in June and 170,000 a year ago.

RADIO SALES AGAIN LOWER IN JUNE

Producers' sales of radio receiving sets were further reduced in June, totalling 26,556 units compared with 60,683 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first six months of this year, the sales amounted to 205,399 units, down almost 46 per cent from the first-half total for 1947.

Provincial totals for the first six months of this year were as follows, with those for the same period of 1947 in brackets: Maritimes, 13,744 (32,967) units; Quebec, 45,091 (81,444); Ontario, 93,136 (161,741); Manitoba, 12,824 (28,710); Saskatchewan, 8,487 (18,584); Alberta, 11,344 (22,634); British Columbia, 20,773 (33,011).

PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS OF RUBBER

Domestic production of synthetic rubber was reduced in July, amounting to 2,750 tons as compared with 3,480 in the corresponding month last year, while the output of reclaim was slightly lower at 210 tons as against 225. Month-end stocks of natural rubber were down from 10,045 tons to 5,478, reclaim from 2,629 tons to 1,916, but stocks of synthetic advanced from 3,733 tons to 5,323. Domestic consumption of natural rubber was up in July, totalling 2,909 tons against 2,433 in July last year, but synthetic declined from 2,059 tons to 1,402, and reclaim from 1,120 tons to 951.

IRON AND STEEL OUTPUT IN JULY Production of pig iron during July was below the high figure for May this year but well above the July output of last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A similar trend was shown for steel ingots and castings.

July production of pig iron amounted to 137,940 tons compared with 183,763 tons in June and 157,153 tons in July last year. Aggregate output for the seven months ending July was 1,129,633 tons against 1,130,306 in the same period of 1947.

Ferro-alloy output in July totalled 12,939 tons, a decline from the preceding month's figure of 13,502 tons, but was slightly above the July, 1947 output of 12,402 tons. Production for the seven-month period was 102,592 tons as against 90,152 in 1947.

Production of steel ingots and castings totalled 244,872 tons in July compared with 259,365 in June and 232,341 in the corresponding month last year, bringing the aggregate for the seven months to 1,840,468 tons compared with 1,715,622 in the similar period of last year.

STOCKS OF NON-FERROUS SCRAP METAL AT THE END OF JULY

Stocks of ingot makers' non-ferrous scrap metal at the end of July totalled 3,432,500 pounds as compared with 2,641,100 at the first of the month. The amount purchased or received during the month was 4,527,700 pounds, while the total used or sold was 3,736,300 pounds. Month-end stocks of secondary non-ferrous ingots totalled 2,644,200 pounds compared with 2,929,700 at the first of the month, while the amount produced was 3,383,400 pounds. Total used or sold aggregated 3,668,800 pounds.

SALES OF MANUFACTURED AND NATURAL GAS IN JULY

Sales of manufactured gas by distributing companies in July amounted to 1,707,467 M cubic feet as compared with 1,979,535 M in June and 1,797,865 M in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the seven months ended July, 15,411,524 M cubic feet were sold as against 14,846,739 M in the similar period of last year.

Natural gas sales in July totalled 1,793,772 M cubic feet as compared with 2,162,945 M in June and 1,808,613 M in July, 1947. In the seven-month period, sales totalled 27,675,198 M cubic feet as compared with 25,403,016 M in the similar period of 1947.

LIME OUTPUT AT NEW HIGH POINT IN 1947

Canadian production of lime in 1947 reached an all-time high of 977,400 tons, showing an increase of 16 per cent over the 1946 tonnage, and more than doubling that for pre-war 1938, according to industry totals released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The value of the 1947 output was \$8,543,000 compared with \$7,075,000 in 1946 and \$3,543,000 in 1938.

Of the quicklime produced in 1947, 743,000 tons were used for industrial purposes and 59,000 tons for building and other uses. Hydrated lime used in chemical and industrial plants amounted to 91,500 tons, and the building and agricultural trades purchased 84,000 tons. It is estimated that 1,697,000 tons of limestone were consumed in the production of lime in 1946.

MOTION PICTURE RECEIPTS
AT HIGH RECORD IN 1947

Box office returns of motion picture theatres reached an all-time high figure of \$62,279,000 in 1947 as compared with \$59,889,000 in the preceding year, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In addition, amusement taxes collected during the year amounted to \$16,375,000 compared with \$15,053,000. The number of paid admissions in 1947 was 220,715,000, down about three per cent from last year's paid attendance of 227,539,000.

REPORTS ISSUED DURING THE WEEK

1. Monthly Traffic Report of Railways, May (10 cents).
2. Woollen Textile Industries, 1946 (35 cents).
3. Radio Receiving Sets, June (10 cents).
4. Motor Vehicle Shipments, July (10 cents).
5. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, July (10 cents).
6. Preliminary Statistics of Motion Picture Theatres, 1947 (10 cents).
7. Primary Iron and Steel, June (10 cents).
8. Cold Storage Holdings of Meat and Lard, September 1 (10 cents).
9. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
10. Retail Consumer Credit, July 1945 to December 1947 (25 cents).
11. Annual Report on Current Benefit Years Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1946 (25 cents).
12. Coke and Gas Industry, 1946 (25 cents).
13. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, September 1 (10 cents).
14. September Estimate of Production of Field Crops, including Late-Sown Crops, Fodder, Roots and Potatoes (10 cents).
15. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
16. Honey Crop Report, 1948 (10 cents).
17. The Lime Industry in Canada, 1947 (25 cents).
18. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, September 1 (10 cents).
19. Nickel-Copper Mining, Smelting and Refining Industry, 1947 (25 cents).
20. Live Stock Survey -- Swine -- June 1, 1948 (10 cents).
21. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, September 1 (10 cents).
22. Employment Situation and Payrolls, July (10 cents).
23. Biscuit Industry, 1947 (25 cents).
24. Preliminary Estimate of Principal Statistics of the Confectionery, Cocoa, Chocolate and Chewing Gum Industries, 1947 (10 cents).
25. Primary Iron and Steel Industry, 1946 (25 cents).
26. Preliminary Report on the Construction Industry, 1947 (25 cents).
27. Volume of Highway Traffic Entering Canada on Traveller's Vehicle Permits, August (10 cents).
28. Sales of Manufactured and Natural Gas, July (10 cents).
29. Estimates of Canadian Labour Income, June (10 cents).
30. Current Trends in Food Distribution, July (10 cents).
31. Births, Deaths and Marriages, July (10 cents).
32. Statistics of Hides, Skins and Leather, July (10 cents).
33. Production of Iron and Steel, July (10 cents).
34. Quarterly Report on Processed Foods, June (25 cents).
35. Wholesale Trade, July (10 cents).
36. Retail Sales, July (10 cents).
37. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, June (10 cents).
38. Articles Imported from Each Country, Six Months Ended June (25 cents).
39. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, July (10 cents).
40. Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, July (25 cents).
41. Ingot Makers' Monthly Report on Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal and Secondary Non-Ferrous Ingot, July (10 cents).
42. Aircraft Industry, 1945 (15 cents).

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