

# D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN



----- Dominion Bureau of Statistics -----

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

- \*\* DOMESTIC EXPORTS in January were valued at \$235,400,000, down \$30,800,000 from the December total but up \$26,800,000 over the January 1947 figure.  
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- \*\* CREAMERY BUTTER stocks in nine cities of Canada as at the close of business on February 13 amounted to 16,110,000 pounds compared with 18,168,000 on February 6.  
... .
- \*\* WHOLESALE SALES in nine lines of trade for the year 1947 were 12 per cent higher in dollar volume than in the preceding year.  
... .
- \*\* CENTRAL ELECTRIC stations' output in 1947 reached a new high record of 44,986,363,000 kilowatt hours, an increase of eight per cent over the 1946 total of 41,603,708,000.  
... .
- \*\* CANADIAN WHEAT in store or in transit in North America at midnight on February 12 amounted to 117,427,000 bushels as compared with 122,203,000 bushels on February 6, and 125,832,000 bushels on the corresponding date last year.  
... .
- \*\* LEATHER FOOTWEAR production in 1947 totalled 35,574,000 pairs, a decline of almost 18 per cent from the preceding year.  
... .
- \*\* CAR LOADINGS on Canadian railways for the week ending February 7 declined to 70,768 cars from the previous week's total of 73,189 cars, but increased 8.5 per cent over the same week last year.  
... .
- \*\* SALES OF PAINTS, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers in 1947 were valued at \$70,712,000, an increase of almost 20 per cent over 1946.  
... .

## OUTPUT OF CENTRAL ELECTRIC STATIONS AT RECORD HIGH LEVEL IN 1947

Output of central electric stations rose to a new high record of 44,986,363,000 kilowatt hours in 1947, an increase of eight per cent over the 1946 total of 41,603,708,000 kilowatt hours, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In December, 3,729,751,000 kilowatt hours were produced compared with 3,613,726,000 in November and 3,672,116,000 in December, 1946.

Consumption of primary power in 1947 -- production, less exports and secondary power -- totalled 37,322,069,000 kilowatt hours compared with 31,063,240,000 in the preceding year. In December, consumption rose to 3,388,899,000 kilowatt hours compared with 3,227,369,000 in November and 2,877,011,000 a year ago.

Exports to the United States during the year were recorded at 2,120,287,000 kilowatt hours compared with 2,481,631,000 in 1946. In December, exports were 140,271,000 kilowatt hours compared with 137,630,000 in November, and 168,598,000 a year earlier.

MERCHANDISE EXPORTS IN JANUARY

Canadian merchandise was exported in January to the value of \$335,400,000, down \$30,800,000 from the December total but up \$26,800,000 over the January 1947 figure, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The month's export trade exceeded the monthly average for 1947 by \$4,200,000. Exports to foreign countries rose from \$129,700,000 a year ago to \$146,900,000, and to British Empire countries from \$78,900,000 to \$88,500,000.

Purchases of Canadian commodities by the United States rose from \$79,453,000 in January last year to \$104,999,000, while the value of shipments to the United Kingdom increased from \$50,465,000 to \$64,948,000. France was third with a total of \$6,484,000 compared with \$7,441,000, followed by the Union of South Africa at \$4,128,000 compared with \$6,174,000.

Exports to Newfoundland were valued at \$3,933,000 compared with \$4,276,000 in January last year, China \$3,700,000 compared with \$4,310,000, Jamaica \$2,141,000 (\$1,275,000); Trinidad and Tobago \$2,311,000 (\$2,116,000); Australia \$2,013,000 (\$4,362,000); Czechoslovakia \$2,290,000 (\$588,000); Netherlands \$2,248,000 (\$3,562,000); Norway, \$2,878,000 (\$1,728,000). Exports to Latin American countries as a group fell from \$15,080,000 to \$7,878,000.

Among the commodity groups the most substantial increase was again shown for wood, wood products and paper, which rose from \$58,900,000 to \$72,100,000. Increases were registered for all the principal items, newsprint paper, planks and boards, wood pulp accounting for a large part of the rise. With substantial increases in the value of exports of bacon and hams, fish and fishery products, cheese, shell and processed eggs, the animals and animal products group rose from \$28,509,000 in January last year to \$36,637,000.

The non-ferrous group of exports rose from \$22,454,000 in January 1947 to \$31,370,000, substantial gains being shown for aluminum and products, copper and products, lead and products, and nickel; zinc and products were lower in value. The non-metallies as a group rose from \$5,470,000 to \$6,212,000, and chemicals from \$8,671,000 to \$7,259,000.

As a group, exports of agricultural and vegetable products fell from \$56,932,000 in January 1947 to \$53,299,000, wheat, wheat flour, alcoholic beverages, rubber and products being lower, other grains and seeds higher. The iron and iron products group also declined from \$21,425,000 to \$19,243,000, sharpest decrease being recorded for freight automobiles. Increases were shown for rolling-mill products, farm implements and machinery, and other machinery.

WEEKLY SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

The following are security price indexes of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, on the base 1935-39=100, for the week ending February 12, a week and month earlier:

	<u>February 12</u>	<u>February 5</u>	<u>January 15</u>
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(100 Common Stocks) .....	100.6	104.3	108.3
76 Industrials .....	94.2	98.3	102.9
16 Utilities .....	109.3	111.6	113.4
8 Banks .....	128.4	130.9	133.0
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks) .....	81.2	83.6	84.0
25 Golds .....	69.0	70.3	70.6
5 Base Metals .....	101.1	109.2	109.6

### STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on February 12 amounted to 117,427,000 bushels compared with 122,203,000 bushels on February 5, and 125,882,000 bushels on the corresponding date last year. Stocks on the latest date comprised 110,055,000 bushels in Canadian positions and 7,372,000 bushels in United States positions.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending February 12 totalled 904,000 bushels compared with 1,419,000 in the preceding week, bringing the aggregate for the period August 1 - February 12 to 202,107,000 bushels as compared with 248,193,000 in the similar period of the preceding crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending February 12, totals for the preceding week being in brackets: oats, 533,100 (770,800) bushels; barley, 366,000 (569,000); rye, 15,700 (21,600); flaxseed, 7,900 (18,200).

### STOCKS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Stocks of frozen fruit and fruit in preservatives held by storages and factories on February 1 amounted to 27,759,000 pounds compared with 28,370,000 pounds on January 1 and 28,936,000 pounds on February 1 last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine, totalled 12,571,000 pounds compared with 15,843,000 on January 1 and 6,844,000 a year ago.

With the exception of beets, there was a general decline in the stocks of Canadian vegetables on February 1 as compared with the same date last year. Stocks of potatoes fell from 411,700 tons to 316,600 tons, onions from 11,700 tons to 8,200, carrots from 8,100 tons to 4,200, cabbages from 3,200 tons to 460, parsnips from 937 tons to 474, and celery from 18,700 crates to 2,770 crates.

Stocks of Canadian apples, including the holdings of commercial growers on February 1 were 3,416,000 bushels compared with 4,911,000 on January 1 and 2,192,000 on the same date last year, while the stocks of pears were 16,900 bushels compared with 33,300 on January 1 and 13,950 on February 1, 1946.

### STOCKS OF FISH IN COLD STORAGE

Stocks of frozen fish in cold storage on February 1 amounted to 34,965,000 pounds compared with 40,779,000 pounds on January 1 and 34,738,000 pounds on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Holdings on the latest date comprised 32,136,000 pounds frozen fresh and 2,829,000 pounds frozen smoked.

Stocks of salmon -- frozen fresh and frozen smoked -- totalled 11,131,000 pounds on February 1 compared with 8,095,000 a year ago, sea herring and kippers 8,360,000 pounds compared with 6,903,000, cod 2,771,000 pounds compared with 8,649,000, and haddock and finnan haddie, 1,099,000 pounds compared with 896,000.

### STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER IN NINE CANADIAN CITIES

Stocks of creamery butter in nine Canadian cities as at the close of business on February 13 amounted to 16,109,958 pounds compared with 18,168,459 pounds on February 6, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Holdings were as follows by cities, totals for February 6 being in brackets: Quebec, 1,236,973 (1,356,460) pounds; Montreal, 6,005,151 (6,664,472); Toronto, 2,019,968 (2,141,207); Winnipeg, 2,648,473 (3,271,127); Regina, 175,445 (226,101); Saskatoon, 104,388 (108,014); Edmonton, 807,339 (909,626); Calgary, 648,713 (813,709); Vancouver, 2,463,508 (2,678,743).

WHOLESALE SALES UP 12  
PER CENT IN 1947

Dollar volume of wholesale sales in nine lines of trade for the year 1947 was 12 per cent higher than in 1946, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. December sales were 13 per cent in excess of December 1946, but dropped 15 per cent from November. The general unadjusted index of sales, on the base 1935-39=100, stood at 251.8 for December, 295.0 for November, and 222.2 for December, 1946.

December sales by hardware wholesalers were 29 per cent higher than in December 1946, a considerably larger increase than the 17 per cent registered for the 12 months of 1947 compared with 1946. Automotive equipment dealers reported a sales advance of 20 per cent in December and a cumulative 12-month increase of 10 per cent.

The dry goods and groceries trades, while reporting substantial increases in sales in December over the same month of 1946 of 18 per cent and 14 per cent, respectively, did not maintain the increase recorded in earlier months. The cumulative increase for the 12 months of 1947 for dry goods amounted to 24 per cent, while that for groceries was 17 per cent.

Tobacco and confectionery, footwear, and drug wholesalers had December sales ranging from 14 per cent to 18 per cent higher than in the same month of 1946. These increases exceeded by a considerable margin the gains for the year as a whole. Percentage increases for these trades in December compared with the same month a year ago, with the cumulative 12-month increases in brackets, are as follows: tobacco and confectionery, 18 per cent (seven per cent); footwear, 17 per cent (eight per cent); and drugs, 14 per cent (four per cent). Clothing wholesalers' sales were 13 per cent in excess of those for December 1946, while sales for the year were 10 per cent higher.

Sales of wholesale fruit and vegetable dealers, which have continued lower than in 1946 throughout the year with a drop of six per cent, were 12 per cent lower in December than in the same month of 1946. This was the greatest decrease registered for any month of 1947.

Stocks in the hands of wholesalers at the end of 1947 were valued 20 per cent higher than at the end of 1946. This gain was less than those recorded in all earlier months of 1947. The drop in increases in value of stocks compared with 1946 was apparent in all trades with the exception of tobacco and confectionery.

PASSENGERS CARRIED BY TRANSIT SYSTEMS

The number of passengers carried by transit systems across Canada totalled 129,851,000 during September, an increase of 3,876,000 or three per cent over the same month of 1946, and 4,157,000 more than in August, 1947. Urban lines increased their patronage by over 3,416,000, while interurban lines carried 460,000 more passengers than in September, 1946. High levels of employment serve to maintain a steady volume of traffic. Total revenues for the systems filing monthly returns advanced to \$10,823,000 compared with \$10,490,000 in September, 1946.

CAR LOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ending February 7 declined to 70,768 cars from the previous week's total of 73,189 cars, but increased 8.5 per cent over loadings in the same week last year of 65,241 cars. The increase over 1947 was practically all in the western division where the total advanced from 18,150 cars to 23,419 cars.

Loadings of railway revenue freight during January totalled 317,000 cars compared with 321,000 in December and 302,000 in January, 1946. Estimated total of tons of freight loaded during the month stood at 8,492,000 compared with 8,566,000 tons in December and 7,854,000 tons a year ago.

PRODUCTION OF WASHING MACHINES  
AND ELECTRIC REFRIGERATORS

Canadian manufacturers helped to make washday labours lighter for thousands of Canadian housewives last year, when they turned out no fewer than 219,000 shiny new washing machines, most of them electric models. This was a peak year, 99,000 more than in 1946, and 85,000 above the previous peak of 133,000 in 1937. During 1947, 67,000 washing machines were imported, 17,000 were exported, leaving a net additional supply of 50,000 units.

Manufacturers of domestic type electric refrigerators also had a busy time last year when they produced no fewer than 97,400 of these home appliances, 39,900 more than in 1946 and 33,300 more than in 1941, the next highest year. Imports in 1947 of domestic or store type electric refrigerators amounted to 41,400 units, and the exports, 5,200 units.

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SALES OF RADIO RECEIVING SETS

Producers' sales of radio receiving sets were further increased in November, the month's transactions involving 114,900 sets which sold for a total of \$8,618,100 as compared with 64,200 sets selling for \$3,658,000 in the corresponding month of 1946. During the first 11 months of 1947, producers sold 747,100 radios for \$51,365,000 as compared with 486,500 sets for \$23,866,500 in the similar period of 1946.

Sales were higher in all provinces both in the month and in the cumulative period. Figures for the 11-month period follow by provinces, totals for the same period of 1946 being in brackets: Maritimos, 56,172 (34,700); Quebec, 152,928 (93,320); Ontario, 338,435 (222,434); Manitoba, 60,011 (44,518); Saskatchewan, 33,314 (24,828); Alberta, 42,569 (28,394); British Columbia, 63,707 (38,276).

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STOCKS OF RAW HIDES AND SKINS

Stocks of raw cattle hides at the end of 1947 totalled 693,000, an increase of almost seven per cent over the stocks held at the end of 1946, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Calf and kip skins advanced to 719,000 from 574,000, goat and kid skins to 145,000 from 118,000, horse hides to 60,000 from 33,000, while sheep and lamb skins were reduced to 77,000 dozen from 85,000 dozen.

Production of sole leather in December increased by 38,500 pounds as compared with the November figures. Deliveries increased by 496,000 pounds and finished stock on hand decreased by 208,600 pounds. In cattle upper leather, production decreased by 129,700 square feet, deliveries by 496,700 square feet, while finished stock on hand increased by 431,400 square feet. In calf and kip upper leather, production increased by 406,900 square feet, deliveries by 174,900 square feet, and finished stock on hand by 391,100 square feet.

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PRODUCTION OF LEATHER FOOTWEAR IN 1947

Production of leather footwear in Canada in 1947 amounted to 35,574,000 pairs as compared with 43,255,000 in the preceding year, a decline of almost 18 per cent, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output in December amounted to 2,548,000 pairs as compared with 2,737,000 in November and 3,144,000 in December, 1946.

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FEWER BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES,  
MORE DEATHS IN DECEMBER

There was a decline of eight per cent in birth registrations, 11 per cent fewer marriages, and an increase of 10 per cent in deaths in December as compared with the same month of 1946 in cities, towns and villages of Canada with a population of 10,000 and over. Births totalled 13,322 compared with 14,455, marriages 4,627 compared with 5,170, and deaths 5,654 compared with 5,153.

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### MINERAL PRODUCTION HIGHER FOR MOST PROVINCES IN 1947

With output valued at \$241,666,000, Ontario -- established leader among the provinces in mineral production -- accounted for 39 per cent of Canada's 1947 production, estimated at the all-time high value of \$619,100,000, according to further preliminary figures for last year just issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The 1947 figure for Ontario compares with \$191,544,000 and a proportion of just over 38 per cent for 1946, and \$216,542,000 and over 43 per cent of the total for 1945.

British Columbia ousted Quebec last year from second place among the provinces with an increase in output valued to \$113,109,000 from \$74,623,000 in 1946 and \$64,064,000 in 1945. Quebec's production was valued at \$110,627,000 as against \$92,785,000 in the preceding year.

Value of production for other provinces and the two territories, with 1946 figures in brackets was: Alberta, \$62,690,000 (\$60,083,000); Nova Scotia, \$32,745,000 (\$35,350,000); Saskatchewan, \$31,988,000 (\$24,481,000); Manitoba, \$17,289,000 (\$16,404,000); New Brunswick, \$4,981,000 (\$4,813,000); Northwest Territories, \$2,363,000 (\$1,040,000); Yukon, \$1,674,000 (\$1,694,000).

### NAIL OUTPUT SHARPLY HIGHER IN 1947

Production of wire nails in Canada during 1947 amounted to 77,379 tons, up 18,471 tons or 31 per cent over 1946 when strikes slowed output during several months, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The year's output has been expanded only in 1941, when 82,362 tons were turned out. December production was 6,595 tons as against 5,764 tons a year earlier. Exports of wire nails in the year totalled only 63,900 pounds, while imports of wire nails and wire roofing nails aggregated 8,293,400 pounds.

Output of iron and steel cut nails was lower in 1947, amounting to 938 tons as compared with 957 tons in 1946, but wire staples increased 2,005 as against 1,725 tons, and tacks of steel, brass and copper to 2,403 compared with 2,303 tons.

### SALES OF PAINTS AND VARNISHES INCREASED 19.6 PER CENT IN 1947

Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers, which normally account for 96 per cent of the total Canadian production, amounted to \$70,712,000 in 1947 as compared with \$59,100,000 in the preceding year, an increase of 19.6 per cent, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In December the sales were valued at \$4,633,000 as compared with \$3,961,000 in the same month of 1946, an advance of 17 per cent.

### PRODUCTION OF SALT IN 1947

Production of common salt in 1947 amounted to 760,800 tons, an increase of 33 per cent over the preceding year's total of 570,700 tons. Output of table, common fine and other commercial grades totalled 346,960 tons compared with 317,960 tons, and salt for the manufacture of chemicals, 413,800 tons compared with 252,700 tons. Producers' stocks at the end of the year amounted to 25,300 tons compared with 11,200 at the end of 1946.

### STOCKS OF RAW AND REFINED SUGAR

Refinery stocks of raw sugar on January 24 amounted to 130,000,000 pounds as compared with 134,949,000 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Holdings of refined sugar totalled 155,608,000 pounds as compared with 205,120,000. The amount of sugar manufactured during the period January 1 - January 24 was 60,544,000 pounds as compared with 54,801,000 in the similar period of 1947, while sales during the period were 55,586,000 pounds compared with 53,723,000.

SEED CROP ESTIMATES

Reflecting a general decline in production, the value of Canada's 1947 forage seed crop has been estimated at \$3,677,000, a decline of 17 per cent from the estimate for the preceding year which was placed at \$10,490,000. The value of the vegetable and field-root seeds also was below the 1946 level, being estimated at \$2,279,000 compared with \$2,427,000. With the exception of alfalfa, Kentucky blue grass and creeping red fescue, all crops were smaller than in the previous year. Notwithstanding the decline, production of most kinds was greater than the 10-year, 1937-46, average harvest.

FARM WAGE RATES HIGHER

Wages paid to hired help on Canadian farms as at January 15, 1948 indicate a continuation of the upward trend in evidence since the inception of this survey in 1940. With board provided by the employer, the average rate per day for all Canada at January 15 this year was \$3.62 as compared with \$3.23 for the same date in 1947. When no board was provided the daily rate in 1948 was \$4.66 as against \$4.15 a year earlier. Daily rates were highest in British Columbia and lowest in Prince Edward Island.

The average monthly wage rate with board for all Canada was \$76.30 as against \$63.29 a year ago. When workers provided their own board the average rate for men hired by the month rose from \$89.25 in 1947 to \$100 in 1948. Monthly rates were lowest in Prince Edward Island, highest in New Brunswick when board was provided and highest in British Columbia without board.

REPORTS ISSUED DURING THE WEEK

1. Production of Leather Footwear, December (10 cents).
2. Reports Entered for Consumption, December, and 12 months Ended December, 1947 (25 cents).
3. Wholesale Trade, December (10 cents).
4. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
5. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, February 1 (10 cents).
6. Central Electric Stations, December (10 cents).
7. Railway Revenue Freight Loadings, January (10 cents).
8. Farm Wage Rates, January 15, 1948 (10 cents).
9. Transit Report, September (10 cents).
10. Mineral Production of Canada, 1947 (25 cents).
11. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
12. Sugar Report, January 1 to January 24, 1948 (10 cents).
13. Births, Deaths and Marriages, December (10 cents).
14. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, February 1 (10 cents).
15. Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, December (10 cents).
16. Nails, Tacks and Staples, December (10 cents).
17. Steel Wire, December (10 cents).
18. Wire Fencing, December (10 cents).
19. Housing Characteristics, Transcona, Manitoba, 1946 (10 cents).
20. Radio Receiving Sets, November (10 cents).
21. Domestic Exports, January (10 cents).
22. Seed Crops, 1947 (10 cents).
23. Salt, December (10 cents).
24. Hides, Skins and Leather, December (10 cents).
25. Domestic Type Electric Refrigerators, December (10 cents).
26. Domestic Washing Machines, December (10 cents).
27. Occupied Farms Classified by Total Farm Products Sold or Used in 1945 (10 cents).

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