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CANADA'S TOTAL FOREIGN TRADE showed a moderate increase in July, standing at \$478,600,000 compared with \$466,500,000 in the corresponding month last year.

CANADA'S MERCHANDISE IMPORTS were slightly lower in July, being valued at \$225,100,000 as compared with \$226,800,000 in the same month last year.

STOCKS OF CANADIAN WHEAT in store or in transit in North America at midnight on September 9 rose to 93,493,000 bushels from last year's corresponding total of 86,692,000.

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER in nine cities of Canada on September 17 amounted to 32,869,000 pounds as compared with 48,075,000 on the corresponding date last year.

AVERAGE HOURS WORKED in leading manufacturing establishments in the week of July 1, showed an increase due to a more normal level of activity than was reported in the week of June 1, when the pay period reported by many establishments had included the Victoria Day holiday.

COAL PRODUCTION IN AUGUST amounted to 1,569,300 tons, an increase of 12.5 per cent over last year's August output of 1,216,841 tons.

NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS COMPLETED in Canada in the first seven months of this year is estimated at 36,601.

EXPENDITURES IN DEPARTMENT STORES in the past few years account for more than 11 out of every 100 dollars spent by consumers in retail stores.

AUGUST WAGE RATES FOR FARM WORKERS in Canada this year were the highest recorded, the daily rate with board standing at \$4.40 compared with \$4.13 a year ago.

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS for the week ended September 11 were affected by the Labour Day holiday and declined to 76,936 cars from 87,274 for the previous week, the peak for this year.

CANADIAN PRODUCTION OF STEEL INGOTS was increased in August, the month's output amounting to 254,340 tons as compared with 238,104 in the preceding month and 226,180 a year ago.

FOREIGN TRADE OF CANADA IN JULY Canada's total foreign trade showed a moderate increase in July, standing at \$478,600,000 as compared with \$466,500,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Domestic merchandise exports were higher, while imports and re-exports of foreign produce both were lower in value. Aggregate value of trade for the first seven months of this year was \$3,167,600,000 as compared with \$3,068,300,000 in the similar period of 1947, an increase of 3.2 per cent.

Exports of domestic merchandise in July were valued at \$250,900,000 as compared with \$233,500,000 in the preceding month and \$236,600,000 in the corresponding month last year. The month's figures show a further gain in exports to the United States, a continuation of the decline in the value of shipments to the United Kingdom, and augmented exports to Latin American countries. Cumulative value of merchandise exports in the seven months ended July was \$1,651,000,000 as compared with \$1,565,000,000 in the like period of 1947.

Imports entered for consumption were valued at \$225,100,000 in July compared with \$233,000,000 in June and \$226,800,000 in the same month last year. There was a further decline from the high levels of a year ago in the value of imports from the United States, while purchases from the United Kingdom again were higher in value. During the first seven months of this year the aggregate value of imports was \$1,495,200,000 as against \$1,483,500,000 in the same period of 1947.

The value of re-exported commodities in July was \$2,606,000 compared with \$3,062,000 in the same month last year, and in the seven months, \$21,351,000 compared with \$19,838,000.

The favourable over-all balance of trade in July was \$28,400,000 as compared with \$3,000,000 in June and \$12,800,000 in July last year, bringing the seven-month favourable balance to \$177,200,000 as compared with \$101,300,000 a year ago.

Adverse balance of trade with the United States in July was reduced to \$28,600,000, comparing with \$43,500,000 in June and \$84,900,000 in July last year. In the seven-month period the debit balance fell from \$572,900,000 a year ago to \$256,800,000 this year.

In trade with the United Kingdom the favourable balance was \$27,100,000 as compared with \$28,300,000 in June and \$52,000,000 a year ago, and in the seven months, \$248,000,000 compared with \$321,000,000.

MERCHANDISE IMPORTS  
MODERATELY LOWER

Canada's merchandise imports were slightly lower in July, being valued at \$225,100,000 as compared with \$226,800,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first seven months of this year the total was \$1,495,200,000, moderately above last year's corresponding total of \$1,483,500,000.

Merchandise imports from the United States continued the decline of preceding months from the levels of a year ago, falling to \$149,499,000 from last year's corresponding figure of \$168,874,000. The further decrease reduced the total for the seven months ended July to \$1,033,966,000 from \$1,149,813,000 in the like period of 1947.

Purchases from the United Kingdom again were higher in July, rising to \$29,377,000 from the July 1947 total of \$17,711,000, and in the seven months to \$168,508,000 from \$102,346,000. Imports from Latin American countries in the month increased to \$21,318,000 from \$13,196,000, and in the seven months to \$128,388,000 from \$83,302,000.

Imports from Newfoundland in July were valued at \$1,301,000 compared with \$1,363,000 a year ago, Trinidad and Tobago \$1,525,000 compared with \$1,325,000, British Guiana \$2,155,000 (\$2,316,000), Gold Coast \$1,655,000 (\$1,655,000), British East Africa \$1,125,000 (\$1,213,000), India and Pakistan \$1,476,000 (\$4,251,000), British Malaya \$1,578,000 (\$1,107,000), Australia \$2,361,000 (\$2,434,000), Belgium \$1,074,000 (\$656,000), France \$1,044,000 (\$810,000).

Among the commodity groups, there was a sharp advance in non-metallic minerals, moderate gains in animals and animal products, fibres and textiles, and chemical products, and declines of varying degree in the remaining groups. Group totals for the month were as follows in millions of dollars, figures for July last year being in brackets: agricultural and vegetable products, \$26.4 (\$31.5); animals and animal products, \$7.5 (\$5.9); fibres, textiles and products, \$29.7 (\$28.8); wood, wood products and paper, \$5.4 (\$8.0); iron and products, \$64.5 (\$69.8); non-ferrous metals and products, \$12.3 (\$15.3); non-metallic minerals and products, \$58.8 (\$44.7); chemicals and allied products, \$10.2 (\$9.0); and miscellaneous commodities, \$10.3 (\$13.9).

CROP CONDITIONS IN CANADA Apart from northern areas in Alberta excellent harvesting weather has generally prevailed throughout the Prairie Provinces for the past month. Rapid progress in harvesting cereals has been made in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and southern Alberta where operations are nearing completion. A large proportion of the flax crop still remains to be cut and threshed. Recent rains have held up work in northern Alberta but conditions have now improved and given good weather all crops should be under cover within three weeks. Quality of cereals is generally high throughout Manitoba and Saskatchewan. In Alberta quality is variable, particularly in northern sections where frost and wet weather have affected the sample.

Harvesting of cereal grains is practically completed in Manitoba except in west-central and northern areas where only 20 per cent remains to be done. Yields and quality of all grains are uniformly high and ideal weather has aided in rapid progress in harvesting of crops. A considerable proportion of the flax crop remains to be harvested in northern areas whereas in the Red River Valley two-thirds of the crop is garnered and elsewhere up to 50 per cent has been harvested. The outlook is still favourable for late crops -- corn, sunflowers and sugar beets.

Dry weather has resulted in rapid progress in harvesting of grain crops throughout Saskatchewan this past month. Wheat is nearly 90 per cent harvested and coarse grains over 70 per cent completed. About 45 per cent of the flax crop is cut and about 30 per cent threshed. The quality of grain crops is high in most districts. Fall seeding is being delayed because of extremely dry conditions.

Harvesting operations have been further delayed in northern Alberta by recent rains but the situation has now improved and harvesting will be general again this week. Rapid progress is being made in other areas and practically all cutting should be completed by the end of September. To date, about 35 per cent of the province's wheat crop has been threshed or combined and if good weather prevails all grain should be under cover within the next three weeks. Quite serious frosts have occurred in the Peace River area and slight to considerable scattered damage has occurred elsewhere. Grades are variable with wheat running from No. 1 Northern to Feed and oats and barley from No. 2 C.W. to No. 3 Feed. Hay yields have been satisfactory and grazing is generally good.

The prolonged dry spell which contributed materially to the successful harvesting of a bumper crop of fall and spring grains has had serious effects on the development of most late crops in Ontario. Late fruit crops are undersized and root crops have been adversely affected by lack of moisture. Fortunately, some late crops such as dry beans, soy beans and corn for husking were too far advanced to be greatly affected and indications are that yields of these crops will be satisfactory. Corn for ensilage is being cut earlier than usual in many localities to save it from being dried up. Pastures throughout most of southern Ontario have suffered serious deterioration and many dairy farmers have resorted to stable feeding their cattle in an effort to maintain milk production. Continued lack of rain has delayed the seeding of fall wheat and indications are that the intended acreage will be greatly reduced. Little fall ploughing has been done to date and soaking rains are needed in most areas to enable farmers to proceed with this work.

Rainfall in Quebec during the past two weeks has been insufficient to improve pastures which are dry and short. Consequently, there has been some drop in dairy production. Harvesting is progressing and yields per acre are higher than in 1947 and compare favourably with the long-time average. The quantity and quality of garden crops are expected to be better than usual except in the Abitibi and Temiskaming districts where frost occurred on the 15th and 16th of the month. Potatoes are now being dug and results so far indicate a heavy yield. The tobacco crop, particularly the flue-cured variety, is estimated to be large.

In British Columbia harvesting is underway throughout the province. Wet weather, however, has delayed operations and some spoilage of cereals is reported. The apple crop is maturing rapidly but the size of the fruit is smaller than usual. Harvesting of hops is nearly completed.

Harvesting of grains is still in progress in the Maritime Provinces with one-third to one-quarter of the crop still to be cut. Potato blight is severe in Prince Edward Island but in New Brunswick the damage is not serious. Pastures and aftermath throughout the area are particularly good. Reduced crops of apples are expected in both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and in Nova Scotia apple scab and codling moth have reduced the quality of the fruit.

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF  
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on September 9 rose to 93,493,000 bushels from last year's corresponding total of 86,692,000 bushels. Deliveries from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending September 9 totalled 31,489,000 bushels, an increase of almost 21 per cent over the previous week's total of 26,046,000 bushels.

Deliveries of coarse grains from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending September 9 were as follows, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 3,020,800 (2,653,700) bushels; barley, 3,825,500 (3,445,600); rye, 1,503,900 (1,710,700); flaxseed, 575,400 (105,500).

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER  
IN NINE CITIES OF CANADA

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on September 17 amounted to 32,869,000 pounds as compared with 48,075,000 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Holdings were as follows by cities on September 17, with those for the same date last year in brackets (thousands omitted): Quebec, 4,611 (4,683) pounds; Montreal, 11,674 (18,539); Toronto, 3,850 (4,726); Winnipeg, 5,499 (9,711); Regina, 431 (695); Saskatoon, 272 (303); Edmonton, 2,059 (2,644); Calgary, 1,761 (1,807); Vancouver, 2,712 (4,967).

MAN-HOURS AND HOURLY EARNINGS Average hours worked in leading manufacturing establishments in the week of July 1 showed an increase due to a more normal level of activity than was reported in the week of June 1, when the pay period reported by many establishments had included the Victoria Day holiday, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The latest average was 42 hours as compared with 41.7 at June 1, and 42 at July 1, 1947. The aggregate hours worked by the hourly-rated wage-earners employed in the larger factories increased by 2.3 per cent in the week of July 1, when the number of wage-earners rose by 1.6 per cent as compared with the week of June 1.

The average hourly earnings of the reported wage-earners at July 1 stood at 92.4 cents. This was the highest figure in the record of 45 months. The June 1 average, previously the maximum, was 91.4 cents; at July 1 last year the figure was 80.8 cents. The latest figure showed an increase of 14.4 per cent as compared with a year earlier, 32 per cent in the 24 months' comparison, and 31.8 per cent over July 1, 1945, when war work had been a factor of considerable weight.

The average weekly wages of the hourly-rated personnel employed by leading manufacturers at July 1 amounted to \$38.81. This was rather higher than the June 1 figure of \$38.11, and also exceeded the May 1 figure of \$38.53, which was the previous maximum in the record of 45 months. The general average in manufacturing at July 1 last year was \$33.94. The latest figure showed an increase of 14.3 per cent as compared with last year, 30.8 per cent in the two-year comparison.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND INVENTORIES Expenditures in department stores in the past few years account for more than 11 out of every 100 dollars spent by consumers in retail stores, according to a bulletin released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics covering sales and inventories of department stores in the period January 1941 to July, 1948. Because of the broad range of commodities handled, some reasonably close relationship might be expected between total retail trading and department store sales.

From 1930 to 1933, department store sales made up between 13 and 14 per cent of all retail sales, but in the period, 1933 to 1937, readjustments in the relationship occurred in which the proportion was reduced to 11 per cent. Since 1937 the proportion has been consistently between 11 and 12 per cent of total retail sales.

Department store sales in 1947 reached an aggregate value of \$706,845,000, well above the 1946 total of \$613,611,000, and 87 per cent in excess of the \$377,806,000 registered in 1941. Two areas, Ontario and the Maritimes, dropped in per cent of total sales between 1941 and 1947, the greater decrease, from 40 to 37.8 per cent, taking place in Ontario. Each of the other regions absorbed a greater share of sales, with Quebec the greatest gain, from 15.5 per cent in 1941 to 17.0 per cent.

Figures on stock-sales ratios indicate the diminution of stocks at the same time that sales were expanding from 1942 to 1945. More recently, stock-sales ratios have gained slightly, evidence of the greater increase in value of inventories as compared with sales, but are still well below from the relationship which held in 1942 and 1943.

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SLIGHT RISE IN MANUFACTURING  
INVENTORIES INDICATED IN JULY

Advance indications point to a continued rise in the values of inventories held by manufacturing industries in July, though the increase appears slight. Stocks held in the consumers' goods group appear to have risen very little; there was a larger increase in the industries in the producers' goods group, while those held in the capital goods industries have fallen.

In the non-durable consumers' goods industries, inventories of finished products appear to have risen very slightly, if at all. In the food industry there was a large seasonal increase in stocks of butter and cheese over the June level; on the other hand, inventories held by sugar refiners, slaughterers and meat packers appear considerably lower than last month. Dairy stocks were well below last year's level. Stocks held in the tobacco industries show a seasonal fall in value.

In the semi-finished non-durable consumers' goods group, stocks held by the feed and flour industry continued to show a seasonal decline, and are now at the lowest point in the post-war period. Newsprint inventories appear to have risen considerably, while pulpwood inventories continued their seasonal decline. The value of semi-durable consumers' goods inventories rose slightly, the increase appearing to be reflected in every main industry grouping in this category. Stocks held in the durable consumers' goods group fell slightly in value.

The fall in the value of inventories in the capital goods group, which was evident in June, continued, though the drop in July was smaller. Again the fall was due to a decrease in the value of inventories held by shipbuilders and aircraft manufacturers, and to the seasonal decline of stocks held in the agricultural implements industry. There was a 10-point rise in the value of railway rolling stock inventories, and the value of stocks held in the machinery industries also rose.

Producers' materials inventories continued to rise in value in July, almost every large industry in this group having shown an increase in the value of stocks held. The largest increase appear to be in the primary iron and steel industries -- 10 points -- the brass and copper products industries -- 10 points -- and the non-ferrous metals smelting and refining industries. The coke and gas industries stocks continued their seasonal rise. Slight decreases are apparent in the sheet metal products industries and in a few of the smaller industries in this group.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXESSeptember 16, 1948September 9, 1948August 19, 1948

(1935-39=100)

Investors' Price Index

(100 Common Stocks) ..	113.4	113.7	113.6
76 Industrials .....	108.3	108.6	108.0
16 Utilities .....	120.8	121.1	123.7
8 Banks .....	128.5	129.2	128.9

Mining Stock Price Index

(30 Stocks) .....	79.9	80.0	78.3
25 Golds .....	62.8	63.1	60.3
5 Base Metals .....	113.8	113.7	114.5

GOLD PRODUCTION AT  
HIGH POINT IN JUNE

Gold production during June reached the highest point since August 1943, amounting to 288,944 fine ounces as compared with 287,055 fine ounces in May and 268,900 fine ounces in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first six months of this year, 1,684,741 fine ounces were produced as against 1,513,920 in the similar period last year. The output for August 1943 was 293,358 fine ounces.

Output for the month was as follows by provinces, totals for June last year being in brackets: Quebec, 60,480 (51,900) fine ounces; Ontario, 170,073 (171,411); Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 17,247 (16,749); British Columbia, 25,181 (19,107); Yukon, 8,198 (4,937); Northwest Territories, 7,755 (4,978).

SILVER, LEAD AND ZINC  
PRODUCTION IN JUNE

Production of primary silver in all forms in June amounted to 970,318 fine ounces, the lowest monthly output since the beginning of this year, and compares with 1,072,712 in May and 1,085,180 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Production for the six months ended June totalled 6,225,948 fine ounces as against 5,578,997 in the similar period of 1947.

Primary lead production in June amounted to 11,116 tons compared with 12,745 in May and 14,348 in June, 1947. Production for the six-month period totalled 73,216 tons compared with 79,746 in the first half of 1947.

Output of primary zinc in June totalled 19,037 tons as compared with 20,482 in May and 17,907 in June last year, and for the six months ended June, 112,354 tons as against 104,557 in 1947.

PRODUCTION OF STEEL  
INGOTS HIGHER IN AUGUST

Canadian production of steel ingots was increased in August, the month's output amounting to 254,340 tons as compared with 238,104 in the preceding month and 226,180 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output for the first eight months of this year also was higher, totalling 2,029,500 tons as against 1,894,000 in the similar period of 1947, an increase of seven per cent.

Daily average output for August at 3,204 tons, was well above the July daily rate of 2,681 tons, and also that of 2,296 for August, 1947. Daily average for the eight months ended August was 3,317 tons as compared with 2,794 in the same period of 1947.

PRODUCTION OF WIRE NAILS

Production of iron and steel wire nails was lower in July than in the preceding month but was well in advance of July last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The month's output totalled 6,482 tons compared with 7,960 in June and 5,636 in July, 1947. During the first seven months of this year, 47,835 tons were produced as against 43,991 in the similar period last year.

July production of steel wire amounted to 19,526 tons as compared with 21,447 in the same month last year, and in the seven months ended July, 186,181 tons compared with 182,631 tons a year ago.

PRODUCTS MADE FROM CANADIAN CLAYS  
AT NEW MONTHLY HIGH POINT IN JUNE

Producers' sales of products made from Canadian clays rose to a new monthly high point in June, amounting to \$1,614,315 as compared with \$1,383,361 in the preceding month and \$1,207,086 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Sales during the first six months of this year were also above the same period last year, totalling \$7,349,800 as against \$6,180,608.

The month's sales comprised the following, totals for June last year being in brackets: building brick, \$853,133 (\$659,723); structural tile, \$243,217 (\$189,676); drain tile, \$99,260 (\$56,338); sewer pipe, \$201,418 (\$142,654); fireclay blocks and shapes, \$29,831 (\$18,940); pottery, \$121,388 (\$89,386); other clay products, \$66,068 (\$50,369).

SALES OF PAINTS, VARNISHES  
AND LACQUERS IN JULY

Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers which normally account for 96 per cent of the total Canadian production, amounted to \$6,786,676 in July, showing a decrease of 19 per cent from the preceding month's figure of \$8,369,928, but an increase of 17.5 per cent over the 1947 sales of \$5,777,486, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Sales in the first seven months of this year were up over last year, totalling \$44,981,591 as against \$42,484,399. In July, trade sales (exclusive of water paints) accounted for 49 per cent of the total, industrial sales for 36 per cent, water paints for one per cent, and unclassified sales for 14 per cent.

PRODUCTION OF LEATHER  
FOOTWEAR IN JULY

Production of leather footwear in July amounted to 1,953,299 pairs, a decrease of 539,550 pairs from the preceding month's output of 2,492,849 pairs and a decline of 444,949 pairs from the July, 1947 figure of 2,398,248 pairs, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. For the seven months ended July, production totalled 18,213,892 pairs compared with 21,843,708 in the corresponding period last year. Of the 1,953,299 pairs made in July, 465,600 pairs were soled with materials other than leather.

SALT PRODUCTION IN JULY

Production of common salt in Canada in July amounted to 64,765 tons as compared with the preceding month's figure of 66,673 tons and 67,668 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first seven months of this year, 416,120 tons were produced as against 451,664 in the same months of 1947.

Shipments of salt amounted to 68,725 tons in July compared with 64,621 tons in June and 32,791 in July, 1947, and during the seven months ended July, totalled 415,501 tons as against 286,206 in the similar period of 1947. Exports in July amounted to 485 tons as compared with 563 in June and 854 in July last year, bringing the exports for the year to date to 2,885 tons as against 3,929 in 1947.

ASPHALT FLOOR TILES IN AUGUST

Canadian production of asphalt floor tiles in August amounted to 1,721,650 square feet compared with 1,313,767 in the preceding month and domestic sales, 1,335,303 square feet as against 1,198,187 in July this year. For the eight months ended August, production totalled 13,222,977 square feet and domestic sales, 11,279,327 square feet.



OUTPUT OF COAL AND  
COKE HIGHER IN JULY

Production of coal in Canada in July was recorded at 1,359,700 tons as compared with 1,205,000 in the corresponding month last year, an advance of 12.8 per cent, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first seven months of this year, 9,877,500 tons were produced compared with 7,854,700 in the similar period of 1947.

Coke output in July amounted to 335,000 tons as compared with 321,000 in the preceding month and 267,000 in July last year, the seven-month aggregate standing at 2,247,000 tons compared with 2,039,000 in the same period of 1947.

Coal imports in July amounted to 3,487,600 tons as compared with 2,802,000 in July last year, and in the seven months, 14,866,600 tons compared with 14,490,100 a year ago. Exports in the month totalled 81,600 tons compared with 93,200, and in the cumulative period, 561,100 tons compared with 303,300.

COAL PRODUCTION IN AUGUST UP  
12.5 PER CENT OVER LAST YEAR

Coal production in Canada during August amounted to 1,369,300 tons, an increase of 12.5 per cent over last year's August output of 1,216,841 tons, and was above the preceding month's figure of 1,356,626 tons. Cumulative production for the eight months ending August rose to 11,243,710 tons as against 9,071,067 tons last year.

Production of coal in Nova Scotia in August amounted to 329,700 tons compared with 359,102 in August, 1947, New Brunswick 44,600 tons compared with 37,348, Saskatchewan 66,300 tons compared with 62,687, Alberta 706,000 (621,910) tons, and British Columbia and Yukon, 222,700 (135,794) tons.

Imports of coal during August increased 38 per cent over August, 1947, amounting to 4,370,179 tons compared with 3,166,109, and compares with the 3,487,591 tons imported in July this year, bringing the aggregate for the first eight months of this year to 19,236,795 tons compared with 17,656,189 tons in 1947.

JUNE PRODUCTION OF REFINED  
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Canadian oil refineries turned out 7,176,000 barrels of refined petroleum products in June as compared with 6,814,000 in the corresponding month last year, an increase of five per cent, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first half of this year, output aggregated 36,288,000 barrels compared with 33,544,000 in the similar period of 1947, an advance of eight per cent.

Receipts of crude oil during the month amounted to 7,676,000 barrels compared with 7,161,000 in the same month last year, bringing the six-month aggregate to 39,262,000 barrels compared with 35,506,000 in the like period of 1947. Domestic crude receipts rose in the month to 1,061,000 barrels from 612,000 a year ago, and imported crude to 6,615,000 barrels from 6,550,000.

Inventories of crude at the refineries at the end of June amounted to 3,879,000 barrels compared with 4,127,000 on the corresponding date last year.

SHIPMENTS OF ASBESTOS IN JULY  
REGISTER A SLIGHT INCREASE

Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines registered a slight gain in July, amounting to 55,981 tons compared with 53,109 in the preceding month and 53,434 in the corresponding month last year. Shipments during the seven months ended July were also higher, totalling 390,119 tons as against 367,511 in the similar period last year. Exports of crude, milled fibres, waste, refuse, shorts in July amounted to 51,175 tons compared with 55,735 in June and 46,597 in July, 1947, and for the seven months, 376,804 tons against 355,951 in the same months of last year.

CONSUMPTION OF PETROLEUM FUELS

Deliveries of heavy fuel oils to Canadian users totalled 1,368.1 million gallons in 1947 as compared with 1,074.3 million in 1946, according to a compilation made from reports submitted by refineries and their distributors and by major consumers. About 20 per cent of the 1947 total was for use in ships' bunkering, 26 per cent for fuel in manufacturing plants, 25 per cent for heating homes and buildings, seven per cent for locomotive fuel, 3.6 per cent for tractors and other motor vehicles, 2.4 per cent for electric lighting plants, 2.9 per cent for material in manufacturing plants, and 13 per cent under refinery boilers.

Most of the light fuel oils and distillates was used for domestic heating and for tractor fuel, the former at 188.4 million gallons in 1947 accounting for 76.5 per cent of the total and the latter at 57.5 million for 23.3 per cent. Aggregate deliveries at 246.2 million gallons compares with 169.5 million in 1946. Kerosene deliveries in 1947 totalled 42.8 million gallons compared with 31.3 million in 1946. In addition to the above, 25.6 million gallons of fuel oil and 1.2 million gallons of kerosene were shipped for export by Canadian refineries.

RECORD YEAR FOR ELECTRICAL APPARATUS AND SUPPLIES INDUSTRY IN 1947

Reaching an all-time high record, the gross factory selling value of products manufactured by the electrical apparatus and supplies industry of Canada in 1947 was \$366,506,000 compared with \$234,573,000 in 1946, an increase of 56 per cent, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The previous high total was \$283,071,000 in 1944. The average number of employees rose from 43,998 in 1946 to 52,736 in 1947, a rise of 19.8 per cent, and salary and wage payments from \$74,510,000 to \$103,891,000, an increase of 39.4 per cent. Cost of materials used at the works was \$162,131,000, up 59 per cent over 1945.

COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRIES

The cotton textile industries of Canada produced goods with a selling value at the factory of \$140,822,000 in 1946, an increase of approximately one per cent over the total for the preceding year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Employment was given to 24,908 persons, a decrease of 2.5 per cent, while the amount paid out in salaries and wages at \$34,653,000, was 5.5 per cent greater. Materials used cost \$82,283,000, an increase of \$503,181.

All fabrics produced other than for use in the manufacture of tires, had a value of \$62,469,879 in 1946. Grey cotton fabric was the main item, and 53,762,626 pounds or 157,716,615 yards, with a selling value of \$25,384,530 were produced. In connection with this item, a very considerable yardage goes to other mills for further processing, the amount so disposed of in 1946 totalling 70,794,019 yards. Yarns spun for sale totalled \$19,466,648, while thread was valued at \$5,927,577.

The imports of cotton and its products -- wearing apparel excluded -- increased from \$88,831,333 in 1945 to \$117,734,331 in 1946. Exports of cotton and its products are relatively small, being \$7,534,994 and \$7,609,352 in 1945 and 1946, respectively.

SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY IN 1946

Showing a sharp drop from wartime years, the gross value of production from Canadian shipyards fell to \$91,851,500 in 1946 from \$204,594,000 in 1945 and \$329,300,000 in 1944, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In line with the lower output value, the average number of employees fell from 48,118 in 1945 to 20,246 in 1946, salary and wage payments from \$99,471,000 to \$40,976,000, and the cost of materials used from \$60,294,000 to \$25,915,000.

CIVIL AVIATION IN APRIL Revenues of Canadian air carriers in April registered a minor increase over the same month of 1947, the total reading \$2,116,000 as compared with \$2,108,000. Passenger revenues of scheduled carriers increased by \$204,000 to \$1,271,000, but charter service declined considerably. Mail was slightly lower and freight improved from a total of \$105,000 for all companies to \$119,000. Despite economies effected by scheduled operators, total expenses increased from \$2,336,000 to \$2,410,000 for the month and net operating revenues showed a deficit of \$170,000 for scheduled carriers against \$209,000 one year earlier, while other Canadian carriers had a deficit on operations of \$125,000 against \$19,000 in April, 1947.

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended September 11 were affected by the Labour Day holiday and declined to 76,986 cars from 87,274 cars for the previous week, the peak for the year to date. The total, however, was 5.3 per cent above the total for the 1947 Labour Day week despite lighter loadings of grain, grain products, pulpwood, of 823, 559 and 959 cars, respectively. Loadings to date of grain and pulpwood are both heavier than in 1947 and 1946, and the cumulative total of all freight at 2,806,331 cars is 3.2 per cent above 1947 and 11.7 per cent above the 1946 loadings.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES The number of births registered in cities, towns and villages of Canada in July having a population of 10,000 and over was 15,474, deaths 4,890 and marriages 7,888 as compared with 15,838 births, 4,841 deaths and 7,617 marriages in July last year, showing a decrease of two per cent in births, and increases of one and four per cent, respectively, for deaths and marriages.

FARM WAGES IN CANADA  
HIGHEST EVER RECORDED August wage rates for farm workers in Canada in 1948 were the highest recorded, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. With board provided by the employers, the average farm wage rate per day for all Canada at August 15 was \$4.40 as compared with \$4.13 at the same date in 1947. When no board was provided, the daily rate was \$5.44 as against \$5.17 a year earlier. The average monthly wage rate with board for all Canada was \$86.79 as compared with \$82.75 a year ago, the only decline being shown for Nova Scotia. When workers provided their own board, the average rate for men hired by the month rose from \$109.03 in August last year to \$116.67 in August, 1948.

PRODUCTION OF HOPS  
LOWER THAN IN 1947 Production of hops this year is currently estimated at 1,721,000 pounds compared with 2,491,000 pounds harvested in 1947, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Reduced acreages are reported in Ontario which fell from 257 in 1947 to 130 this year, and British Columbia from 1,619 to 1,600, while in Quebec the area remained unchanged at 50 acres. In Ontario and Quebec the average yield is somewhat better but in British Columbia the yield per acre is smaller than that of last season. Production in 1948, by provinces with comparable data for 1947 in brackets is: Quebec, 33,000 (30,000) pounds; Ontario, 88,000 (141,000); British Columbia, 1,600,000 (2,320,000).

FOREST PRODUCTION IN 1946 Canada's total forest production in 1946 involved the cutting of 2,812,718,000 cubic feet of merchantable timber, according to the estimate for the year released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The year's total shows a moderate increase over 1945 when production was placed at 2,566,058,000 feet.

Of the estimated 1946 total about 58 per cent was taken out of the woods in the form of logs and bolts chiefly for the production of lumber, about 32 per cent as pulpwood and 26 per cent as firewood. The remainder consisted of other forest products in various forms.

In addition to this depletion of forest resources for use, an estimated 30,926,000 cubic feet of merchantable timber was destroyed by fire in 1946. Since insects and tree diseases destroy annually about 500,000,000 cubic feet of wood, the drain on forest resources in the year was approximately 5,393,644,000 cubic feet, about four-fifths of which was used and one-fifth wasted.

Total value of all forest products in 1946 was \$413,269,314, an increase of about 23 per cent over the estimated value of \$334,324,901 for 1945. Pulpwood, was the most important forest product in value with a total of over \$183,000,000, up from \$146,000,000 the previous year. Logs and bolts stood second, with a total value in excess of \$150,000,000 compared with \$120,000,000. Firewood was third at \$49,000,000 against \$45,000,000. Round mining timbers, poles and piling, posts and hewn railway ties were next in order.

On the basis of equivalent volume of merchantable timber, logs and bolts held the leading position in 1946. Pulpwood was second, followed by firewood and round mining timber. Next in order were fence posts, poles and piling, hewn ties, fence rails, and wood for distillation. Quebec was the leading province for volume of production, with Ontario second and British Columbia third.

MANUFACTURE OF PLASTICS IN CANADA IN 1946 Gross factory selling value of products turned out by establishments engaged chiefly in the manufacture of plastics and plastics products in 1946 was \$21,240,000, an increase of 36 per cent over the preceding year's total of \$15,604,000, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Materials used in the manufacturing processes cost \$8,466,000 as compared with \$5,921,000 in 1945.

A further indication of the growth of this industry in Canada is reflected in the increased number of plants in the group, the total rising from 46 in 1945 to 78 in 1946. Forty-seven of these plants were located in Ontario and 25 in Quebec. They gave employment to an average of 3,219 persons in 1946 compared with 2,434 in 1945, and paid out \$4,964,000 in salaries and wages compared with \$3,669,000.

Listed among the products of the industry were aircraft parts valued at \$460,379 compared with \$968,680 in 1945, combs \$1,705,739 compared with \$1,195,731, dresser-ware \$520,873 compared with \$347,999, jewellery \$160,536 compared with \$289,841, and other products, including primary plastics valued at \$17,311,977 against \$11,852,318.

36,600 DWELLING UNITS COMPLETED IN FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THIS YEAR

The number of dwelling units completed in Canada in the first seven months of this year is estimated at 36,601, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In each month since April, starts have exceeded completions and the number under construction has increased to 55,686 at July 31. During July, construction was commenced on 9,684 dwelling units, a reduction from the high for the year of 13,409 recorded in June. On the other hand, completions continued at the rate of about 6,000 per month.

REPORTS ISSUED DURING THE WEEK

1. Monthly Summary of Foreign Trade, July (10 cents).
2. Imports for Consumption, July (10 cents).
3. Production of Leather Footwear, July (10 cents).
4. Petroleum Products Industry, 1946 (50 cents).
5. Farm Implements and Machinery Industry, 1946 (25 cents).
6. Telegraphic Crop report, Canada (10 cents).
7. Inventories and Shipments by Manufacturing Industries, July (25 cents).
8. Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, July (10 cents).
9. Refined Petroleum Products, June (20 cents).
10. Trade of Canada: Exports of Canadian and Foreign Products, July and the Seven Months Ended July (25 cents).
11. Railway Rolling Stock Industry, 1946 (25 cents).
12. Hops, 1948 (10 cents).
13. Farm Wages in Canada, August 15, 1948 (10 cents).
14. Asphalt Floor Tiles, August (10 cents).
15. Civil Aviation, April (10 cents).
16. Domestic Type Electric Refrigerators, July (10 cents).
17. Domestic Washing Machines, July (10 cents).
18. Wire Fencing, July (10 cents).
19. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, June (10 cents).
20. Salt, July (10 cents).
21. Steel Ingots, August (10 cents).
22. Nails, Tacks and Staples, July (10 cents).
23. Steel Wire, July (10 cents).
24. Gold Production, June (10 cents).
25. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
26. Railway Revenue Freight Loadings, August (10 cents).
27. Department Store Sales and Stocks, January 1941 to July 1948 (25 cents).
28. Products Made from Canadian Clays, June (10 cents).
29. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
30. Supplement to Honey Crop Report #2
31. Housing Bulletin No. 6 (10 cents).
32. Statistics of Average Hours Worked and Average Hourly Earnings at Beginning of July (10 cents).
33. Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, April-June, 1948 (25 cents).
34. Coal Production, August (10 cents).
35. Estimate of Forest Production, Operations in the Woods, 1946 (25 cents).
36. Cotton Textile Industries, 1946 (25 cents).
37. Miscellaneous Chemical Products Industry, 1946 (25 cents).
38. Pack of Strawberries, 1948 (10 cents).
39. Shipbuilding Industry, 1946 (15 cents).
40. Electrical Apparatus Industry, 1947 (50 cents)
41. Consumption of Petroleum Fuels, 1947 (25 cents).
42. Preliminary Report on the Lumber Industry, 1946 (35 cents).
43. Coal and Coke Statistics, July (10 cents).
44. Asbestos, July (10 cents).

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

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