

D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA - CANADA

AUG 6 1949

PROPERTY OF THE LIBRARY

Vol. XVII - No. 29

Saturday, August 6, 1949

--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA'S OFFICIAL COST-OF-LIVING INDEX advanced from 160.5 to 162.1 between June 1 and July 2, the increase being almost entirely due to a rise of 4.3 points in the food index.

. . .

CANADA'S MERCHANDISE EXPORTS IN JUNE were valued at \$255,100,000, up nine per cent over the corresponding month last year when the value was \$233,500,000. Total for the first half of 1949 was \$1,424,600,000 against \$1,400,100,000 in the like period of 1948.

. . .

THE GENERAL WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX showed a further slight decline in June, falling to 156.3, one-tenth of a point below the May level and 1.2 points under April.

. . .

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS in leading establishments in the major industrial groups showed considerable seasonal expansion at the beginning of June.

. . .

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS for the week ending July 23 totalled 74,526 cars compared with 73,210 in the preceding week and 78,433 a year ago.

JULY COST-OF-LIVING INDEX MOVED HIGHER The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced from 160.5 to 162.1 between June 1 and July 2, the increase being almost entirely due to a rise of 4.3 points in the food index. The advance in foods is in keeping with the seasonal movement normally experienced during this period.

The food index rose from 202.9 to 207.2 as sharp increases in eggs and potatoes combined with smaller advances in other fresh vegetables and meats. Rents were the only other group to show an appreciable change; the index for this group moved from 122.4 to 123.4, reflecting the results of a June rent survey.

The clothing index was unchanged at 183.3 and the index of home furnishings and services declined 0.2 points to 167.5. The fuel and light index rose from 128.7 to 129.1 as the price of coal advanced fractionally in several centres. The index of miscellaneous items changed from 128.4 to 128.5. (1)

Dominion Cost-of-Living Indexes (1935-39=100)

	Com- bined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Cloth- ing	Home furnish- ings and Services	Miscel- laneous
July 2, 1949 ..	162.1	207.2	123.4	129.1	183.3	167.5	128.5
June 1, 1949 ..	160.5	202.9	122.4	128.7	183.3	167.7	128.4
July 2, 1948 ..	156.9	201.3	120.9	124.5	175.4	162.8	123.1

CANADIAN EXPORTS G.I.N IN JUNE
AND HALF-YEAR OVER 1948

Canada's domestic exports in June were valued at \$255,100,000, an increase of nine per cent over the value of \$233,500,000 for June last year. Cumulative total for the half-year was \$1,424,600,000 as compared with \$1,400,100,000 for the first half of last year, a gain of 1.7 per cent.

Aggregate values of exports to Commonwealth and foreign countries were both higher in the month. After allowance for the recorded value of shipments to Newfoundland before March 31 last, the aggregate value of exports to Commonwealth and foreign countries during the first six months were also above those of last year. Among the leading commodities, there were marked increases both in June and the half-year in exports of wheat, cattle, farm machinery and implements, nickel and copper, lead, zinc and their products; while shipments of flour, bacon and hams, other meats, planks and boards, and wood pulp were substantially lower.

Exports to the United States in June were valued at \$113,900,000, up slightly from \$109,800,000 for June last year, raising the cumulative figure for the first half of the year to \$690,900,000 as compared with \$646,000,000 in 1948. Reversing the downward trend of earlier months this year, shipments to the United Kingdom rose in June to \$60,700,000 as against \$54,200,000 a year ago, but were down in the half-year to \$335,600,000 compared with \$359,400,000.

June exports to Latin American countries moved up to \$14,600,000 from \$10,900,000 in 1948, bringing the cumulative total for the six months to \$63,100,000 compared with \$59,200,000. Shipments to European countries also advanced in the month to \$27,300,000 as against \$23,000,000 last year, but for the half-year were lower at \$114,300,000 compared with \$144,000,000.

Among the main commodity groups, agricultural and vegetable products, iron and its products, non-ferrous metals and miscellaneous commodities were higher both in June and the first six months, while the remaining five groups were lower in both periods.

Wheat showed the greatest gain among the leading commodities in the month and half-year, to displace newsprint as first in value, the June figure rising to \$45,638,000 from \$17,177,000 last year, and the six-months' total to \$201,345,000 from \$97,114,000. Newsprint exports also rose in June to \$35,633,000 from \$30,513,000 and in the six months to \$200,677,000 compared with \$178,156,000. Wood pulp continued its recent downward trend, falling to \$13,727,000 in the month from \$17,889,000 and in the half-year to \$87,696,000 from \$104,616,000. Planks and boards, fourth in value both in June and the six months, also declined to \$12,160,000 compared with \$15,472,000, the half-year total being \$67,909,000 against \$94,088,000.

There was a further substantial gain in the exports of farm implements and machinery in June to \$9,948,000 from \$5,798,000, bringing the six-months' total to \$61,292,000 compared with \$36,080,000. Aluminum and products rose in the month to \$8,258,000 from \$7,568,000, but were down in the six months to \$43,071,000 from \$52,910,000 last year. Boosted by June gains, value of half-year exports of copper and products increased to \$42,410,000 compared with \$37,916,000, lead and products to \$22,261,000 from \$13,111,000, zinc and products to \$29,275,000 from \$16,877,000, and nickel to \$48,918,000 from \$37,889,000.

Cattle exports were more than doubled in value in June, rising to \$7,250,000 from \$3,293,000 a year earlier and in the half-year to \$23,257,000 as against \$12,486,000, largely due to the raising of the embargo in effect until August last year. Bacon and hams, on the other hand, again dropped sharply in the month to \$800,000 compared with \$5,675,000, the six-months' total standing at \$9,592,000 as against \$53,466,000, while other meats increased in June to \$2,697,000 compared with \$1,485,000, but were down in the six months to \$16,472,000 from \$21,472,000. Flour shipments declined to \$6,884,000 in the month from \$9,706,000 and in the six months to \$50,058,000 from \$63,895,000.

Canada's ten leading customers, next to the United States and the United Kingdom, were the same in June and the half-year. Values of shipments to these countries in the two periods, with comparative figures for 1948 in brackets, are as follows: Union of South Africa, \$10,348,000 (\$6,960,000) and \$40,667,000 (\$34,435,000); Belgium, \$6,404,000 (\$1,295,000) and \$20,283,000 (\$14,579,000); India, \$5,515,000 (\$2,303,000) and \$41,637,000 (\$10,748,000); France, \$4,997,000 (\$5,995,000) and \$22,816,000 (\$32,089,000); Venezuela, \$4,664,000 (\$1,577,000) and \$10,982,000 (\$7,517,000); Australia, \$4,621,000 (\$4,626,000) and \$16,639,000 (\$17,611,000); Switzerland, \$3,879,000 (\$1,338,000) and \$13,736,000 (\$9,455,000); Germany, \$3,602,000 (\$1,522,000) and \$17,493,000 (\$6,850,000); Panama, \$3,276,000 (\$178,000) and \$10,054,000 (\$1,181,000); Norway, \$2,575,000 (\$3,575,000) and \$8,843,000 (\$12,339,000). (2)

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS HIGHER AT JUNE 1

Employment and payrolls in leading establishments in the major industrial groups showed considerable seasonal expansion throughout Canada at the beginning of June, advance indexes rising to record levels for the time of year, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The advance index number of employment in Canada, based on 1926 as 100, showed a rise of 2.8 per cent in the month, standing at 194.4, as compared with 189.1 at May 1, and 192.3 a year earlier. The increases, as compared with May, ranged from 3.3 per cent in Nova Scotia and 1.2 per cent in Ontario, to 4.4 per cent in Quebec, 7.8 per cent in Saskatchewan and 8.3 per cent in Prince Edward Island.

Fairly general improvement was reported in logging, in which river drives in New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario contributed to the advance. Manufacturing, construction and other divisions also afforded more employment in most areas.

The advance index number of payrolls in Canada rose 0.7 per cent as compared with May 1. Reflecting losses in working time on the Victoria and Ascension Day holidays, changes in the industrial distribution of the employees, and reduced working hours in some industries, the advance figure of per capita weekly earnings in the eight leading industries was lower, falling from \$43.18 at May 1, to \$42.31 at June 1, but was higher than last year's figure of \$40.02.

The advance index of employment in manufacturing was 204.9, as compared with 203.3 at May 1, and 203.6 at June 1 last year. The index number of factory payrolls was lower, falling in the month by 1.8 per cent. As compared with June 1 last year, there was a rise of 7.2 per cent. The advance figure of average weekly earnings in manufacturing at June 1 was \$43.29 as compared with \$44.43 at May 1, and \$40.63 at June 1, 1948. (3)

WHOLESALE PRICES DOWN SLIGHTLY IN JUNE Continuing the gradual downward movement since the first of the year, the general wholesale price index showed a further slight decline in June, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The June index, at 156.3, stood one-tenth of a point below the May level and 1.2 points under April, bringing the cumulative decrease for the first half of this year to three points.

There were wide changes in the eight sub-group indexes, ranging from a rise of 3.2 points for animal products to a decline of 9.1 points in non-ferrous metals.

Sub-group indexes were as follows, those for May being in brackets: vegetable products, 142.3 (141.5); animal products, 169.6 (166.4); textile products, 162.0 (162.0); wood products, 186.2 (186.9); iron products, 172.8 (173.2); non-ferrous metals 125.6 (134.7); non-metallic minerals, 133.9 (134.5); chemical products, 122.0 (124.0). (4)

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>July 28, 1949</u>	<u>July 21, 1949</u>	<u>June 30, 1949</u>
	(1935-39=100)		
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(106 Common Stocks)	105.6	104.3	100.1
82 Industrials	98.5	97.6	93.0
16 Utilities	116.7	114.6	110.2
8 Banks	132.6	130.1	130.6
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks)	86.0	84.4	82.4
25 Golds	71.3	70.1	69.1
5 Base Metals	114.2	112.1	107.7

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on July 21 totalled 53,098,000 bushels as compared with 59,795,000 on July 14 and 36,601,000 a year ago according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Deliveries from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week amounted to 1,063,000 bushels compared with 1,255,000 a year earlier.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending July 21, totals for the same week last year being in brackets: oats, 472,200 (382,200) bushels; barley, 309,500 (323,100); rye, 157,500 (7,700); flaxseed, 26,900 (46,600).

Continuing the upward movement, overseas export clearances of wheat rose to 6,237,800 bushels during the week ending July 21 from 4,092,100 in the same week last year, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 174,162,600 bushels as against 129,210,800 in the same period of 1947-48. (5)

WHEAT FLOUR PRODUCTION
LOWER IN JUNE

Canadian production of wheat flour was lower in June, amounting to 1,665,600 barrels as compared with 1,910,400 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The cumulative total for the first 11 months of the current crop year was 18,886,300 barrels as compared with 22,372,400 in the like period of the preceding year.

Wheat processed into flour in June amounted to 7,373,300 bushels as compared with 8,740,600 a year earlier. In the cumulative period 84,246,000 bushels were milled against 101,589,400 in the same period of 1947-48. Mill stocks of wheat at the end of June amounted to 1,921,400 bushels.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also milled in June, totals for the same month last year being in brackets: oats, 1,579,500 (1,349,200) bushels; corn, 284,600 (145,200); barley, 633,800 (734,300); buckwheat, 1,800 (300); mixed grain, 1,131,300 (1,058,000). (6)

STOCKS OF BUTTER AND CHEESE

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on August 1 amounted to 41,426,000 pounds as compared with 28,837,000 on July 1 and 27,421,000 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Cheddar cheese stocks on August 1 were 13,370,000 pounds compared with 14,692,000 on July 1 and 31,524,000 a year ago.

Holdings of creamery butter on August 1 were as follows by cities, totals for the same date last year being in brackets (figures in thousands): Quebec, 2,450 (3,297) pounds; Montreal, 15,948 (9,977); Toronto, 8,716 (4,200); Winnipeg, 8,299 (4,642); Regina, 974 (303); Saskatoon, 372 (196); Edmonton, 2,545 (1,550); Calgary, 1,081 (1,192); Vancouver, 1,041 (2,064). (7)

DOMESTIC DISAPPEARANCE OF BUTTER

The domestic disappearance of butter in May, including creamery, dairy and whey butter, amounted to 26,750,000 pounds, a decline of 3,000,000 or 9.7 per cent from the same month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. On a per capita basis the domestic disappearance amounted to 2.06 pounds as against 2.31 pounds a year ago. (8)

PRODUCTION AND SALES OF MILK

The estimated quantity of milk produced on Canadian farms in May showed a gain of 91,000,000 pounds over May, 1948, amounting to 1,764,000,000 pounds compared with 1,672,791,000. During the January-May period this year, production was estimated at 5,973,000,000 pounds, an increase of 234,000,000 pounds over the first five months of 1948.

Sales of fluid milk and cream, the latter expressed as milk, amounted to 339,696,000 pounds in May, an increase of approximately 500,000 pounds over the same month last year. This included about 287,000,000 pounds of fluid milk, which comprises about 16 per cent of the farm milk supply. Fluid cream sales of 53,000,000 pounds absorbed only three per cent of the total milk produced. (8)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended July 23 totalled 74,526 cars compared with a revised figure of 73,210 cars in the preceding week and 78,433 cars in the corresponding week last year. Loadings in the eastern division were 50,399 cars compared with 53,800 cars in the 29th week of 1948, while western loadings were off slightly from 24,633 to 24,127 cars. Cumulative totals for the year-to-date amounted to 2,096,379 cars, a decrease of 3.3 per cent from the same period last year. (9)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES UP 13 PER CENT Department store sales rose 13 per cent during the week ending July 23 over the corresponding week last year, according to preliminary figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. All regions of the country participated in the rise, sales in Manitoba showing a sharp advance of 41 per cent, followed by Saskatchewan and Alberta each 16 per cent, British Columbia 15 per cent, the Maritime Provinces 14 per cent, Ontario five per cent, and Quebec one per cent.

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF WIRE NAILS IN MAY Production of iron and steel wire nails moved higher in May, the month's output amounting to 8,124 tons as compared with 6,590 in the same month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This raised the cumulative total for the five months ending May to 37,058 tons from last year's corresponding total of 33,393 tons. Shipments in May advanced to 8,735 tons from 8,161 a year ago, and in the cumulative period to 38,345 tons from 34,931. (10).

SHIPMENTS OF ASPHALT Shipments of asphalt roofing materials were increased in June, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The month's shipments of asphalt shingles rose to 250,101 squares from 203,719 in May, smooth surfaced roofing in rolls to 94,085 squares from 88,782, mineral surfaced roofing in rolls to 90,431 squares from 85,096, and roll type sidings to 46,060 squares from 39,295. (mem. 1).

PRODUCTION OF COAL HIGHER IN 1948 Canadian mines produced more coal in 1948 than in any year since 1942, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The year's output, at 18,450,000 tons, was 16 per cent higher than in 1947, and was slightly under the tonnage produced in 1942.

Imports of coal, including briquettes, amounted to 31,054,000 tons in 1948, an increase of 1.6 per cent over the total of 30,564,000 tons brought into the Dominion during 1947. Exports totalled 1,273,000 tons, an increase of 73 per cent over the 714,500 tons shipped out of the country during 1947.

During 1948, Canadian coal mines employed 22,550 wage-earners and 1,769 salaried employees, compared with 20,763 wage-earners and 1,464 salaried employees in 1947. (11)

PRODUCTION OF DOMESTIC WASHING MACHINES AND ELECTRIC REFRIGERATORS Production of domestic type washing machines and household electric refrigerators continues to climb, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Output of domestic type washing machines in May totalled 29,782 units compared with 24,716 in the corresponding month last year, bringing the cumulative total for the first five months of this year to 154,644 units, an increase of 22 per cent over the same period of 1948.

Production of household electric refrigerators during the month amounted to 13,836 units, an increase of 25 per cent over May, 1948. During the first five months of this year, 68,966 units were produced compared with 53,882 a year ago. (12)

HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES IN CANADA. The estimated number of households in Canada in June 1948 was 3,235,000 as compared with 3,128,000 in 1947. At the 1941 Census, the number of households recorded was 2,706,089. The increase in households between 1941 and 1947 was 421,911, and between 1941 and 1948 it was 528,911. The average size of household declined from 4.2 to 3.9 persons over the latter period. The average size of household in 1948 was largest in Quebec at 4.7 persons and smallest in British Columbia at 3.2 persons.

The estimated number of families in Canada in June 1948, was 3,088,000 an increase of 46,000 over June, 1947, and 562,701 or 22.3 per cent more than at the 1941 Census. The average size of family in 1948 was 3.8 persons as compared with 3.7 in 1947 and 3.9 in 1941. In each region, a decline in size of family took place between 1941 and 1948. This is reflected in an increasing proportion of families in the smaller size groups, the percentage of families from two to four persons constituting 74.4 per cent of all families in 1948 compared with 70.3 per cent in this category in 1941. (13)

RELEASED DURING THE WEEK -- (The numbers in this list correspond with those at the end of news items, indicating the report on which an item is based).

Reports and Bulletins

1. Preliminary Price Movements, July (10 cents).
2. Trade of Canada: Summary of Domestic Exports, June (10 cents).
3. Advance Statement of Employment and Weekly Earnings, June 1 (10 cents).
4. Prices and Price Indexes, June (25 cents).
5. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
6. Canadian Milling Statistics, June (10 cents).
7. Stocks of Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Nine Cities of Canada, August 1 (10 cents).
8. Dairy Review of Canada, June (25 cents).
9. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
10. Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, May (10 cents).
11. Coal and Coke Statistics, 1948 (25 cents).
12. Production of Domestic Washing Machines and Electric Refrigerators, May (15 cents).
13. Estimates of Households and Families in Canada, 1947 - 1948 (10 cents).
14. Miscellaneous Chemical Products, 1947 (25 cents).
15. Traffic Report of Railways, March (10 cents).
16. Fluid Milk Trade, May (10 cents).
17. Stone Industry, 1947 (50 cents).
18. Machinery Industry, 1947 (25 cents).
19. Hardwood Flooring Industry, 1947 (15 cents).

Memorandum

1. Asphalt Roofing, June (10 cents).

Reference Paper

1. Department Store Sales and Stocks, 1941 to 1948 (25 cents).

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010729614