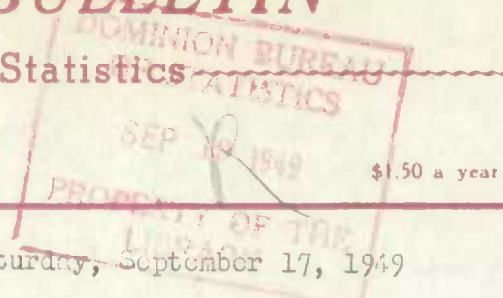


# D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

THE TREND IN INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT at the beginning of July was decidedly upward, general improvement in the situation being indicated in all provinces and in most of the manufacturing and non-manufacturing groups.

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CANADA'S CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE continues to grow. In June this year it reached an estimated total of 5,121,000, an increase of 91,000 over a year earlier, and 209,000 over two years earlier.

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COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES FOR SEVEN OF THE EIGHT REGIONAL CITIES moved higher between July 2 and August 1, a small decrease being registered for the Edmonton series. At other centres higher food prices were mainly responsible for index advances.

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COMMERCIAL FAILURES WERE MORE NUMEROUS in the first half of this year than in any similar period since 1941, but were fewer in number than in 1939. The total for the period was 500 as compared with 425 in the first half of 1948, and 717 in the first six months of 1939.

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CANADA'S 1949 WHEAT CROP is now placed at 371,600,000 bushels, almost 20,000,000 below the first estimate in mid-August, and 21,700,000 under last year's figure.

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EXPORTS OF WHEAT AND WHEAT FLOUR in terms of wheat in the crop year 1948-49 amounted to 231,600,000 bushels, an increase of 36,600,000 bushels over the 1947-48 total. The United Kingdom continues to be Canada's chief outlet for wheat and flour exports, receiving approximately two-thirds of the 1948-49 total.

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CANADA'S POPULATION REACHED 13,545,000 at June 1 this year, an increase of 662,000 over a year earlier. This exceptional rise is the combined result of the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation and the continued high rate of natural increase and immigration.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS for the week ending September 3 totalled 85,046 cars compared with a revised 86,179 cars in the preceding week and the record for the week of 87,274 cars in 1948.

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ESTIMATES OF FIELD CROPS  
GENERALLY BELOW LAST YEAR

Canada's 1949 wheat crop is now placed at 371,600,000 bushels by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in its second estimate of principal field crops. This estimate is almost 20,000,000 bushels below the first estimate in mid-August. This year's production is being obtained from a seeded area estimated at 27,500,000 acres yielding at the rate of 13.5 bushels per acre.

Oat production is currently estimated at 322,000,000 bushels, barley at 125,100,000, mixed grains at 55,000,000, rye at 10,400,000 and flaxseed at 2,300,000 bushels. The outturn of hay and clover is placed at 11,200,000 tons and alfalfa at 2,500,000 tons.

With the exception of oats and rye, the second estimates of production of grain crops, potatoes and hay and clover are somewhat lower than the estimates released on August 16. In the case of most grain crops, abnormally high temperatures during August caused premature ripening over large sections of the Prairie Provinces with attendant losses in both yield and quality. Barley and flaxseed estimates have been lowered by 1,400,000 and 300,000 bushels, respectively, while the estimated production of oats has been increased by 4,700,000 bushels and of rye by 500,000 over the August levels.

These estimates are based on conditions existing at August 31 and, for late crops particularly, which are not harvested until after that date, the estimates should be considered as forecasts which may be subject to significant revisions. A substantial proportion of the country's grain crops had been harvested by the end of August and in those cases the yield estimates are based to a large extent on actual threshing returns. Part of the western grain crop, however, still remains to be cut and threshed, and favourable weather will be required if present yield estimates are to be fully realized.

The 1949 wheat crop, as currently estimated at 371,600,000 bushels, is 22,700,000 bushels below the 1948 outturn and 38,400,000 below the 10-year (1939-48) average. In the Prairie Provinces the wheat crop is now expected to reach 342,000,000 bushels as compared with 363,000,000 in 1948 and 386,300,000 for the 10-year average. The anticipated average yield of wheat in the Prairie Provinces this year is 12.9 bushels per seeded acre, with Manitoba averaging 18.6, Saskatchewan 11.9 and Alberta 12.7 bushels per acre. In the remainder of Canada production of wheat is placed at 29,600,000 bushels, with Ontario's estimated outturn of 25,200,000 (24,100,000 of which is fall wheat) accounting for the principal part.

Canada's oat crop, now estimated at 322,000,000 bushels, is 36,800,000 bushels below the 1948 outturn and about 21 per cent below the 10-year average of 409,400,000 bushels. Decreases of 20,000,000 bushels in Alberta and eight million bushels in Manitoba are largely responsible for the reduction from last year's crop.

Barley production, placed at 125,100,000 bushels, is about 30,000,000 bushels below last year's outturn of 155,000,000 bushels and 34,000,000 bushels below the 10-year average. Only British Columbia and the Maritime Provinces expect to harvest as large a barley crop as in 1948.



The combined outturn of fall and spring rye is estimated at 10,400,000 bushels, a reduction of 59 per cent from the 1948 crop of 25,300,000 bushels. The smaller crop this year resulted from a sharp decrease in acreage, together with an indicated reduction in yield of 3.2 bushels per acre. The estimated production of flaxseed at 2,300,000 bushels represents only 13 per cent of the 17,700,000 bushels harvested in 1948. While the average yield is lower than last year, a marked decrease in acreage has been the principal factor in making this year's flaxseed crop the smallest since 1939.

With both acreage and yield below last year's levels, production of dry peas is placed at 878,000 bushels, down approximately 40 per cent from the 1948 crop. The 1949 dry bean crop is estimated at 1,717,000 bushels, slightly above last year's crop of 1,641,000 bushels. The expected outturn of shelled corn at 14,800,000 bushels is 2,300,000 over last year. A crop of this size would be Canada's largest since 1921 when 14,900,000 bushels were harvested. Except for a half million bushels in Manitoba, Ontario will account for the entire shelled corn crop.

Despite a slight increase in acreage, this year's potato crop, currently placed at 48,900,000 hundredweight, is down 6,300,000 hundredweight from the 1948 crop. If present prospects are realized, however, the 1949 crop will be well above the 10-year (1939-48) average of 43,800,000 hundredweight. A record Canadian production of 900,000 tons of sugar beets is forecast for 1949. A substantial rise in acreage is the principal factor in the indicated increase over last year's outturn of 629,100 tons.

The all-Canada outturn of hay and clover is placed at 11,200,000 tons and alfalfa at 2,500,000 tons. Both figures are below the 1948 levels of 16,100,000 tons and 3,000,000 tons, respectively. Fodder corn production in 1949 is placed at 5,200,000 tons, slightly above the 1948 total of 5,100,000 tons.

Both acreage and production of buckwheat are the lowest on record since 1908. This year's crop, estimated at 3,400,000 bushels, is being harvested from a seeded acreage of 169,700 acres. Production of mixed grains is placed at 55,000,000 bushels, some 6,900,000 bushels below 1948. The 1949 production of turnips and mangels for live-stock feed, excluding the Prairie Provinces for which data are not currently available, is placed at 21,400,000 hundredweight, down slightly from last year's total of 22,800,000. Despite a decrease in acreage from last year, an all-time record production of 2,000,000 bushels of soy beans is forecast in 1949. The production of this crop is currently confined to Ontario, which last year produced 1,800,000 bushels.

Following are the estimates of the total production of the principal grain crops for 1949, in bushels, with 1948 figures in brackets: Wheat, 371,644,000 (393,345,000); oats, 322,017,000 (358,807,000); barley, 125,069,000 (155,018,000); rye, 10,361,000 (25,340,000); dry peas, 878,000 (1,477,000); dry beans, 1,717,000 (1,641,000); soy beans, 2,019,000 (1,824,000); buckwheat, 3,354,000 (4,031,000); mixed grains, 55,047,000 (61,947,000); flaxseed, 2,262,000 (17,683,000); shelled corn, 14,756,000 (12,417,000). The average yields per acre, in bushels, are estimated as follows, with the 1948 figures in brackets: Wheat, 13.5 (16.3); oats, 28.3 (32.0); barley, 20.8 (23.9); rye, 8.8 (12.0); dry peas, 15.2 (18.0); dry beans, 18.4 (17.8); soy beans, 23.0 (19.4); buckwheat, 19.8 (21.6); mixed grains, 32.7 (40.2); flaxseed, 7.0 (9.4); shelled corn, 54.3 (49.2).

Similar production figures for root and fodder crops are as follows: Potatoes, 48,923,000 cwt. (55,260,000 cwt.); turnips, etc., 21,371,000 cwt. (22,807,000 cwt.); hay and clover, 11,240,000 tons (16,073,000 tons); alfalfa, 2,470,000 tons (3,022,000 tons); fodder corn, 5,185,900 tons (5,051,000 tons); sugar beets, 900,000 tons (629,100 tons). The average yields of root per acre and fodder crops are as follows: Potatoes, 96 cwt. (109 cwt.); turnips, etc., 203 cwt. (208 cwt.); hay and clover, 1.18 tons (1.65 tons); alfalfa, 1.66 tons (2.29 tons); fodder corn, 9.14 tons (9.37 tons); sugar beets, 10.73 tons (10.49 tons). (1)

CANADA'S CROP YEAR EXPORTS  
OF WHEAT AND WHEAT FLOUR

Canada's 1948-49 crop year exports of wheat and wheat flour in terms of wheat amounted to 231,000,600 bushels, an increase of 36,600,000 bushels over the 1947-48 total, according to the monthly review of the wheat situation by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Exports of wheat as grain amounted to 183,400,000 bushels, an increase of almost 50,000,000 over the 1947-48 total but exports of flour in terms of wheat, at 48,200,000 bushels, showed a decrease of 13,300,000 from the preceding crop year.

While the 1948-49 exports were considerably higher than in the preceding year, they are somewhat below the 10-year average of 248,900,000 bushels. In the three years, 1943-44 through 1945-46, exports exceeded 340,000,000 bushels, a relatively high level for Canadian wheat and wheat flour. The all-time record for exports of Canadian wheat and wheat flour was set in 1928-29 when the total reached 407,600,000 bushels.

The United Kingdom continues to be Canada's chief outlet for wheat and flour exports, receiving approximately two-thirds of the 1948-49 total. Exports of Canadian wheat as grain to the United Kingdom totalled 128,700,000 bushels, while exports of flour, in terms of wheat equivalent, totalled 23,900,000 bushels.

Other important purchasers of Canadian wheat as grain during 1948-49 were India with 11,300,000 bushels, British South Africa 7,400,000, Switzerland 5,600,000, and Belgium 5,000,000. More than 30 crown colonies and foreign countries accounted for the balance, with individual totals ranging from a few bushels to more than a million.

In addition to the shipments to the United Kingdom, exports of flour to the equivalent of at least 1,000,000 bushels of wheat were made to each of the following: Philippine Islands, Syria, Trinidad and Tobago, Italy, Venezuela, Jamaica and Newfoundland (prior to the union with Canada). Almost 70 other crown colonies and foreign countries also purchased Canadian wheat flour in varying amounts. (2)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF  
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on September 1 amounted to 86,418,200 bushels as compared with 70,667,400 on August 25 and 64,567,500 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Farmers in the Prairie Provinces marketed 20,664,400 bushels of wheat during the week ending September 1 as compared with 26,046,400 in the corresponding week last year, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 52,339,800 bushels against 41,053,300 in the like period of the preceding crop year. (3)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS  
OF MARGARINE IN CANADA

Production of margarine in Canada during the first eight months of this year amounted to 44,875,000 pounds, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output in August totalled 7,038,000 pounds, 5,352,000 in July, 6,734,000 in June, 6,869,000 in May, 7,149,000 in April, 7,349,000 in March, 3,354,000 in February and 1,030,000 in January.

Stocks of margarine held in Canada at September 1, excluding Newfoundland, amounted to 2,415,000 pounds compared with the revised total of 2,007,000 at the beginning of August. Holdings were as follows by regions, totals for August 1 being in brackets (figures in thousands): Maritime Provinces, 249 (234) pounds; Ontario, 1,465 (999); Manitoba, 220 (350); Saskatchewan, 140 (116); Alberta, 147 (104); British Columbia, 194 (204).



OUTPUT OF BUTTER AND  
CHEESE IN AUGUST

Production of creamery butter in Canada in August was down almost seven per cent from last year's corresponding total, all provinces except British Columbia sharing in the decrease, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first eight months of this year the decline in the all-Canada total was slightly more than two per cent.

Output for August this year was 34,312,000 pounds as compared with 36,825,000 in the corresponding period last year, while in the eight-month period 196,104,000 pounds were produced compared with 200,706,000 in the similar period of 1948.

Cheddar cheese production in August rose to 15,855,000 pounds from 14,022,000 in the same month last year, raising the cumulative total for the eight-month period to 75,448,000 pounds from 65,252,000 in the same months last year.

The month's output of concentrated milk products moved down to 38,536,000 pounds from 47,283,000 in the same month last year, and in the eight-month period to 268,181,000 pounds from 280,288,000 in the similar period last year. (4)

STOCKS OF DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Stocks of creamery butter were higher on September 1, amounting to 66,540,000 pounds as compared with 56,699,000 on August 1 and 51,073,000 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Cheese stocks amounted to 28,703,000 pounds compared with 29,676,000 on August 1 and 55,734,000 a year ago.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on September 1 totalled 57,082,000 pounds as against 55,147,000 at the beginning of August and 26,892,000 on the same date last year, while the holdings of skim milk powder were 13,063,000 pounds compared with 12,162,000 on August 1 and 9,130,000 a year earlier.

September 1 stocks of eggs, shell and frozen, amounted to 726,000 cases compared with 820,000 on August 1 and 966,000 on September 1 last year. Holdings of poultry meat totalled 8,063,000 pounds against 7,053,000 on August 1 and 8,765,000 a year ago. (5)

STOCKS OF MEAT, LARD, AND  
TALLOW ON SEPTEMBER 1

Stocks of meat held by packers, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses were lower on September 1, total stocks amounting to 48,995,000 pounds as compared with 57,176,000 on August 1 and 77,065,000 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Holdings of frozen meat were down to 20,732,000 pounds from 27,764,000 on August 1 and 42,197,000 on September 1 last year. Stocks of fresh meat fell slightly to 14,072,000 pounds compared with 14,596,000 on August 1 and 15,920,000 a year ago, while cured meat totalled 14,171,000 pounds compared with 14,816,000 on August 1 and 18,948,000 on September 1, 1948.

Lard stocks at 1,833,000 pounds were lower than the 3,224,000 held on August 1 and 2,346,000 a year earlier. Stocks of tallow amounted to 388,000 pounds as compared with 1,095,000 on August 1 and 1,633,000 on the corresponding date last year. (6)

STOCKS OF FISH ON SEPTEMBER 1 Cold storage holdings of fish on September 1 amounted to 49,968,000 pounds, up from the August 1 figure of 46,135,000 pounds, and above the 40,973,000 pounds held on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks on the latest date comprised 46,534,000 pounds frozen fresh and 3,434,000 pounds frozen smoked.

Holdings on September 1 this year included 5,608,000 pounds of cod, 1,068,000 pounds of haddock, 4,700,000 pounds of salmon, 7,308,000 pounds of sea herring, and 10,509,000 pounds of other kinds of sea fish. Stocks of inland fish totalled 4,585,000 pounds. (7)

STOCKS OF FRUIT AND  
VEGETABLES ON SEPTEMBER 1

Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, held in cold and common storage, amounted to 32,278,000 pounds on September 1 as compared with 32,450,000 on August 1 and 42,492,000 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks of vegetables, frozen and in brine, totalled 10,097,000 pounds, up from the August 1 figure of 6,289,000, but down from the September 1, 1948 total of 10,856,000 pounds.

Storage stocks of Canadian vegetables were increased over last year with the exception of onions, carrots, cabbages, and parsnips. Potatoes were up from 1,690 tons to 2,032, beets from 96 tons to 118, and celery from 3,615 crates to 6,720. Stocks of onions fell from 814 tons to 574, carrots from 250 tons to 177, cabbages from 172 tons to 106, and parsnips from 10 tons to eight.

There were 33 tons of imported onions on September 1 compared with 51 a year earlier. Stocks of imported carrots totalled 16 tons compared with 76. (8)

FARM PRICES IN JULY BELOW  
JUNE AND SAME MONTH LAST YEAR

Farm prices of agricultural products averaged lower in July than in the preceding month and July last year, according to index numbers compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. There was also a slight decline from the annual average for 1948.

For July, the index number, on the base 1935-39 equals 100, is estimated by the Bureau at 251.9 as compared with 252.9 in June, and 259.2 for July last year. The average for 1948 was 252.5, and the peak reached was 263.9 in August last year.

As compared with July last year, higher prices for livestock, fruits, tobacco, poultry and eggs were more than offset by declines in the prices of coarse grains, dairy products, potatoes, vegetables and furs. Compared with the preceding month, lower prices for grains, particularly in eastern Canada, livestock, dairy products, fruits and vegetables more than offset increased prices for potatoes, poultry and eggs.

In July, provincial indexes for Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and British Columbia were higher in June, while declines were shown in the remaining provinces. Indexes for all provinces were below the levels of July last year, the figure for Ontario being only slightly lower. (9)



CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE  
INCREASED 91,000 IN YEAR

Canada's civilian labour force continues to grow. In June this year it reached an estimated total of 5,121,000, an increase of 91,000 over a year earlier and 209,000 over two years earlier, according to the quarterly survey by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The June total compares with a previous peak shown by the Bureau surveys of 5,109,000 at the beginning of September last year.

Of the total labour force, an estimated 5,018,000 were employed in June this year as against 4,948,000 last year and 4,821,000 in 1947, making an increase in the number of persons at work of 70,000 and 197,000 in a year and two years, respectively. The estimated number unemployed this year was moderately higher at 103,000 -- about two per cent of the total labour force -- as compared with 82,000 in 1948 and 91,000 in 1947.

These data are obtained by the Bureau from a sample survey of households, carried out in June, which covers a scientifically selected sample of the civilian population exclusive of those living in institutions. For purposes of the survey, all persons who are employed or looking for work during the survey week are included in the labour force. In addition to those actually at work, persons with jobs from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, bad weather, labour disputes or layoff of less than 30 days, or who were waiting to report to a job, are counted as employed. The unemployed are those who were looking for work but did not work in the survey period.

The gain of 70,000 between June this year and June, 1948, in the number of persons employed was due entirely to a rise in non-agricultural employment, which advanced by 133,000 from 3,762,000 to 3,895,000. Employment in agriculture in the week ending June 4 this year stood at 1,123,000, down 63,000 from the same period last year. Regionally, the decrease in agricultural employment was most pronounced in the Prairie Provinces and Ontario, where drought conditions hampered operations in the Spring. On the other hand, non-agricultural employment rose in all regions.

The following table gives estimates of total employment in the five economic regions of persons 14 years of age and over in June this year and the comparable survey periods of the three previous years, figures being in thousands:

	Maritime Provinces	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Provinces	British Columbia	Canada
June 1, 1946 .....	414	1,299	1,618	1,557	374	4,702
May 31, 1947 .....	408	1,319	1,708	972	414	4,821
June 5, 1948 .....	417	1,366	1,758	981	426	4,948
June 4, 1949 .....	426	1,399	1,738	965	440	5,018

The proportion unemployed in June this year, as in previous surveys, was lowest in Ontario and the Prairie Provinces at 1.5 and 1.1 per cent of the labour force, respectively. The Maritimes continued to show the highest rate at 4.1 per cent, while British Columbia at 2.2 per cent and Quebec at 2.5 per cent were only moderately above the average of two per cent for the country as a whole.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES FOR EIGHT REGIONAL CITIES

Cost-of-living indexes for seven of the eight regional cities moved higher between July 2 and August 1, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A small decrease was registered for the Edmonton series. At other centres higher food prices were mainly responsible for index advances. Clothing changes were mixed while home furnishings and services were generally lower. An advance in street car fares in Vancouver was reflected in an increase in the miscellaneous items index at that centre.

The composite index for Halifax rose 1.6 points between July 2 and August 1 to 157.2; Saint John, 1.2 to 159.7; Winnipeg, 0.9 to 157.9; Toronto, 0.7 to 158.5; Vancouver, 0.6 to 164.2; Saskatoon, 0.3 to 163.8; and Montreal, 0.2 to 166.1. The index for Edmonton was down 0.1 to 158.3. The Dominion index rose 0.7 to 161.5 in the same interval.

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

	<u>August 3, 1948</u>	<u>July 2, 1949</u>	<u>August 1, 1949</u>
	(August 1939=100)		
Halifax .....	151.7	155.6	157.2
Saint John .....	156.0	158.5	159.7
Montreal .....	160.6	165.9	166.1
Toronto .....	154.3	157.8	158.5
Winnipeg .....	150.6	157.0	157.9
Saskatoon .....	159.5	163.5	163.8
Edmonton .....	153.5	158.4	158.3
Vancouver .....	159.5	163.6	164.2
Dominion .....	156.3	160.8	161.5

The city indexes show changes in living costs for each city and compare the extent of the rise or fall between cities. They do not, however, compare actual level of living costs. Indexes shown in the above table do not yet include data covering Newfoundland.

COMMERCIAL FAILURES HIGHER IN FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR

Commercial failures were more numerous in the first half of this year than in any similar period since 1941, but were fewer in number than in 1939, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The total for the period was 500 as compared with 425 in the first half of 1948, and 717 in the first six months of 1939. Estimated liabilities this year were \$8,725,000, a gain of 22.5 per cent over 1948, and a rise of 12 per cent over the like period of 1939.

During the first six months of this year all areas except Ontario showed increases in failures compared with the first half of 1948. There were 11 failures in the Maritimes against six last year. Quebec showed an increase of 57 to record a post-war high of 380, while the number of failures in Ontario declined from 67 to 59. In the Prairie Provinces 17 firms defaulted compared with 12, while in British Columbia the number nearly doubled at 33. Nearly all branches of business showed increases in failures in the first six months as compared with last year. (10)



INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT AT JULY 1 The trend in industrial employment at the beginning of July was decidedly upward, general improvement in the situation being indicated in all provinces and in most of the manufacturing and non-manufacturing groups. The expansion was seasonal in character, but the percentage gain in Canada as a whole was slightly below the average for the time of year. The 20,341 leading employers in the eight major industrial divisions co-operating in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics monthly survey of employment and payrolls had increased their staffs at July 1 by two per cent as compared with a month earlier. This advance was accompanied by a rise of 3.4 per cent in their disbursements in weekly salaries and wages.

Based on the 1926 average as 100, the general index number of employment stood at 198.3 as compared with 194.5 in the preceding month, and 198.0 at July 1, 1948, previously the peak figure in the record for that date. The indicated increase in employment as compared with the period of intensified activity during the war is due in the main to improvement in the non-manufacturing classes, while that shown in comparison with other years results from general expansion in both manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries.

There were pronounced increases at July 1 as compared with a month earlier in manufacturing, notably in food-processing, lumber and beverage plants. Among the non-manufacturing divisions, the movement was favourable in logging, mining, communications, transportation, construction and maintenance, hotels and restaurants, and retail and wholesale trade. (11)

CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT  
INSURANCE BENEFITS IN JULY

Claims for unemployment insurance benefits in July numbered 49,586, down from the June total of 53,114, but up from last year's July figure of 38,790, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Initial and renewal claims, representing largely new cases of employment recorded among insured persons, totalled 43,486 in July against 44,783 in June, and 30,487 in July, 1948.

As compared with July last year, there were increased claims in all provinces except Ontario where the total fell from 16,802 to 16,187. Quebec's total was up from 10,091 to 16,121, British Columbia from 5,019 to 8,073, Nova Scotia from 2,574 to 2,783, Manitoba from 1,443 to 1,861, New Brunswick from 1,189 to 2,288, Alberta from 899 to 1,304, Saskatchewan from 621 to 732, and Prince Edward Island from 152 to 200.

In July, 28,246 persons commenced the receipt of benefit, 1,525,462 benefit days were paid and the total amount of benefit paid was \$3,371,183. The average amount of benefit paid per compensated day of unemployment was \$2.21 compared with \$2.22 in June and \$1.95 in July, 1948. (12)

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES  
IN FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR

There were more births, and fewer marriages and deaths in Canada in the first half of this year than in the similar period of 1948, according to provisional figures by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Births numbered 169,899 as against 168,987, marriages 44,710 compared with 49,678, and deaths, 60,583 compared with 61,909.

Births in Quebec increased to 54,338 from 53,125, but Ontario's total was down to 51,287 from 52,011. Registrations in British Columbia numbered 13,211 compared with 13,075, Alberta 11,711 compared with 11,671, Saskatchewan 10,341 (10,688), Manitoba 9,777 (9,420), Nova Scotia 8,970 (8,982), New Brunswick 8,854 (8,580), and Prince Edward Island 1,410 (1,435). (13)

SALES AND FINANCING OF  
MOTOR VEHICLES IN JULY

months.

Both the sales of new motor vehicles and the financing of sales of new and used motor vehicles were maintained in July at close to the high levels of the spring and summer

Sales of new vehicles in the month totalled 27,729 units with a retail value of \$56,572,753, showing approximately equal increases in number and value of slightly more than 71 per cent, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Aggregate sales for the first seven months stood at 160,509 vehicles with a retail value of \$336,706,484 compared with 123,698 vehicles sold for \$245,012,004 last year, making increases of 30 per cent in number and 37 per cent in value.

Passenger car sales rose to a new peak for the year at 20,775 units, more than double the sales of 10,296 last year. The retail value was \$42,581,776 against \$21,135,333 last year. Sales in the seven months totalled 109,244 units with a value of \$227,044,727 compared with 76,798 valued at \$148,970,192.

Truck sales were also higher at 6,926 in July compared with 5,311, bringing the total for the year to 50,848 from 46,462.

Financing of new and used motor vehicles totalled 22,331 units in July with a financed value of \$20,314,960, an increase of 55 per cent in number and 53 per cent in financed value over the total of 14,403 vehicles financed for \$13,285,564 in July, 1948.

New vehicles financed totalled 7,600 as against 4,353 in July last year, an increase of 75 per cent, and the financed value was \$10,437,665 compared with \$6,344,621, up 64.5 per cent. There were 5,112 passenger cars financed for \$6,768,388, an increase of 119 per cent in number and 122 per cent in value. Gains were more moderate in the commercial vehicle field, 2,488 units being financed for \$3,669,277, increases of 23 and 12 per cent, respectively.

Used passenger and commercial vehicles financed totalled 14,731 units as against 10,050 last year and their financed value was \$9,877,295 compared with \$6,940,943. (14)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES UP  
FIVE PER CENT IN AUGUST

Department store sales in Canada were up five per cent in August over the same month last year, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Quebec led the Dominion with a gain of 10 per cent in the month, followed by Manitoba with a rise of eight per cent, Saskatchewan six per cent, the Maritimes and Ontario each five per cent, Alberta three per cent, and British Columbia two per cent.

BEER PRODUCTION IN JULY

Beer production in Canada rose sharply in July, while the month's output of new spirits was lower. Spirits bottled during the month were down from June but above July last year. Month-end stocks of distilled liquor were slightly under June, but above last year.

Production of beer in the month amounted to 748,900 barrels as compared with 719,200 in June and 732,500 in July last year, while the production of new spirits amounted to 1,000,000 proof gallons compared with 1,770,000 in June and 1,760,000 a year earlier.

The amount of spirits bottled during the month was 510,000 proof gallons as against 680,000 in June and 450,000 in July last year. Month-end stocks of distilled liquor totalled 74,120,000 proof gallons against 74,170,000 in June and 69,030,000 a year ago.



CIGARETTE AND TOBACCO RELEASES  
AT LOWER LEVELS IN JULY

Cigarette releases during July, following the pattern of the previous two years, fell off sharply to 988,000,000 from 1,577,000,000 in June, but were above last year's July total of 972,000,000, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Cigar releases showed a similar trend, amounting to 13,900,000 compared with 19,200,000 in June and 13,600,000 in July, 1948.

Cut tobacco released in the month declined to 1,460,000 pounds from 2,273,000 in June and 2,019,000 pounds a year ago, while plug tobacco amounted to 162,000 pounds compared with 215,000 and 144,000 pounds, respectively. Snuff dropped off to 43,000 pounds in July from 95,000 pounds in the previous month, but was slightly above the quantity of 42,000 pounds in July last year.

CANADA'S POPULATION  
RISES ABOVE 13.5 MILLION

Canada's population reached 13,545,000 at June 1 this year, an increase of 662,000 over a year earlier, according to the annual estimate of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The exceptional rise is the combined result of the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation and the continued high rate of natural increase and immigration. Newfoundland's population added 348,000 to the Dominion's total, while the net gain of the nine other provinces from natural increase and immigration less emigration amounted to 314,000, the largest for a year on record.

There were approximately 342,000 children born in the nine provinces during the 12 months ending June 1 this year, while deaths numbered 117,000, giving a natural increase of 225,000. Nearly 125,000 immigrants entered Canada, while somewhat over 30,000 persons emigrated.

Canada's population has been rising at an increasing rate during the post-war years. The latest net gain of 314,000 compares with 301,000 in the preceding year, 275,000 in 1947, and 188,000 in 1946. Newfoundland's population shows a rise of 26,000 from the 1945 census figure of 322,000.

There were increases in the population of all provinces except Prince Edward Island between 1948 and 1949. Largest numerical increase of 114,000 was registered in Ontario, followed by Quebec with a gain of 95,000, British Columbia 32,000, Alberta 25,000, Manitoba 21,000, New Brunswick 13,000, Nova Scotia 10,000, and Saskatchewan 7,000. Prince Edward Island's population was down 3,000, while figures for the Yukon and Northwest Territories were unchanged.

Estimates for the provinces and territories are as follows, with 1948 figures in brackets: Ontario, 4,411,000 (4,297,000); Quebec, 3,887,000 (3,792,000); British Columbia, 1,114,000 (1,082,000); Alberta, 871,000 (846,000); Saskatchewan, 861,000 (854,000); Manitoba, 778,000 (757,000); Nova Scotia, 645,000 (635,000); New Brunswick, 516,000 (503,000); Newfoundland, 348,000 (322,000 in 1945); Prince Edward Island, 90,000 (93,000); Northwest Territories, 16,000 (16,000); Yukon, 8,000 (8,000).

Canada's population in 1941, according to the census of that year, was 11,507,000. Following are estimates for succeeding years: 1942, 11,654,000; 1943, 11,812,000; 1944, 11,975,000; 1945, 12,119,000; 1946, 12,307,000; 1947, 12,582,000; 1948, 12,883,000; 1949, 13,545,000.

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ending September 3 totalled 85,046 cars compared with a revised 86,179 cars in the preceding week and the record for the week of 87,274 cars in 1948. Cumulative loadings for the 35 weeks ended September 3 were 2,563,563 cars as compared with 2,644,824 in the similar period last year. (15)

PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL Production of pig iron in Canada amounted to 194,300 tons in June as compared with 202,100 in the preceding month and 183,800 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first six months of this year, 1,135,100 tons were produced as against 1,031,700 in the similar period last year.

Output of ferro-alloys in the month totalled 19,300 tons compared with 20,700 in May and 13,500 in June last year, bringing the total for the first half of 1949 to 130,400 tons against 89,700 in the like period of 1948.

June production of steel ingots and castings amounted to 270,500 tons as compared with 293,200 in May and 259,400 a year ago. In the cumulative period, 1,676,000 tons were produced as against 1,595,600 in the same months last year.

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 225,500 net tons in June compared with 231,900 in May. The amount of producers' interchange was 84,700 tons in June, and 85,700 in May. (16)

OUTPUT OF CANADA'S LEADING MINERALS Output of 12 of 16 of Canada's leading minerals in June was higher than in the corresponding month last year, while in the first six months of this year, production was advanced in all but three items. In the month, declines were shown in asbestos, coal, copper, and gypsum; in the six-month period, decreases occurred in asbestos, gypsum, and lime.

According to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, output for June was as follows, totals for June last year being in brackets: asbestos, 29,222 (53,975) tons; cement, 1,626,434 (1,455,273) barrels; clay products, \$1,626,079 (\$1,621,326); coal, 1,322,651 (1,404,189) tons; copper, 40,517,503 (40,793,823) pounds; gold, 344,125 (290,049) fine ounces; gypsum, 270,724 (356,490) tons; iron ore, 537,453 (184,024) tons.

Lead production in June totalled 28,446,050 pounds (22,633,503 pounds in June, 1948); lime, 88,127 (85,478) tons; natural gas, 3,624,918 (3,327,973) M cubic feet; nickel, 21,159,987 (20,867,468) pounds; petroleum, 1,701,539 (1,038,496) barrels; salt, 65,983 (64,621) tons; silver, 2,197,879 (1,320,440) fine ounces; zinc, 54,985,455 (38,073,424) pounds. (17)

ECONOMY APPEARS STEADY Canada's economy appears to be maintaining a reasonably steady position, economic indicators revealing little change -- allowing for usual seasonal fluctuations -- from month to month or from the same periods of the previous year, states the current issue of the Canadian Statistical Review in its review of economic conditions.

From March to July, the Review points out, the Bureau's index of production, on the base 1935-39 equals 100, has fluctuated within a range of a single point, standing at 185.9 for the latter month. The index of industrial employment stood at 198.3 for July compared with 194.5 for June and 198.0 for July last year. During the last several months no perceptible change has been observed in the ratio between factory inventories and shipments, indicating that goods are moving into the hands of consumers in a steady flow. (18)



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).

1. September Estimate of Production of Principal Field Crops, including Late-Sown Crops, Fodder, Roots and Potatoes (10 cents).
2. Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation, August (25 cents).
3. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
4. Dairy Factory Production, August (10 cents).
5. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, September 1 (10 cents).
6. Stocks of Meat, Lard and Tallow, September 1 (10 cents).
7. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, September 1 (10 cents).
8. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, September 1 (10 cents).
9. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, July (10 cents).
10. Commercial Failures in Second quarter, 1949 (20 cents).
11. Employment Situation Together with Payrolls, July (25 cents).
12. Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, July (10 cents).
13. Births, Marriages and Deaths, June (10 cents).
14. Sales of New Motor Vehicles and Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales, July (25 cents).
15. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
16. Primary Iron and Steel, June (25 cents).
17. Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, June (10 cents).
18. Canadian Statistical Review, August (35 cents).
19. Summary of Canal Traffic, July (10 cents).
20. Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, June (10 cents).
21. Shipments and Inventories of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, June (25 cents).
22. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, June (10 cents).
23. Trade of Canada: Exports of Canadian and Foreign Produce, July (25 cents).

Memorandum

1. Pack of Strawberries, 1949 (10 cents).

Reference Paper

1. Export and Import Price Indexes, 1926-1948 (50 cents).
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