

D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA - CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU
OF STATISTICS

OCT 18 1948

\$1 a year

Vol. XVI - No. 42

Saturday, October 16, 1948

--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA'S ADVERSE TRADE BALANCE with the United States showed a further decline in August, dropping to \$20,300,000 as compared with \$28,600,000 in July and \$71,600,000 in August, 1947.

EMPLOYMENT IN CANADA'S MAJOR INDUSTRIAL DIVISIONS at August 1 was 1.3 per cent greater than a month earlier.

CENTRAL ELECTRIC STATIONS produced 3,899,472,000 kilowatt hours during August, an increase of 58,000,000 kilowatt hours or 1.6 per cent over August, 1947.

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS for the week ended October 2 amounted to 90,771 cars, a decrease of 631 cars from the year's peak of 91,402 cars established in the preceding week.

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER on October 1 amounted to 53,434,600 pounds compared with 51,066,500 on September 1 and 73,374,000 on the corresponding date last year.

CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION in September totalled 30,792,000 pounds as against 33,527,000 a year ago.

STOCKS OF CANADIAN WHEAT in store or in transit in North America at midnight on September 30 amounted to 160,346,885 bushels compared with 149,254,711 on September 23 and 113,862,987 a year ago.

THE INDEX NUMBER OF PRICES RECEIVED BY CANADIAN FARMERS for agricultural products, on the base 1935-39=100, reached a new high figure of 256.0 in August.

DOLLAR SALES OF WHOLESALERS IN AUGUST were nine per cent in excess of the sales volume in August last year.

ESTIMATE OF THE TOBACCO CROP is placed at 109,055,000 pounds, two per cent greater than last year's harvest of 106,683,000 pounds.

CANADIAN FARMERS SPENT \$48,143,000 more last year on the purchase of new farm implements and machinery than they did in 1946.

TRADE DEFICIT WITH UNITED STATES
AGAIN LOWER IN AUGUST

Canada's adverse trade balance with the United States showed a further decline in August, dropping to \$20,300,000 as compared with \$28,600,000 in July and \$71,600,000 in August last year, according to the import and total trade figures for the month released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The month's deficit was the smallest since December, 1945. For the eight months ending August, the deficit in trade with the United States totalled \$277,100,000, down sharply from \$644,500,000 for the like 1947 period.

The reduced adverse balance in August was the combined result of a further decline in imports and the expansion of exports to the United States over last year. Imports fell off to \$136,100,000 compared with \$155,300,000 in August last year, while exports as reported earlier rose to \$114,000,000 as against \$81,400,000. Imports aggregated \$1,170,000,000 in the eight months ending August this year compared with \$1,305,200,000 last year, while exports totalled \$878,900,000 against \$645,500,000.

Imports from the United Kingdom in August maintained the gains of previous months over 1947, amounting to \$24,700,000 compared with \$15,100,000 in August last year, and bringing the total for the year to \$193,200,000 compared with \$117,400,000. The increase in imports, combined with the reduction in value of August exports to \$52,500,000 compared with \$66,000,000 in August, 1947, lowered the favourable visible trade balance with the United Kingdom to \$27,900,000 as against \$51,100,000 a year ago. For the eight months this year the credit balance amounted to \$276,000,000 -- almost equivalent to the deficit with the United States -- as compared with \$372,100,000 last year.

Merchandise imports from all countries totalled \$206,500,000 in August, up slightly over last year's August total of \$204,600,000. Domestic exports during the month amounted to \$224,100,000 compared with \$221,300,000. With foreign exports included, total trade for the month stood at \$433,000,000 as against \$429,400,000 in 1947. For the eight months, total trade rose moderately to \$3,600,500,000 compared with \$3,497,800,000, while the overall balance of trade increased to \$197,200,000 as against \$121,600,000 last year.

Merchandise imports from Latin America in August continued the trend of preceding months, rising to \$20,375,000 as compared with \$14,641,000 a year earlier. Purchases from Venezuela were sharply higher at \$9,068,000 compared with \$4,777,000, with smaller gains in imports from Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and San Domingo more than offsetting decreases in purchases from Argentina, Cuba and Guatemala.

Among British Countries, imports from Newfoundland were valued at \$1,596,000 compared with \$1,820,000, Jamaica \$1,022,000 compared with \$926,000, Trinidad and Tobago \$1,159,000 (\$317,000), British Guiana \$1,102,000 (\$793,000), Gold Coast \$1,030,000 (\$86,000), Nigeria \$1,152,000 (\$243,000), British East Africa \$1,100,000 (\$426,000), India and Pakistan \$1,844,000 (\$3,106,000), British Malaya \$2,424,000 (\$1,188,000), Australia \$3,136,000 (\$763,000), and New Zealand \$240,000 (\$2,385,000).

Imports from Europe increased slightly in August to \$4,660,000 compared with \$4,117,000, purchases from France rising to \$1,082,000 compared with \$431,000, and from Belgium declining to \$638,000 as against \$1,002,000.

Among the commodity groups, non-metallic minerals again advanced sharply to \$61,100,000 compared with \$42,100,000 last year, due mainly to substantial increases in coal, crude petroleum and petroleum products. The agricultural and vegetable products group showed a moderate increase to \$27,100,000 against \$24,200,000, increases for nuts, sugar and rubber offsetting declines in fruits, grains and vegetable oils. Small advances were also recorded for fibres and textiles, and for chemicals and allied products.

The iron and products group declined to \$54,400,000 compared with \$63,700,000. Higher figures were recorded for iron ore, pipes and tubes, farm implements and machinery, business and printing machinery and automobile parts, while values were lower for rolling-mill products, household machinery, mining, metallurgical and other non-farm machinery, automobiles, and engines and boilers. The non-ferrous metals group declined to \$11,500,000 compared with \$13,400,000; animals and animal products, \$4,600,000 (\$6,000,000); wood, wood products and paper, \$5,500,000 (\$7,400,000); and miscellaneous commodities, \$8,500,000 (\$14,700,000).

ESTIMATES OF PRODUCTION OF
POTATOES AND LATE-SOWN CROPS

With both the all-Canada acreage and yield in excess of 1947 levels the 1948 outturn of potatoes is now placed at 51,400,000 hundredweight, an increase of 6,300,000 hundredweight over the 1947 crop, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Average production for the 10-year period -- 1938-47 -- amounted to 41,900,000 hundredweight. If the current estimate is realized Canada will harvest the largest potato crop since 1931, when production reached 52,500,000 hundredweight.

The acreage seeded to dry peas has declined from 1947 levels in all provinces growing this crop and, despite generally better yields, 1948 production is estimated at only 1,468,000 bushels, down considerably from the 1947 harvest of 1,738,000 bushels. The 1948 dry bean crop, now placed at 1,806,000 bushels, exceeds last year's 1,446,000 bushels by a good margin. The effect of a decrease in acreage has been more than offset by higher yields per acre.

An all-time record Canadian soy bean crop of 1,380,000 bushels is indicated for 1948. Canadian production of this crop is currently confined to Ontario. Production of soy beans in 1947 amounted to 1,110,000 bushels. Production of sugar beets in 1948 is currently estimated at 607,000 tons, only fractionally above the 1947 crop of 605,600 tons.

The present estimate places the all-Canada production of alfalfa at 3,200,000 tons as compared with 2,600,000 in 1947. The 1948 fodder corn crop is estimated at 4,900,000 tons, well above the 1947 figure of 3,900,000.

The estimated 1948 outturn of shelled corn at 12,500,000 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 better than a quarter of a million bushels grown in Manitoba.

Acreages and yields of mixed grains are sharply above 1947 levels with the result that 1948 production is expected to reach 59,700,000 bushels, far above the 1947 crop of 34,900,000. The 1948 production of field roots for live stock feed, excluding the Prairie Provinces for which data are not currently available, is placed at 21,900,000 hundredweight as against 21,000,000 last year. The acreage seeded to buckwheat declined considerably from the 1947 level and, despite higher yields, production is estimated at only 4,100,000 bushels compared with last year's 5,200,000.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ON TRANSIT SYSTEMS

Transit companies reported an improved volume of business in June as compared with the same month of 1947, when the number of passengers transported increased from 126,735,000 to nearly 129,933,000 or by 2.5 per cent. Urban systems carried 2,484,461 more passengers and inter-urban, 713,003. Urban volume was heavier than in June 1947 in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Alberta, while the number of inter-urban fares advanced in all provinces except Prince Edward Island and British Columbia.

ESTIMATES OF THE TOBACCO CROP Harvesting of Canadian tobacco is now completed and with yields in Ontario considerably reduced by hot weather the crop is much smaller than was anticipated in August. The crop, including all types, is now estimated at 109,055,000 pounds compared with the pre-harvest estimate of 126,681,000 pounds. The current figure is two per cent greater than the 1947 crop of 106,688,000 pounds.

Hot dry weather during the latter part of August and most of September cut the yields of flue-cured tobacco in Ontario considerably and accounted for the greatest loss since the first estimate. Average yields of flue-cured tobacco in Ontario were reduced 120 pounds per acre. The total flue-cured crop is now estimated at 87,756,000 pounds compared with the August estimate of 103,826,000 pounds. Yields of burley tobacco were also lighter than anticipated and the crop is now set at 11,952,000 pounds or 688,000 pounds less than was produced in 1947.

A reduction in the estimates of both acreage and yield of dark tobacco brings the estimate of production to 1,687,000 pounds, a reduction of 12 per cent since August. There was little change in the anticipated production of cigar tobacco. Production in Quebec is still estimated at 5,500,000 pounds but a revision in the acreage and lower yields in Ontario resulted in a decline from 825,000 pounds in August to 750,000 pounds. Pipe tobacco is still expected to amount to 1,410,000 pounds. According to the current estimate, production is 16 per cent lighter than in 1947.

STOCKS OF MEAT HELD ON OCTOBER 1 Stocks of meat held by packers, abattoirs, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses on October 1 amounted to 61,818,000 pounds as compared with 50,545,000 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Lard stocks were 1,649,000 pounds as against 1,394,000.

Increases were shown in the stocks of all principal kinds of meat with the exception of pork. Totals follow with those for October 1 last year in brackets: pork, 27,195,000 (31,421,000) pounds, beef, 23,575,000 (12,234,000); veal, 7,615,000 (4,864,000); mutton and lamb, 3,434,000 (2,026,000)

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, reached a new high figure of 256.0 in August, compared with 250.4 a month earlier and 205.7 a year ago, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Compared with August last year the indexes for all provinces have registered substantial increases with higher prices for grains, live stock, dairy products, potatoes and poultry and eggs. Compared with the preceding month, a gain of 5.6 points was due mainly to increased prices for live stock, dairy products and poultry and eggs.

Provincial indexes for August were as follows, those for the same month last year being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 258.2 (211.0); Nova Scotia, 232.3 (196.0); New Brunswick, 266.8 (215.8); Québec, 273.5 (212.9); Ontario, 279.9 (205.3); Manitoba, 246.5 (207.1); Saskatchewan, 225.3 (193.7); Alberta, 248.9 (207.7); British Columbia, 249.5 (210.0).

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on September 30 amounted to 160,846,885 bushels compared with 149,254,711 on September 23 and 113,862,987 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending September 30 were down, amounting to 17,847,118 bushels compared with 27,549,617 a week earlier.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending September 30, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 3,828,914 (4,651,397) bushels; barley, 3,720,697 (4,453,191); rye, 440,604 (640,153); flaxseed, 1,835,330 (2,335,007).

STOCKS OF BUTTER, CHEESE
AND EGGS ON OCTOBER 1

Stocks of creamery butter in Canada on October 1 amounted to 53,434,562 pounds compared with 51,066,535 on September 1 and 73,374,007 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. October 1 stocks of cheese were 49,928,787 pounds compared with 55,527,649 on September 1 and 52,064,108 a year ago.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on October 1 were 27,456,173 pounds compared with 26,892,450 on September 1 and 16,427,782 on the same date last year, while the holdings of skim milk powder were 9,452,370 pounds compared with 9,130,341 on September 1 and 9,873,186 on October 1 last year.

Holdings of shell eggs were sharply lower on October 1, totalling 6,508,888 dozen compared with 19,714,163 on September 1 and 16,948,735 a year ago. Frozen egg-meat stocks totalled 10,716,059 pounds compared with 10,726,173 on September 1 and 16,425,715 on the same date last year. Stocks of poultry meat were 10,907,120 pounds compared with 8,656,617 on September 1 and 17,685,687 on October 1 last year.

PRODUCTION OF CREAMERY BUTTER
AND CHEESE LOWER IN SEPTEMBER

Production of creamery butter in September amounted to 30,792,000 pounds as compared with 33,527,000 in the corresponding month last year, a decline of 8.2 per cent, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the nine months ending September, 231,429,000 pounds were produced compared with 238,473,000 in the similar period of 1947, a decrease of three per cent.

Cheddar cheese production in September was also lower, totalling 10,407,000 pounds compared with 15,475,000 in the same month last year, a reduction of 32.7 per cent. In the cumulative period, 76,338,000 pounds were produced compared with 104,178,000 in the like period of 1947, a decline of 26.7 per cent.

September output of concentrated milk products amounted to 40,163,000 pounds compared with 34,652,000 in the same month last year, showing an increase of 15.9 per cent. In the nine-month period, 316,713,000 pounds were produced compared with 274,879,000 a year ago, an advance of 15.2 per cent.

STOCKS OF FISH ON OCTOBER 1

Stocks of frozen fish in Canada on October 1 amounted to 42,995,998 pounds compared with 47,713,571 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings of frozen fresh fish totalled 39,748,272 pounds and frozen smoked, 3,247,726 pounds.

Cod stocks on October 1 totalled 6,264,224 pounds compared with 7,053,260 a year ago, salmon 5,165,908 pounds compared with 6,408,579, sea herring 9,429,625 pounds compared with 12,075,163, other sea fish 10,447,159 pounds compared with 16,711,860, and inland fish 3,917,846 pounds compared with 3,421,384.

STOCKS OF CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES
ON JULY 1 HIGHER THAN A YEAR AGO

Stocks of canned fruits held by canners, wholesale dealers and chain store warehouses on July 1 amounted to 1,994,942 dozen containers, up sharply from last year's July 1 stocks of 700,971 dozen, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Pears, plums and peaches were among the important items contributing to the larger holdings, showing increases of 368,533 dozen, 295,585 dozen, and 260,258 dozen, respectively.

Holdings of canned vegetables were also higher on July 1 this year, totalling 5,423,001 dozen containers compared with 4,739,208 a year ago. An increase of 1,097,367 dozen in the stocks of baked beans was due to the very considerable increase in the production of this item in 1947, when restrictions on the use of tin for this purpose was removed.

Stocks of principal canned fruits on July 1 were as follows, totals for the same date last year being in brackets: apples, 137,798 (77,756) dozen containers; cherries, 50,188 (46,931); peaches, 370,383 (110,130); pears, 433,855 (65,322); plums, ~~gages~~, 435,814 (140,229); strawberries, 163,530 (65,590). Canned vegetables: beans, green or wax, 818,897 (599,533) dozen; baked beans, 1,470,342 (372,975); beets, 242,371 (705,215); peas, 1,751,464 (1,414,031); pumpkin, 340,959 (178,576); tomatoes, 250,741 (213,396).

ADVANCE IN WHOLESALE SALES IN AUGUST

Dollar sales of wholesalers in August were nine per cent in excess of the sales volume in August last year and five per cent higher than the July 1948 figure. Stocks in the hands of wholesalers in the nine lines of trade covered were valued 12 per cent higher at the end of August than at the same date a year ago, but were two per cent lower than at July 31 this year.

The August gain in sales was greater than that for the year to date, sales for the first eight months of 1948 being four per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1947. The general unadjusted index, on the base, average for 1935-39=100, stood at 296.7 for August this year, 283.5 for July, and 272.2 for August, 1947.

All regions recorded increases in sales over August, 1947. Sales in British Columbia were up 13 per cent, followed by the Maritime Provinces with a gain of 12 per cent. Ontario wholesalers reported an increase of 10 per cent, while those in the Prairie Provinces and Quebec recorded gains of eight per cent and five per cent, respectively.

FEWER LIVE STOCK ON CANADIAN FARMS

Estimates of the numbers of live stock on farms in Canada at June 1 this year indicate a decrease for each of the principal kinds of farm animals as compared with the numbers at June 1 last year, according to results of the June survey by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Cattle numbers at 9,470,300, declined 2.6 per cent from June 1 last year. There was, however, no significant change in the number of cows and heifers two years old and over kept mainly for milking purposes. Slight increases in Quebec, Ontario and Alberta were almost completely offset by decreases in other provinces.

Hogs, as reported in the Bureau's press release of September 15, estimated at 4,463,100, were 18.5 per cent below last year. The number of horses on farms decreased 6.3 per cent from last year and at a total of 1,904,900 has now fallen below 2,000,000 for the first time since 1906. Sheep numbers decreased substantially to 2,250,800, almost 17 per cent below last year.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES FOR EIGHT REGIONAL CITIES

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released cost-of-living indexes for eight regional cities for September 1, together with those for August 2 and September 2, 1947. Increases between August 2 and September 1 were registered by seven of the eight cities, ranging from 0.2 points for Toronto and Halifax to 1.8 points for Saskatoon. The index for Saint John remained unchanged at 156.0

Among group changes, seasonal variations in foods lowered prices in eastern centres while at western points, increases were general. Clothing prices were higher in all cities due mainly to the effect of the seasonal inclusion of fall prices. Fuel costs were higher in eastern cities, reflecting increases in coal and coke.

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

<u>City</u>	<u>September 2, 1947</u>	<u>August 2, 1948</u>	<u>September 1, 1948</u>
	(August, 1939=100)		
Halifax	137.0	151.7	151.9
Saint John	137.4	156.0	156.0
Montreal	142.6	160.6	162.1
Toronto	137.3	154.3	154.5
Winnipeg	134.1	150.6	151.6
Saskatoon	140.6	159.5	161.3
Edmonton	135.8	155.5	154.2
Vancouver	138.2	159.5	160.6
Dominion	138.3	156.3	157.6

City index advanced between August 2 and September 1 this year were as follows.

Saskatoon	1.8 points to 161.3
Montreal	1.5 points to 162.1
Vancouver	1.1 points to 160.6
Winnipeg	1.0 points to 151.6
Edmonton	0.7 points to 154.2
Halifax	0.2 points to 151.9
Toronto	0.2 points to 154.5

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.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

Oct. 7, 1948 Sept. 30, 1948 Sept. 9, 1948
(1935-39=100)

Investors' Price Index

(100 Common Stocks)	115.2	111.5	113.7
76 Industrials	110.2	106.3	108.6
16 Utilities	123.3	113.8	121.1
8 Banks	127.5	127.9	129.2

Mining Stock Price Index

(30 Stocks)	82.5	79.7	80.0
25 Golds	62.6	61.6	63.1
5 Base Metals	122.6	115.9	113.7

EMPLOYMENT INDEX AT ALL-TIME
HIGH AT AUGUST 1

Employment in Canada's major industrial divisions at August 1 was 1.3 per cent greater than a month earlier, according to the monthly survey by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Payrolls in these industries advanced 1.8 per cent in the same period.

While the gain in working forces shown by the Bureau's tabulation for the first of August was in keeping with the seasonal trend, it was above the average for midsummer since 1920 but somewhat smaller than at the same date last year. It brought the Bureau's general index of employment, based on the 1926 average as 100, to a new all-time maximum of 200.7, which compares with 198.0 at July 1 and 192.6 for August 1 last year.

Gains in employment over the beginning of July were recorded for all provinces, except Ontario, where the index of employment declined 0.6 per cent. Largest percentage increases were in Nova Scotia, Quebec and British Columbia.

There was a substantial increase during the month in employment in construction, the additions to the working forces reported being above average for the time of year and amounting to 11.6 per cent. Smaller advances were shown in transportation, communications, hotels and restaurants, wholesale trade and logging. No general changes was shown in mining, while employment in manufacturing fell off by 0.5 per cent. There were seasonal increases in the food and beverage industries, but the trend in manufacturing was downward in numerous groups, the most noteworthy losses being in lumber, textile, rubber, electrical apparatus and iron and steel plants.

Compared with a year ago, employment was higher at August 1 in each of the major industrial divisions except logging. The level of employment was also considerably higher in all the non-manufacturing classes. In manufacturing, the index was lower, however, than at August 1 in the war years 1942 to 1944.

Weekly salaries and wages of establishments in the eight leading industries furnishing statistics to the Bureau averaged \$40.66 at August 1 as compared with \$40.48 at July 1 and \$36.53 at August 1, 1947. In the last 12 months, the Bureau report states, there has been an advance of 16 per cent in its general index of payrolls and of 4.2 per cent in the index of employment, while the average weekly earnings of those in recorded employment have risen by 11.3 per cent.

Since June 1, 1941, when the Bureau's current record of payrolls was established, the number of men and women in recorded employment in the eight leading industrial groups has shown an increase of 31.4 per cent, the aggregate weekly salaries and wages of such workers have risen by 107.2 per cent, and their average weekly earnings have advanced by 61 per cent. Including finance, the general gain in recorded employment from June 1, 1941, to August 1 this year amounted to 31.3 per cent, that in indicated payrolls to 106.5 per cent, and in per capita earnings to 59.4 per cent.

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended October 2 amounted to 90,771 cars, a decrease of 631 cars from the year's peak of 91,402 cars established in the preceding week, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Compared with the corresponding week last year, loadings were up by 4,655 cars.

Grain loadings were lighter than in 1947 by 1,372 cars and grain products by 825 cars but livestock increased from 1,517 cars to 2,992. Fresh meats, etc., advanced from 154 cars to 631, coal from 6,993 cars to 7,504, pulpwood from 2,419 cars to 3,627, gasoline and oils from 4,166 cars to 4,877, and l.c.l. merchandise from 18,548 cars to 19,142.

OUTPUT OF CENTRAL ELECTRIC STATIONS IN AUGUST

Central electric stations produced 3,699,472,000 kilowatt hours during August, an increase of 58,000,000 kilowatt hours or 1.6 per cent over August 1947, and an increase of one per cent over July, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first eight months of this year, 29,915,447,000 kilowatt hours were produced compared with 30,190,714,000 in the similar period of 1947.

Off peak or secondary power declined from 473,091,000 kilowatt hours in August last year to 171,007,000, and gross exports to the United States declined from 198,014,000 to 151,595,000 kilowatt hours. Here, also, the large decrease was in secondary power which declined by 73 per cent.

The consumption of primary or firm power in Canada in August increased to 3,414,109,000 kilowatt hours, which has been exceeded on a daily basis only in March, April, May and June this year, and the index number, adjusted for seasonal variations, at 233.5 was exceeded only by the May and July index numbers and then only slightly.

CIVIL AVIATION IN MAY

Revenues of scheduled air carriers amounted to \$2,313,077 in May, an increase of \$661,513 or 40 per cent over May last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Operating expenses increased from \$1,929,531 to \$2,188,296, and the net operating revenue increased from a debit of \$277,967 to a credit of \$124,731. This is the first month this year the carriers earned their operating expenses, and the cumulative operating loss amounted to \$1,156,957 compared with a loss for the first five months last year of \$1,929,132.

Revenue passengers carried by Canadian scheduled air carriers, including passengers received from other air carriers, increased from 47,898 in May last year to 61,149, or by 27.7 per cent. International traffic between Canada and the United States declined by 12.2 per cent, but non-scheduled carriers reported an increase from 5,664 to 13,891 passengers.

RAILWAY FREIGHT TRAFFIC IN JUNE

Tonnage of freight loaded at railway stations in Canada and received from foreign connections totalled 12,563,213 tons in June compared with 12,969,493 in the corresponding month last year, a decline of 3.1 per cent. Domestic loadings were down 268,305 tons while foreign receipts were 137,970 tons lighter. In the first six months of this year, the railways hauled a peacetime record of 73,113,651 tons of freight, a gain of 848,975 tons or 1.2 per cent over the same period of 1947. Of this total, mine products accounted for 35.2 per cent, manufactures and miscellaneous 32.9 per cent, agricultural 16 per cent, forest 14.1 per cent, and animal products 1.8 per cent.

SHIPMENTS OF PRIMARY IRON AND STEEL IN JULY

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 206,243 net tons in July compared with 220,351 net tons in June. The July total included 7,764 tons of semi-finished shapes, 13,197 tons of structurals, 19,321 tons of plates, 32,845 tons of rails, 9,619 tons of tie plates and track material, 33,814 tons of hot rolled bars, 8,709 tons of pipes and tubes, 21,158 tons of wire rods, 21,170 tons of black sheets, 9,237 tons of galvanized sheets, 6,502 tons of castings, 3,053 tons of miscellaneous hot rolled products, and 14,854 tons of all other products. The amount of producers' interchange was 72,455 tons in July and 88,372 tons in June.

SALES OF CLAY PRODUCTS Producers' sales of products made from Canadian clays in July were valued at \$1,624,513 as compared with \$1,621,326 in the preceding month and \$1,341,054 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Aggregate for the seven months ending July was \$8,981,329 compared with \$7,521,662 in the same period of 1947.

RECORD HIGH LEVELS FOR BIRTHS AND NATURAL INCREASE IN 1947 Continuing the general upward trend of wartime and postwar years, Canada's birth rate rose to 23.6 per 1,000 population in 1947, the highest figure on record since the third year after the First World War. The 1947 rate compares with 26.9 in 1946, 23.9 in 1945, and 23.8 in 1944. With the mortality rate unchanged at 9.4 per 1,000 population the rate of natural increase showed a further advance to 19.2 as compared with 17.5 in 1946 and 14.5 in 1945.

There were more live births registered in Canada in 1947 than in any other year. The total was 359,303 as compared with 330,732 in 1946, the previous high figure. All provinces registered more births during the year, with the largest percentage advanced over 1946 shown by British Columbia and Ontario.

New Brunswick for the second successive year had the highest birth rate in the Dominion in 1947 with a figure of 36.2, followed by Prince Edward Island with 31.8, Quebec 31.2, Nova Scotia 31.0, Alberta 30.0, Saskatchewan 27.7, Manitoba 27.5, Ontario 26.0, and British Columbia 25.2.

Total deaths increased moderately during 1947 to 117,668 from 114,931 the previous year. The natural increase in the population for the year at 241,635 was an all-time high figure, comparing with 215,801 in 1946.

MATERNAL AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES LOWER IN 1947 Canada's maternal mortality rate, which has shown a progressive decline in recent years, dropped to a new low of 1.5 per 1,000 live births in 1947, down from 1.8 in 1946 and 2.3 in 1945, according to vital statistics released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Number of maternal deaths in all Canada last year was 555 as compared with 595 in 1946, 660 in 1945, and an average of 790 for the five years, 1941-1945. The 1947 total is a drop of nearly half from the 1936-40 average of 1,043 and more than half the 1931-35 average of 1,153.

Among the provinces, Alberta in 1947 had the lowest maternal mortality for the second successive year at 0.9 per 1,000 live births, while Nova Scotia was next lowest at 1.0, followed by Manitoba with 1.1, Ontario and British Columbia with 1.2 each, New Brunswick with 1.4, Saskatchewan 1.6, Prince Edward Island 2.0, and Quebec 2.2 per 1,000 live births.

The infant mortality rate also showed a further decline in 1947 to 45 per 1,000 live births from 47 in 1946, although total deaths of children under one year increased to 16,324 as against 15,434 in the previous year. The 1947 rate compares with 51 in 1945, an average of 55 for the period 1941-45 and 64 for 1936-40.

REPORTS ISSUED DURING THE WEEK

1. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
2. Quarterly Report on the Stocks of Canned Fruits and Vegetables, July 1 (15 cents).
3. Monthly Traffic Report of Railways, June (10 cents).
4. Area of Field Crops by Subdivision, 1946; Area and Value of Vegetables, Fruits, Greenhouse and Nursery Products, 1945 and Area, 1946 Saskatchewan (10 cents).
5. Employment Situation at Beginning of August, Together with Payrolls (10 cents).
6. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, July (25 cents).
7. Civil Aviation, May (10 cents).
8. Live Stock Survey, June 1, 1948 (10 cents).
9. Current Trends in Food Distribution, August (10 cents).
10. Dairy Factory Production, September (10 cents).
11. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, October 1 (10 cents).
12. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
13. Central Electric Stations, August (10 cents).
14. Products Made from Canadian Clays, July (10 cents).
15. Preliminary Annual Report, Vital Statistics, 1947 (25 cents).
16. Transit Report, June (10 cents).
17. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, October 1 (10 cents).
18. Tobacco Crop Report (10 cents).
19. Mica Mining Industry, 1947 (25 cents).
20. Salt, 1947 (25 cents).
21. Farm Implements and Equipment Sales, 1947 (25 cents).
22. October Estimate of Production of Late-Sown Crops, Potatoes, Roots and Fodder (10 cents).
23. Summary of Foreign Trade, August (10 cents).
24. Imports for Consumption, August (10 cents).
25. Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, August (10 cents).
26. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, October 1 (10 cents).
27. Values and Rents in Relation to Dwelling Size for Urban Centres of 30,000 Population and Over, Prairie Provinces, 1946 (10 cents).
28. Trade of Canada: Volume II -- Exports, 1947 (\$2.00).
29. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, August (10 cents).
30. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, June (25 cents).
31. Cold Storage Holdings of Meat and Lard, October 1 (10 cents).
32. Automobile Parts Industry, 1946 (25 cents).
33. Miscellaneous Iron and Steel Products Industry, 1946 (10 cents).
34. Primary Iron and Steel, July (10 cents).
35. Wholesale Trade, August (10 cents).

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

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010729674