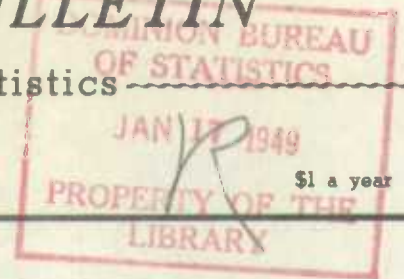


D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA - CANADA



Vol. XVII - No. 2

Saturday, January 15, 1949

--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES for eight regional cities all showed decreases between November 1 and December 1, ranging from 0.3 points for Vancouver to 1.2 points for Halifax. Over the similar period the Dominion index receded 0.7 points.

THE INDEX NUMBER OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS moved downward in November for the third successive month.

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS both reached record levels at the beginning of November. As compared with October 1, the gain in employment was 0.1 per cent, accompanied by a rise of 0.9 per cent in the weekly salaries and wages.

STEEL INGOT PRODUCTION in Canada during November was again close to record levels, amounting to nearly 268,000 tons as compared with 272,000 in October and 247,000 in November, 1947.

FACTORY SHIPMENTS OF CANADIAN-MADE MOTOR VEHICLES -- which had been running slightly below 1947 in the first 10 months of 1948 -- increased sharply in November for the third successive month, to bring the 11-month total slightly above that for the same period of 1947.

VALUE OF WORK PERFORMED BY THE CANADIAN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY soared to an all-time record figure of \$1,256,536,000 in 1947, or 45 per cent over the preceding year.

STOCKS OF CANADIAN WHEAT IN STORE or in transit in North America at midnight on December 30 amounted to 170,945,000 bushels, showing a decline of 1,349,000 bushels from the December 23 figure of 172,294,000 bushels but 31,278,000 bushels in advance of the corresponding total of 139,667,000 bushels for 1947.

STOCKS OF MEAT IN COLD STORAGE on January 1 amounted to 50,754,000 pounds as compared with 45,311,000 on December 1 and 74,152,000 on the corresponding date last year.

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER were lower on January 1, totalling 37,129,000 pounds as compared with 46,710,000 on December 1 and 43,818,000 on the corresponding date last year.

CANADIAN PRODUCTION OF CREAMERY BUTTER showed an increase in December for the second successive month.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES FOR EIGHT REGIONAL CITIES SHOW DECLINES

Cost-of-living indexes for eight regional cities all showed decreases between November 1 and December 1, ranging from 0.3 points for Vancouver to 1.2 points for Halifax. Over the same period the Dominion index receded 0.7 points.

As in the case of the all-Canada figure, the declines in the indexes for the eight cities mainly reflected easier prices for foods, notably eggs. Meats, fruits and vegetables were fractionally lower at most centres also. Other main groups recorded relatively narrow changes during the month.

Composite city index declines between November 1 and December 1, 1948 were as follows: Halifax, 1.2 to 150.8; Saint John, 0.7 to 155.5; Montreal, 1.0 to 161.5; Toronto, 0.7 to 154.5; Winnipeg, 0.8 to 152.2; Saskatoon, 0.7 to 161.6; Edmonton, 0.6 to 153.6; and Vancouver, 0.3 to 160.8.

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

	<u>December 1, 1947</u>	<u>November 1, 1948</u>	<u>December 1, 1948</u>
	(August, 1939=100)		
Halifax	141.8	152.0	150.8
Saint John	143.9	156.2	155.5
Montreal	148.6	162.5	161.5
Toronto	144.0	155.2	154.5
Winnipeg	140.8	153.0	152.2
Saskatoon	147.5	162.3	161.6
Edmonton	139.9	154.2	153.6
Vancouver	146.0	161.1	160.8
Dominion	144.8	158.3	157.6

The city indexes show changes in living costs for each city and compare the extent of rise or fall between cities. They do not, however, compare the actual levels of living costs.

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on December 30 amounted to 170,945,000 bushels, showing a decline of 1,349,000 bushels from the December 23 figure of 172,294,000 bushels but up 31,278,000 bushels in advance of the corresponding total of 139,667,000 bushels for 1947.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending December 30 totalled 3,026,000 bushels compared with 1,897,000 in the same week of 1947. Overseas export clearances during the week amounted to 3,259,000 bushels as against 2,926,000 in 1947.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending December 30, totals for the same week of 1947 being in brackets: oats, 535,000 (643,000) bushels; barley, 592,000 (742,000); rye, 103,000 (22,000); flaxseed, 78,000 (35,000).

1949 WORLD WHEAT OUTLOOK Substantial wheat supplies are a distinct possibility for 1949, observes the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in its monthly review of the world wheat situation, but adverse weather in the large producing areas could easily change the outlook.

Weather has already taken its toll of the current wheat harvest in Argentina, where severe November frosts and prolonged drought in some provinces have reduced crop estimates from the 130-million-bushel level to around 150 million bushels, down some 100 million from the previous harvest. Satisfactory maturing weather in Australia has favoured the harvest of a crop now estimated at about 190 million bushels -- some 30 million below last year's crop but still 20 million above the 1935-39 average. Both Argentina and Australia have moderate carry-overs of old grain but, despite this, it is apparent that the contribution of both these countries to world trade during 1949 is likely to be less than in 1948.

With the bulk of the wheat crops in the Northern Hemisphere not ready for harvest until midsummer, any comments about probable production must be in the nature of very tentative forecasts. In Canada it is considered likely that some increase in spring wheat planting may occur in the Prairie Provinces. The minimum initial payment to farmers (\$.55 per bushel) is known and with decreased prices prevailing for flaxseed and rye a significant diversion of acreage from these crops to wheat may be anticipated. Again, western Canada experienced one of the driest autumn seasons on record, and while precipitation and other weather conditions during the growing season are the dominant factors, the shortage of fall moisture and its possible adverse effects on spring seeding and germination cannot be overlooked. A dry spring may encourage sowings of wheat at the expense of coarse grains, since that crop can withstand drought to a greater extent than other cereals. However, should serious drought conditions persist throughout the seeding season increased summerfallow acreages would probably curtail any tendency toward a large increase in wheat seedings. Unsatisfactory fall seeding weather has resulted in an estimated decline of 19 per cent or 175,000 acres in the acreage seeded to fall wheat in the province of Ontario.

The largest addition to world wheat supplies in 1949 may again come from the United States. On December 20 the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture reported that the acreage of winter wheat seeded for all purposes is estimated at 61,370,000 acres, more than five per cent larger than last year's record of 58,161,000 acres. The estimated acreage is one-fourth greater than the 10-year average of 47,684,000 acres. On the basis of December 1 conditions, the 1949 winter wheat crop is forecast at 965 million bushels. Should such a crop be realized and an average United States spring wheat crop also be harvested total 1949 wheat production in the United States would for the third year in succession exceed one and a quarter billion bushels.

While few official estimates are available from wheat importing countries, trade advices from Europe indicate that fall wheat sowings in several countries have exceeded or equalled those of a year ago. Weather has favoured fall seeding and germination, and the outlook in areas reported upon is quite generally optimistic.

INDEX NUMBER OF FARM PRICES
AGAIN LOWER IN NOVEMBER

The index number of farm prices of agricultural products moved downward in November for the third successive month. Lower prices for some livestock products and grain largely accounted for a two-point drop to 250.1 from the revised October figure of 252.1. This index reached its peak of 256.0 in August and since that time has declined steadily. While the November figure is below that of the preceding month, it is substantially above the 212.1 established in November, 1947.

November indexes for four provinces were lower than in the preceding month, the remaining five moving in an upward direction. Alberta's index showed the sharpest decline from 249.9 in October to 243.0, while that for Ontario fell from 274.2 to 271.2, Saskatchewan from 223.8 to 222.6, and Nova Scotia from 207.3 to 206.6.

The index for Prince Edward Island rose from 195.7 to 196.8, New Brunswick from 221.8 to 223.3, Quebec from 272.8 to 274.0, Manitoba from 246.8 to 248.8, and British Columbia from 250.4 to 253.4.

CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION
HIGHER IN DECEMBER

For the second successive month, Canadian production of creamery butter showed an increase in December, gaining 16.4 per cent over the same month of 1947. In November, output was nine per cent greater than a year earlier. The only other increase last year was in June.

The month's output amounted to 11,936,000 pounds as compared with 10,254,000 in the corresponding month of 1947. Gains were registered by all provinces except Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Cumulative total of the month's figures for 1948 show that the output for the full year aggregated 283,774,000 pounds as compared with 290,841,000 in 1947, a decline of 2.4 per cent.

The cheddar cheese make in December amounted to 1,183,000 pounds as compared with 1,277,000 in December, 1947, a decline of 7.4 per cent. For the year 1948 the figure was 86,476,000 pounds as compared with 119,703,000 in the preceding year, a reduction of 27.8 per cent.

Output of concentrated milk products in December totalled 19,685,000 pounds as compared with 14,494,000 in the same month of 1947, bringing the cumulative figure for the year 1948 to 392,359,000 pounds compared with 337,248,000 a year earlier. The gain in the month was 35.8 per cent, and in the 12-month period, 16.3 per cent.

STOCKS OF DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Stocks of creamery butter were lower on January 1, totalling 37,129,000 pounds as compared with 46,710,000 on December 1 and 43,818,000 on the corresponding date last year. The figure for January 1 this year included 5,001,000 pounds of imported butter. Cheese stocks amounted to 34,566,000 pounds compared with 37,546,000 on December 1 and 30,721,000 a year ago.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on January 1 at 16,267,000 pounds, were slightly lower than the December 1 holdings of 18,121,000 pounds. Skim milk powder stocks were 7,943,000 pounds as compared with 7,444,000 on December 1, and 5,070,000 a year ago.

Holdings of shell eggs on January 1 amounted to 283,000 cases as compared with 270,000 on December 1 and 422,000 a year ago. Stocks of poultry meat at 17,370,000 pounds, were moderately higher than the December 1 holdings of 17,028,000 pounds, but were down sharply from the January 1, 1948 total of 35,438,000 pounds.

MEAT STOCKS ON JANUARY 1 Stocks of meat in cold storage on January 1 amounted to 50,754,000 pounds as compared with 45,311,000 on December 1 and 74,152,000 on the corresponding date last year. Current frozen stocks included 11,267,000 pounds of pork, 23,228,000 pounds of beef, 5,886,000 pounds of veal, and 5,752,000 pounds of mutton and lamb.

Holdings of fresh meats, not frozen, at January 1 were 12,456,000 pounds compared with 19,101,000 pounds a month earlier and 19,701,000 pounds on January 1, 1948. This year's January 1 holdings consisted of 4,080,000 pounds of pork, 6,495,000 pounds of beef, 437,000 pounds of veal, and 284,000 pounds of mutton and lamb.

Stocks of meat, cured and in cure, were 15,197,000 pounds as compared with 18,027,000 pounds on December 1 and 22,516,000 pounds a year ago. The current total consisted of 12,606,000 pounds of pork, 901,000 pounds of beef, and a total of 1,690,000 pounds not classified as to kind.

Lard stocks amounted to 3,180,000 pounds, 1,377,000 pounds more than last month and 87,000 pounds less than last year.

HIGHWAY TRAFFIC AT CANADIAN BORDER
POINTS UP FIVE PER CENT IN NOVEMBER

Highway traffic between Canada and the United States was five per cent higher in November than in the corresponding month of 1947.

The cumulative increase for the first 11 months of the year over the same period of 1947 was seven per cent.

The increase in November was reflected both in American traffic entering Canada and in Canadian traffic returning from the United States, respective increases standing at four per cent and nine per cent. The aggregate number of border crossings in November was 568,600, consisting of 392,200 foreign entries and 176,400 Canadian vehicles returning.

MOTOR VEHICLE SHIPMENTS
CONTINUED UPWARD IN NOVEMBER

Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles -- which had been running slightly below 1947 in the first 10 months of 1948 -- increased sharply in

November for the third successive month, to bring the 11-month total slightly above that for the same period of 1947.

November shipments totalled 26,794 units compared with 25,057 in October and 23,240 units in November, 1947. Aggregate for the 11 months was 236,873 compared with 236,705 for January-November, 1947.

Shipments in November consisted of 18,475 passenger cars and 8,319 commercial vehicles. Of the passenger cars, 13,932 were for sale in Canada and 4,543 for export, while 6,060 of the commercial vehicles were destined for domestic sales and 2,259 for shipment abroad.

During the 11 months ending November, 188,819 units were shipped for sale in Canada and 48,054 for export. Of the former, 121,738 were passenger models and 67,081 commercial vehicles, while 26,546 of the export total were passenger cars and 21,508 commercial vehicles.

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES
UP 18 PER CENT IN DECEMBER

Department store sales increased 18 per cent in December over the corresponding month of 1947, according to preliminary figures. Alberta had the largest gain in

sales during the month with a rise of 27 per cent, followed by Saskatchewan and the Maritimes with increases of 22 per cent. The increase in Manitoba was 18 per cent, Ontario 17 per cent, Quebec 16 per cent, and British Columbia 15 per cent.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS AT
RECORD LEVELS AT NOVEMBER 1

Industrial employment and payrolls both reached record levels at the beginning of November, according to data received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 19,488 establishments in the eight major industrial divisions. As compared with October 1, the gain in employment was 0.1 per cent, accompanied by a rise of 0.9 per cent in the weekly salaries and wages.

Based on the 1926 average as 100, the general index number of employment in the eight leading industries at the beginning of November was 203.5 as compared with 203.3 at October 1, and 197.8 at November 1, 1947. As compared with November 1, 1947, there was an increase of 2.9 per cent, accompanied by that of 14.8 per cent in the index of payrolls. Both indexes were at all-time maximums. The indicated weekly earnings averaged \$42.16 as compared with \$41.80 at October 1, and \$37.79 at November 1, 1947.

Improvement over October 1 was recorded in logging, mining and trade, in which recorded employment rose by 19.6 per cent, 0.7 per cent and 2.6 per cent, respectively. The trend in the remaining major industrial classes was downward. The percentage losses varied from 2.4 per cent in construction and 3.8 per cent in the service industries for which data are available, to 0.8 per cent in communications and 0.9 per cent in manufacturing. Within the last-named group, there were marked increases in the textile division, with smaller advances in the paper product, printing and publishing, rubber, electrical apparatus, miscellaneous manufactured product and some other industries.

Lumber and pulp and paper mills, vegetable food-processing and iron and steel plants, however, showed curtailment, which in some cases was seasonal. The seasonal factor also influenced the changes in many other industries.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>January 6, 1949</u>	<u>December 30, 1948</u>	<u>December 9, 1948</u>
		(1935-39=100)	
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(100 Common Stocks)	116.3	115.8	116.3
76 Industrials	111.4	111.0	111.6
16 Utilities	121.4	120.5	120.5
8 Banks	133.6	132.1	132.9
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks)	88.6	85.8	82.5
25 Golds	68.5	65.7	59.8
5 Base Metals	129.0	126.1	128.8

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY HAD
RECORD YEAR IN 1947

With an increase of nearly 45 per cent over the preceding year, the value of work performed by the Canadian construction industry soared to an all-time record figure of \$1,256,536,000 in 1947. While increased costs of labour and materials accounted for part of the rise, the number of builders and contractors reporting to the Bureau during the year also climbed to a record total of 26,542, or 2,749 more than in 1946.

In keeping with the sharp rise in the value of the year's work, employment and salary and wage payments rose steeply. The number of salaried employees and wage-earners increased from 198,851 to 250,330, and the salaries and wages from \$344,893,000 to \$482,907,000. General, trade, sub-contractors and builders reported 204,954 employees as compared with 165,518 in 1946, and salaries and wages totalling \$403,251,000 compared with \$295,283,000.

All provinces shared in the construction boom in 1947, Ontario and Quebec together accounting as in 1946 for two-thirds of the value of work performed. Ontario's total for the year rose to \$501,651,000 from \$347,616,000, and that for Quebec advanced to \$338,515,000 from \$225,582,000. Total for British Columbia was \$148,813,000 compared with \$100,148,000, Alberta \$67,651,000 compared with \$51,573,000, Manitoba \$61,254,000 (\$43,463,000); Nova Scotia \$52,897,000 (\$40,858,000); New Brunswick \$42,675,000 (\$27,761,000); Saskatchewan \$40,009,000 (\$29,277,000); and Prince Edward Island \$3,071,000 (\$2,382,000).

New construction was reported to the value of \$1,001,909,000 in 1947, climbing \$424,537,000 or 73.5 per cent over the 1946 valuation of \$557,372,000. Additions, alterations, maintenance and repairs, on the other hand, fell from \$291,289,000 to \$254,626,000, or by 12.6 per cent.

The value of building construction rose from \$490,408,000 in 1946 to \$658,383,000, an increase of 34.3 per cent. Institutional structures increased from \$48,624,000 to \$73,362,000, commercial from \$88,082,000 to \$151,131,000, industrial from \$151,306,000 to \$193,053,000. Other types of construction, such as farm buildings, hangars, barracks and hutments fell from \$8,769,000 to \$7,534,000.

Engineering construction again advanced substantially in 1947 when the value of work performed rose to \$417,665,000 from \$236,491,000. Building trades, which includes jobbing and custom work, showed a marked gain in 1947, being valued at \$180,488,000 as against \$141,765,000, a rise of 27.3 per cent. In addition, work was performed by sub-contractors to the value of \$213,277,000 against \$143,981,000.

PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL

Production of steel ingots and castings in November was below the level of the preceding month but was above that for November, 1947, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A similar trend was shown for ferro-alloys, while pig iron showed a decline in both comparisons.

Production of steel ingots and castings totalled 277,978 tons in November compared with 281,866 in October and 255,372 in November, 1947, bringing the cumulative output for the first 11 months of 1948 to 2,921,231 tons as against 2,695,397 in the similar period of 1947.

November production of pig iron amounted to 166,771 tons as compared with 186,424 in October and 174,147 in November, 1947. Output for the first 11 months of 1948 totalled 1,946,676 tons as against 1,804,296.

Ferro-alloy output in November totalled 17,594 tons compared with 19,489 in the preceding month and 11,551 in the same month in 1947. Aggregate production for the 11 months ended November was 164,693 tons against 134,944 in the like period of 1947.

NOVEMBER STEEL PRODUCTION
MAINTAINED AT HIGH LEVEL

Steel ingot production in Canada during November was again close to record levels, amounting to nearly 268,000 tons as compared with 272,000 in October and 247,000 in November, 1947.

The November total brought the cumulative output for the 11 months of 1948 to 2,818,000 tons as against 2,613,000 tons in the like period of 1947, and also brought within sight -- allowing for only average production in December -- a total production for the full year 1948 in excess of 3,000,000 tons, for the first time in history.

Daily average output in November was 8,922 tons, up slightly from the October daily figure of 8,778 tons and substantially above the daily average of 8,226 for November, 1947. Daily average output for the 11 months of 1948 was 8,412 tons as against 7,825 in the same months of 1947.

PRODUCTION OF SALT

Production of common salt in Canada in November was at its highest point since December, 1946. The month's output amounted 71,488 tons as compared with 68,254 in the preceding month and 65,509 in the corresponding month of 1947. Output for December, 1946 totalled 71,516 tons. During the first 11 months of 1948, production totalled 685,041 tons as against 699,674 in the similar period of 1947.

Shipments of salt rose to an all-time high in November, amounting to 69,870 tons compared with the previous high of 69,654 attained in October and 28,497 in November, 1947. Cumulative total for the 11 months ending November totalled 685,937 tons against 400,329 in the like period of 1947.

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS
OF PORTLAND CEMENT

Both production and shipments of Portland cement by Canadian manufacturers were higher in November than in the corresponding month of 1947, but there were declines from the preceding month, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

In November, output amounted to 1,256,000 barrels compared with the record total of 1,400,000 in October and 1,138,000 in November, 1947. During the first 11 months of this year, production totalled 12,954,000 barrels as against 11,152,000 in the similar period of 1947.

Shipments to customers during the month amounted to 1,308,000 barrels compared with 1,373,000 in October and 1,072,000 in November, 1947. In the cumulative period, 13,357,000 barrels were shipped as against 11,298,000 in 1947. Stocks at plants and warehouses at the end of November amounted to 291,000 barrels compared with 297,000 in the same month of 1947.

OUTPUT OF CRUDE PETROLEUM
AND NATURAL GAS IN OCTOBER

With production from the Leduc field again sharply higher, Canada's production of crude petroleum and natural gasoline rose to 1,206,000 barrels in October from the September total of 1,101,000, and 716,000 in October, 1947. This brought the cumulative total for the 10 months ending October to 9,855,000 barrels as against 6,232,000 in the similar period of 1947.

Leduc's output rose in October to 526,000 barrels from 65,700 in the corresponding month of 1947, and in the 10 months to the end of October to 3,379,000 barrels from 179,000. Crude output from the Turner Valley field in the month fell from 407,000 barrels to 367,000, and in the 10 months from 4,203,000 barrels to 3,732,000.

Production of natural gas in the month amounted to 4,659,668 M cubic feet as compared with 3,666,292 M in the preceding month and 4,071,105 M in the corresponding month of 1947. Up to the end of October 46,379,149 M cubic feet were produced compared with 41,531,556 M in the similar period of 1947.

PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION
AND STOCKS OF RUBBER

Consumption of rubber increased slightly in November, the total for the month standing at 15,432,000 pounds as compared with 14,223,000 in October. Natural rubber consumption amounted to 8,691,000 pounds in November as compared with 7,889,000 in October, synthetic 4,047,000 pounds compared with 3,702,000, and reclaim 2,694,000 pounds compared with 2,632,000.

In terms of end-product use, the consumption of rubber in the production of tires and tubes, including tire repair material, increased by 1,072,000 pounds, in wire and cable by 127,000 pounds, and in other products by 75,000 pounds. In the production of rubber footwear, consumption decreased by 65,000 pounds.

Domestic production of synthetic rubber and reclaim both were higher in November than in the preceding month, synthetic amounting to 8,938,000 pounds as compared with 6,628,000, and reclaim 840,000 pounds compared with 785,000.

Month-end stocks of natural rubber declined to 13,704,000 pounds from the October total of 17,260,000. Stocks of synthetic rubber fell from 8,516,000 pounds to 7,997,000, and reclaim from 3,922,000 pounds to 3,783,000.

VALUE OF STORAGE BATTERY
SALES UP SHARPLY

There was a sharp rise in the value of sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal Canadian producers in November. The month's total was \$1,904,883 compared with \$1,796,518 in October and \$1,515,187 in the corresponding month of 1947. During the first 11 months of 1948, sales aggregated \$14,531,416 as against \$12,590,837 in the similar period of 1947.

The sales in November included 160,458 batteries at \$1,535,454 for the ignition of internal combustion engines, 135 batteries at \$2,235 for motorcycle starting, 5,399 cells at \$65,183 for farm lighting plants, 985 cells at \$53,486 for railway services, batteries valued at \$173,695 for other purposes, including those for telephone switchboards, and miscellaneous parts and supplies for batteries valued at \$94,830.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

Births registered in cities, towns and villages of Canada having a population of 10,000 and over numbered 13,915 in November, deaths 5,329 and marriages 4,913 as compared with 14,129 births, 5,152 deaths and 5,062 marriages in November, 1947. Births showed a two per cent decrease, marriages three per cent, while deaths increased one per cent.

STOCKS OF HIDES AND SKINS AND PRODUCTION OF FINISHED LEATHER

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers at the end of November amounted to 478,361, an increase of 8.7 per cent as compared with the October figure, but a decline of 21.5 per cent from November, 1947. Stocks of calf and kip skins increased from 648,042 a year ago to 666,066, while goat and kid skins fell from 116,532 to 84,096, horse hides from 41,603 to 24,956, and sheep and lamb skins from 68,477 dozen to 59,062 dozen.

Production of cattle sole leather in November totalled 1,848,000 pounds as compared with 2,211,969, cattle upper leather 3,314,357 square feet compared with 3,614,103, and glove and garment leather 418,155 square feet compared with 242,909. Production of calf and kip skin upper leather totalled 825,236 square feet as compared with 1,543,691.

FISHERIES OF NOVA SCOTIA IN 1947

The total marketed value of the products of Nova Scotia's fisheries in 1947 receded to \$26,697,000 from the high levels of 1945 and 1946 when the figures ran well over the \$30,000,000 mark. The decline of 22 per cent from the \$34,271,000 recorded for 1946 was due in large measure to the strike of deep-sea fishermen in the opening months of the year, but the falling-off in the demand for frozen fillets in the United States market was also an important factor, causing a reduction in prices.

Total landings of fish and shell-fish were 3,250,000 cwt., a decrease of 22 per cent from the 4,177,000 cwt. recorded for 1946. Landings of groundfish -- cod, haddock, hake, cusk and pollock -- fell off by 26 per cent, flatfish other than halibut by 11 per cent, and lobsters by 11 per cent. The marketed value of cod was \$9,665,000, lobsters \$5,535,000, haddock \$2,424,000, and herring \$1,819,000.

Capital invested in the primary operations of catching and landing the fish amounted to \$12,720,000, an increase of 35 per cent over the \$9,412,000 reported for 1946. Of the total, \$7,600,000 or 60 per cent was invested in vessels and boats, \$4,285,000 or 34 per cent in nets and other gear, and \$834,000 or six per cent in shore establishments such as piers and wharves, small freezers and smokehouses, etc.

RAILWAY ROLLING STOCK INDUSTRY

Establishments occupied chiefly in making or repairing railway cars and locomotives or in making parts such as wheels, brakes, tires, bolsters, springs, etc., had a gross value of production in 1947 of \$159,283,000, a decrease of about two per cent from the preceding year. Average number of employees was changed very little at 28,500, while the salaries and wages rose seven per cent to \$61,754,000.

Freight cars formed the largest single item in value of production. The number turned out was reduced sharply from 10,092 in 1946 to 5,753, but the value was down only slightly from \$31,832,000 to \$30,247,000. There were 125 new locomotives produced with a factory value of \$14,431,000 compared with 271 valued at \$25,966,000. Value of repairs to freight cars, passenger cars, locomotives, and other custom and repair work was \$65,472,000 compared with \$67,851,000 in 1946.

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ending January 1 amounted to 52,436 cars as compared with 59,698 in the preceding week and 53,484 in the corresponding week last year. Loadings of live stock declined from 1,538 cars a year earlier to 1,060 cars, fresh meats from 505 to 348 cars, pulpwood from 4,064 to 2,664 cars, and lumber from 2,344 to 1,662 cars. Coal increased from 4,508 to 4,754 cars, iron and steel products from 1,173 to 1,455 cars, and automobiles from 519 to 885 cars.

AVERAGE SALES AND PROFITS
OF RETAIL FOOD CHAINS

Combination grocery and meat chains have the largest average sales per store by a wide margin among Canada's retail food chains, but meat chains have both the highest gross profit and highest net profit before income taxes, according to the biennial survey of operating results of retail food chains by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The survey relates to operations in 1947.

Average sales per store of combination chains of all sizes was \$319,713 in 1947 as compared with \$85,179 for meat chains and \$82,739 for grocery chains. Gross profit of combination chains averaged 15.99 per cent of net sales as against 16.80 for grocery and 20.51 per cent for meat chains. Total expenses stood in the same sequence at 13.23, 14.44 and 17.24 per cent, respectively. Net profit before income taxes was accordingly 3.27 per cent of net sales for meat chains, 2.76 for combinations and 2.36 per cent for grocery chains.

Somewhat different results are shown by a comparison of chains of similar size range in the three kinds of business. For instance, combinations doing business under \$1,000,000 had average sales per store of \$107,978, gross profit of 16.20 and net profit of 1.2 per cent of net sales. Corresponding figures for grocery chains under \$750,000 were \$71,326, 16.16 and 3.09 per cent, and for meat chains under \$500,000, were \$62,320, 12.05 and 2.2 per cent.

SALES AND PROFITS OF VARIETY CHAINS

Variety chain stores had an average operating profit before income taxes of 15.04 per cent of net sales in 1947, according to data received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 16 chain companies operating 510 stores. Average sales per chain amounted to \$7,325,000, and the average per store worked out at \$230,000.

Gross profit of these chains averaged 37.67 per cent of net sales. Total operating expenses accounted for 24.63 per cent of net sales, of which more than half was absorbed by salaries and wages. The salary and wage item averaged 15.91 per cent of net sales.

OPERATING RESULTS OF DRUG STORE CHAINS

Gross margin or profit of drug store chains averaged 34.18 per cent of net sales in 1947, according to data received from 22 firms operating 282 stores. Average sales per chain amounted to \$1,158,000, and the average per store, \$90,000.

Average operating profit before income taxes was 5.35 per cent of net sales. Total operating expenses averaged 28.83 per cent of net sales. Salaries and wages accounted for more than half of the total operating expenditures, those paid to employees accounting for 14.62 per cent of net sales. Occupancy cost was the second largest expense item at 4.69 per cent of net sales.

SALES AND PROFITS OF FURNITURE CHAINS

Furniture chains had an average gross margin or profit of 32.57 per cent of net sales in 1947, while the average net profit before income taxes worked out at 7.83 per cent, according to returns received from 10 furniture chains operating 58 stores.

Average sales per chain during the year amounted to \$1,559,000, and the sales for individual stores, \$269,000. Total expenses accounted for 24.74 per cent of net sales, of which salaries and wages accounted for 13.72 per cent. Advertising and occupancy were the next largest expense items with 3.04 per cent and 2.31 per cent of net sales.

REPORTS ISSUED DURING THE WEEK

1. Dairy Factory Production, December (10 cents).
2. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, November (10 cents).
3. Pack of Pumpkin, 1948 (10 cents).
4. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, January 1 (10 cents).
5. Monthly Statement by Ports of Highway Traffic at Canadian Border Points, November (10 cents).
6. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
7. Motor Vehicle Shipments, November (10 cents).
8. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, November (10 cents).
9. Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, November (25 cents).
10. Cold Storage Holdings of Meat and Lard, January 1 (10 cents).
11. Operating Results of Miscellaneous Retail Chains -- Variety, Drug, and Furniture -- 1947 (25 cents).
12. Gross Farm Revenues, Saskatchewan, 1945 (10 cents).
13. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, October (10 cents).
14. Miscellaneous Metals, 1947 (50 cents).
15. Operating Results of Retail Food Chains, 1947 (25 cents).
16. Advance Report on the Fisheries of Nova Scotia, 1947 (10 cents).
17. Railway Rolling Stock Industry, 1947 (25 cents).
18. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
19. Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation (10 cents).
20. Employment Situation at the Beginning of November Together with Payrolls, (10 cents).
21. Construction Industry in Canada, 1947 (25 cents).
22. Production of Iron and Steel, November (10 cents).
23. Farm Expenditures, Prairie Provinces, 1945 (10 cents).
24. Statistics on Hides, Skins and Leather, November (10 cents).
25. Steel Ingots, November (10 cents).
26. Births, Deaths and Marriages, November (10 cents).
27. Salt, November (10 cents).
28. Cement, November (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



1010729585