

D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

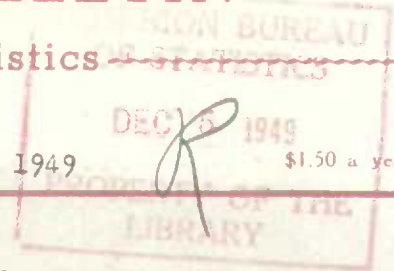
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THE GENERAL INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES, on the base 1926=100, rose 1.7 points during October to reach 157.1 as compared with 155.4 in September. At the October level the index was down 2.2 points from the same month last year.

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THE LEVEL OF INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT showed little general change at the beginning of October, the index number, on the base 1926=100, standing at 202.0 as compared with 202.1 at September 1, and 203.3 at October 1, 1948. The advance figure of average weekly earnings reached a new high figure of \$43.60 compared with \$43.28 at September 1 and \$41.80 a year ago.

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BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS IN THE FORM OF CHEQUES CASHED continued to advance in October. The increase over the same month last year was almost nine per cent, the all-Canada total amounting to \$8,328,000,000 against \$7,654,000,000. The aggregate for the first 10 months of this year was \$70,618,000,000, up nine per cent over last year's corresponding total of \$64,865,374,000.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES during the week ending November 19 showed a slight rise of one per cent as compared with the corresponding week last year.

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LANDINGS OF SEA-FISH IN CANADA IN OCTOBER -- excluding Newfoundland -- amounted to 124,130,000 pounds valued at \$4,122,000 as compared with 114,170,000 pounds valued at \$6,220,000 in the corresponding month last year.

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CANADIAN PRODUCTION OF CRUDE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GASOLINE rose to an all-time high of 1,970,675 barrels in August, showing an increase of 11 per cent over July and 58 per cent above August last year.

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FACTORY SHIPMENTS OF CANADIAN-MADE MOTOR VEHICLES IN OCTOBER showed a decrease of nine per cent from the record September total, but were 12 per cent above October last year. During the first 10 months of this year, shipments advanced 17 per cent over the similar period last year.

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PRODUCTION OF MILK IN SEPTEMBER amounted to 1,635,000,000 pounds, showing an increase of 46,000,000 pounds over the corresponding month last year.

CANADA'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN OCTOBER

Canada's domestic exports in October were valued at \$269,100,000, showing an increase of 17.7 per cent over the September total of \$228,400,000, but were 12.4 per cent lower than last year's October value of \$307,000,000 -- the second highest monthly peacetime total on record.

Last year's September and October totals were at exceptionally high levels due in part to the removal of export controls on the shipments of cattle and meats to the United States and to large sales of ships to France.

Merchandise exports in the first 10 months of this year were valued at \$2,415,100,000 as compared with \$2,465,100,000 in the similar period of 1948.

A large part of the reduction in October from the corresponding month last year was accounted for by sharply reduced exports to France, Italy and the Union of South Africa. Exports to the United Kingdom moved up in the month, while there was a moderate decrease in the value of shipments to the United States. Exports to Latin American countries were lower.

Exports to the United States in October were valued at \$148,056,000 as compared with \$148,911,000 in the corresponding month last year, the 10-month total standing at \$1,172,360,000 as compared with \$1,189,847,000 in the like period of 1948. Shipments to the United Kingdom in October moved up to \$72,276,000 from \$65,573,000, and in the 10 months to \$598,265,000 from \$581,729,000.

Exports to the Union of South Africa in October were down to \$4,316,000 from \$10,521,000 in the same month last year, but the 10-month total was slightly higher at \$67,709,000 from \$66,951,000 in the similar period of 1948. Shipments to the Latin American countries as a group in October were valued at \$9,646,000 compared with \$11,216,000 a year earlier, and totalled \$101,997,000 in the 10 months compared with \$99,299,000.

Exports to France were off sharply in October and the 10 months of this year. In the month, exports to that country were valued at \$1,143,000 compared with \$20,189,000 a year ago, and in the 10 months at \$32,833,000 compared with \$77,524,000. Exports to Italy were also sharply lower, being valued at \$907,000 in October this year compared with \$6,411,000, and in the 10 months at \$9,306,000 compared with \$28,324,000.

Wood, wood products and paper was the only one of the nine main commodity groups to record an increase in October over the corresponding month last year. The total for this group, swelled by increases in the value of exports of planks and boards, and newsprint rose to \$82,799,000 from \$82,031,000.

The agricultural group -- second largest of the nine in the month -- was down in value to \$65,500,000 from \$73,200,000, marked increases in wheat and other grains being outweighed by sharp declines in wheat flour, rubber and products, seeds and several other commodities. Animals and animal products as a group were down in value to \$40,400,000 from \$48,100,000, sharp declines being registered in the exports of cattle, bacon and hams, other meats, but marked advances in fish and fishery products.

Exports of the majority of commodities in the non-ferrous metals group were lower in the month, and the group total fell to \$30,485,000 from \$37,326,000. There were marked declines in the exports of aluminum, copper, and zinc. Nickel exports were moderately higher. The iron and its products group was down in the month to \$18,974,000 from \$25,898,000, farm implements and machinery being sharply lower, and iron ore, machinery except farm, and railway cars and parts higher.

Most marked change among the commodity groups was recorded in the miscellaneous section which fell to \$8,515,000 from \$21,618,000, due to a sharp reduction in the sales of ships to nil from \$16,341,000 a year ago. Exports of aircraft and parts, on the other hand, moved up to \$5,342,000 from \$458,000.

The fibres and textile group was down in value to \$1,600,000 from \$3,700,000, non-metallic minerals to \$8,300,000 from \$9,300,000, and chemicals and allied products to \$5,600,000 from \$5,700,000. (1)

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX
UP 1.7 POINTS IN OCTOBER

Reversing the general downward trend since the first of the year, the general index number of wholesale prices, on the base 1926=100, rose 1.7 points during October to reach 157.1 as compared with 155.4 in September. At the October level the index was down 2.2 points from the same month last year.

Advances over the preceding month were shown for six of the eight sub-group indexes, the most marked advance being shown for wood products and non-metallic minerals. Animal products moved lower, while textile products remained unchanged.

Sub-group indexes were as follows for October, with September figures in brackets: vegetable products, 142.6 (141.9); animal products, 164.5 (166.8); textile products, 158.9 (158.9); wood products, 138.1 (181.7); iron products, 173.5 (171.8); non-ferrous metals, 141.2 (138.3); non-metallic minerals, 138.9 (134.0); chemical products, 122.0 (121.1). (2)

EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY
EARNINGS AT OCTOBER 1

There was little general change in the level of industrial employment at the beginning of October, the index number, on the base 1926=100, standing at 202.0 as compared with 202.1 at September 1, and 203.3 at October 1, 1948. The advance figure of average weekly earnings reached a new high figure of \$43.60 as compared with \$43.28 at September 1 and \$41.80 a year ago.

Moderate improvement in employment as compared with September 1 was reported in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan at the first of October. On the whole, the situation indicated in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick was practically unchanged, while the movement was generally unfavourable in the remaining provinces.

The most noteworthy advances were those of 0.4 per cent in Ontario, 0.7 per cent in Saskatchewan, and 0.9 per cent in Manitoba. The largest losses were those of 2.4 per cent in Alberta and 1.3 per cent in British Columbia. (3)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES
UP ONE PER CENT IN WEEK

Department store sales during the week ending November 19 showed a slight rise of one per cent as compared with the corresponding week last year, according to preliminary figures. The Maritime Provinces registered an increase of 15 per cent, Manitoba eight per cent and British Columbia seven per cent, while sales in Saskatchewan declined 10 per cent, Alberta seven per cent, and Quebec and Ontario each two per cent.

CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST
INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS

Business transactions in the form of cheques cashed continued to advance in October. The increase over the same month last year was almost nine per cent, the all-Canada total amounting to \$8,328,000,000 against \$7,654,000,000. The aggregate for the first 10 months of this year was \$70,618,000,000, up nine per cent over last year's corresponding total of \$64,865,374,000.

Quebec was the only area to record a decline in the month, the relatively sharp drop in Quebec City overshadowing small advances in Montreal and Sherbrooke. The total for the province was \$2,199,754,000 as against \$2,219,590,000, a decrease of 0.9 per cent.

The inclusion, this year, of data for St. John's, Newfoundland, resulted in an increase of 17.8 per cent for the Maritime area to \$201,258,000 in October from \$170,855,000 a year ago. While no change was recorded for Halifax there were recessions in Moncton and Saint John.

Five centres in Ontario failed to equal last year's showing, but gains in Toronto and Ottawa more than counter-balanced these losses and contributed to an advance of 13.1 per cent for the province -- to \$3,326,540,000 from \$2,942,068,000.

The aggregate for the Prairie Provinces was \$1,897,001,000 as compared with \$1,705,852,000 in October last year, showing an increase of 11.2 per cent. All centres showed gains except Medicine Hat. Calgary and Regina recorded the two greatest increases of 25.5 and 26.5 per cent, respectively.

All centres in British Columbia advanced in the month, the provincial total rising 14.3 per cent to \$703,502,000 from \$615,225,000. With a gain of 42 per cent, Victoria led all clearing centres in Canada. (4)

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>Nov. 24, 1949</u>	<u>Nov. 17, 1949</u>	<u>Oct. 27, 1949</u>
	(1935-39=100)		
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(106 Common Stocks)	118.8	119.3	116.0
82 Industrials	113.7	114.2	109.8
16 Utilities	121.2	122.0	122.6
8 Banks	143.2	142.2	141.4
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks)	93.8	94.8	93.8
25 Golds	76.4	77.0	77.0
5 Base Metals	127.9	129.5	126.6

CURRENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

A review of the major factors which tend to influence Canadian economic developments indicates mixed trends in comparison with the two previous years, states the Canadian Statistical Review.

The index of industrial production in September this year stood at 187.1 as compared with 184.1 for September, 1948 and 174.9 for September, 1947. The index for non-durable manufactures production was 185.3, an all-time high as compared with 181.1 and 173.0 for September of the two earlier years, while that for durable manufactures was 216.7 in September of this year, down from the 219.5 figure reached in September, 1948, but above the 210.1 figure for September, 1947. (These seasonally-adjusted indexes are on a base 1935-39=100).

Railway revenue freight loadings for September were estimated at 9,968,000 tons, 7.6 per cent below the 10,787,000 tons loaded in September, 1948, and 0.2 per cent below the September, 1947 figure of 9,983,000 tons. The number of freight cars loaded with revenue freight in September of each of the three years was 363,000 cars (1949); 378,000 (1948); and 352,000 (1947).

The general wholesale price index last September was 155.4 compared with 158.4 in September a year ago and 134.0 two years earlier. This index has now declined steadily but slowly since a high of 159.6 was reached in December of 1948. The wholesale price index of Canadian farm products was 145.7 as compared with 149.7 and 133.5 in the two preceding years. The fluctuations of this index have recently been irregular since it dropped to 145.1 in February of this year and then reached 150.9 in July before again turning downwards.

Despite these drops in wholesale indexes the cost-of-living index has shown year to year increases since it stood at 139.4 in September, 1947, moved to 158.9 in September, 1948 and to 162.3 in September of this year. The October figure for this index was practically unchanged at 162.2.

The index of common stock prices in September stood at 109.6, somewhat lower than the 113.4 of a year ago but higher than the 104.1 of September, 1947. This index for October reached 114.3, representing a considerable gain from the low of recent years which was 99.6 reached in June last. (5)

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER
IN NINE CITIES OF CANADA

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on November 25 amounted to 49,303,000 pounds as compared with 28,269,000 on the corresponding date last year.

Increases were recorded for each of the nine centres with the exceptions of Quebec and Vancouver.

Stocks were as follows by cities on November 25, totals for the same date last year being in brackets (figures in thousands): Quebec, 2,999 (3,682) pounds; Montreal, 18,195 (10,492); Toronto, 10,181 (4,127); Winnipeg, 10,321 (4,175); Regina, 1,076 (310); Saskatoon, 327 (234); Edmonton, 3,154 (2,171); Calgary, 1,386 (1,112); Vancouver, 1,664 (1,966).

MILK PRODUCTION HIGHER
IN SEPTEMBER

Production of milk in September amounted to 1,635,000,000 pounds, showing an increase of 46,000,000 pounds over the corresponding month last year. This raised the cumulative total for the first nine months of 1949 to an estimated total of 13,318,000,000 pounds, up 123,000,000 pounds over the same period of 1948. In the month, 1,014,000,000 pounds of milk were utilized in factory production, bringing the nine-month total to 7,293,000,000 pounds.

Sales of fluid milk and cream, the latter expressed as milk, amounted to 329,700,000 pounds in September, an increase of approximately 5,000,000 pounds over September last year. This year's September total included about 277,000,000 pounds of fluid milk, comprising about 17 per cent of the farm milk supply, and fluid cream sales of 52,000,000 pounds, representing three per cent of the total milk output.

The September production of butter -- including creamery, dairy and whey butter -- amounted to 35,000,000 pounds, a reduction of 1,250,000 pounds or 3.3 per cent from the same month last year. The January-September output amounted to 269,977,000 pounds as compared with 279,309,000 in the similar period of 1948.

Holdings of butter in store and transit on October 1 amounted to 76,000,000 pounds, approximately 22,000,000 pounds more than last year. On September 1 the stocks were 70,500,000 pounds compared with 51,250,000 a year earlier.

The domestic disappearance of butter in September, including creamery, dairy and whey butter, amounted to 29,500,000 pounds, a decline of 4,000,000 pounds or 12.3 per cent. On a per capita basis the domestic disappearance amounted to 2.25 pounds as against 2.60 pounds a year ago. During the nine months ending September the disappearance of 232,000,000 pounds showed a reduction from the preceding year of 36,000,000 pounds. This is partially due to the substitution of margarine, the domestic disappearance of which amounted to approximately 50,000,000 pounds. (6)

PRODUCTION OF EGGS IN OCTOBER

Production of eggs in Canada in October was estimated at 21,264,000 dozen compared with 24,082,000 in the same month last year. Of this year's total, 19,382,000 dozen were produced on farms and 1,882,000 elsewhere than on farms. Cumulative output for the first 10 months of this year totalled 280,370,000 dozen compared with 335,845,000 in the similar period last year. Eggs per 100 layers amounted to 923 as against 926 a year earlier.

Eggs sold for consumption totalled 15,884,000 dozen valued at \$7,776,000, while farm consumption amounted to 3,507,900 dozen with a value of \$1,654,000. (7)

PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS
OF WHEAT FLOUR IN OCTOBER

Production of wheat flour in October amounted to 1,858,774 barrels, showing a slight increase over September, but a decline of five per cent from last year's October total. Output for the first quarter of the current crop year was 5,465,928 barrels as compared with 5,754,272 in the like period of 1948-49.

Wheat flour exports in October amounted to 743,946 barrels, down sharply from last year's total of 1,446,462 barrels. In the first three months of the crop year 2,507,772 barrels were exported against 3,205,272 in the like period of the preceding crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were ground in October, totals for the same month last year being in brackets: oats, 2,206,255 (1,837,151) bushels; corn, 265,796 (124,516); barley, 551,465 (803,507); buckwheat, 4,186 (8,359); mixed grain, 1,735,752 (1,915,700). (8)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on November 17 amounted to 171,165,200 bushels as compared with 175,362,000 on November 10, and 183,999,400 on the corresponding date last year.

Farmers in the Prairie Provinces marketed 3,948,800 bushels of wheat during the week ending November 17 compared with 4,798,800 in the corresponding week last year, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 209,418,300 bushels as against 211,202,700 in the like period of the preceding crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending November 17, totals for the same date last year being in brackets: oats, 1,706,400 (2,984,000) bushels; barley, 690,400 (1,964,400); rye, 107,700 (253,600); flaxseed, 18,400 (142,000).

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending November 17 totalled 5,919,100 bushels compared with 3,367,700 in the same week last year, and in the cumulative period, 62,796,500 bushels against 39,722,600. (9)

ESTIMATES OF PRODUCTION
OF SEED CROPS

Hay and pasture seed crops are generally lighter this year than last, according to preliminary figures. Production of the major vegetable seeds such as peas and beans shows a sharp decline since last year, while the output of asparagus, lettuce, onion, radish and sugar beet seeds are all well above the 1948 level.

The alfalfa and clover crops are particularly light this season compared with those of 1948 when record crops of red clover, alsike clover, sweet clover and alfalfa were marketed. The grass crops are also somewhat lighter than those of a year ago, but the reductions are not as great as in the case of the clovers.

Production of hay and pasture seed crops are as follows, with 1948 figures in brackets: alfalfa, 8,718,000 (21,385,000) pounds; alsike clover, 2,564,000 (9,400,000); red clover, 4,855,000 (16,086,000); sweet clover, 21,754,000 (28,840,000); timothy, 5,108,000 (5,634,000); brome grass, 6,050,000 (7,944,000); crested wheat grass, 300,000 (676,000); western rye grass, 123,000 (115,000); Kentucky blue grass, 80,000 (580,000); Canadian blue grass, 140,000 (250,000); creeping red fescue, 1,200,000 (1,558,000); bent grasses, 2,000 (4,000).

Output of the larger vegetable and field-root seed crops: peas, 5,013,000 (14,154,000) pounds; beans, 1,788,000 (2,366,000); corn, 225,100 (236,500); onion, 69,000 (39,700); carrot, 52,000 (54,600); lettuce, 27,000 (14,700); radish, 21,900 (13,600); asparagus, 20,200 (4,100); beet, 18,100 (18,600); cucumber, 17,500 (18,300); spinach, 13,400 (11,800); mangel, 72,700 (133,900); sugar beet, 402,800 (296,300); swede, 57,000 (23,900). (10)

FEWER BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES
IN FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR

There were fewer births, deaths and marriages in Canada in the first quarter of this year than in the corresponding period of 1948, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The rate of natural increase was also lower.

Live births in the first three months of this year numbered 82,814, giving an equivalent annual rate of 25.5 per 1,000 population as compared with 84,915 and a rate of 26.5 a year ago. Deaths totalled 30,689 with a rate of 9.4 as against 32,728 and a rate of 10.2. There were 15,245 marriages giving a rate of 4.7 compared with 16,160 or a rate of 5.0. The natural increase in the quarter was 52,125 compared with 52,187, the rates being 16.1 and 16.3, respectively.

Heart disease claimed the lives of 9,307 persons in the first three months of this year as compared with 9,505 in the same period of 1948. Cancer deaths totalled 4,024 compared with 4,058, while deaths attributed to pneumonia numbered 1,937 compared with 2,203. Tuberculosis took 985 lives compared with 1,301, nephritis 1,808 compared with 1,851, and intracranial lesions of vascular origin 2,703 compared with 2,805. Accidental deaths numbered 1,479 compared with 1,525. (11)

MOTOR VEHICLE SHIPMENTS IN OCTOBER

Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles in October showed a decrease of nine per cent from the record September total, but were 12 per cent above October last year. During the first 10 months of this year, shipments advanced 17 per cent over the similar period of 1948.

In October 28,125 units were shipped as compared with 30,894 in September and 25,057 a year ago. The cumulative total for the 10 months ending October was 244,992 units as against 210,079 in the like 1948 period.

Shipments of passenger models and commercial vehicles were lower than in September but above October last year. Shipments of passenger cars amounted to 19,578 units compared with 21,514 in September and 18,017 a year earlier, and commercial vehicles, 8,547 units against 9,380 in September and 7,040 last year. In the 10 months, 160,027 passenger cars were shipped against 129,809 a year ago, and commercial vehicles, 84,965 compared with 80,270.

Vehicles shipped for sale in Canada accounted for 25,169 of the month's total as compared with 27,748 in September and 18,729 in October, 1948, bringing the cumulative total to 219,587 units as against 168,827. Vehicles for export numbered 2,956 units in October against 3,146 in September and 6,328 in October last year, and in the 10 months, 25,405 units as compared with 41,252 in the same months last year. (12)

RADIO RECEIVING SETS HIGHER
IN AUGUST AND FIRST NINE MONTHS

Producers' sales of radio receiving sets in August continued the gains of earlier months this year over 1948. Sales in the month amounted to 49,568 units with a value of \$3,383,122 as compared with 45,752 units sold for \$3,350,483 in August last year. During the first nine months of this year, 396,559 units were sold for \$28,093,312 against 271,485 for \$23,459,950 in the similar period last year.

Provincial totals for the month were as follows, totals for August, 1948 being in brackets: Newfoundland, 318 (-) units; Maritimes, 3,187 (2,533); Quebec, 6,615 (8,674); Ontario, 27,043 (21,233); Manitoba, 4,199 (4,718); Saskatchewan, 2,103 (2,004); Alberta, 2,809 (2,696); British Columbia, 3,294 (3,894). (13)

CRUDE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GASOLINE
OUTPUT AT ALL-TIME HIGH IN AUGUST

Canadian production of crude petroleum and natural gasoline rose to an all-time high monthly figure in August, showing an increase of 11 per cent over July and 58 per cent above August last year. The gain in the month was principally due to increased output from the Leduc and Redwater fields of Alberta. Production from Turner Valley was lower.

All-Canada output in August amounted to 1,970,675 barrels as compared with 1,775,320 in the preceding month and 1,244,536 in the corresponding month last year. During the first eight months of this year, 13,558,765 barrels were produced as against 7,548,760 in the similar period of 1948, a gain of 80 per cent.

Alberta accounted for 1,870,528 barrels in August compared with 1,104,113 a year earlier. Leduc's output rose to 885,625 barrels from 583,157, and Redwater to 549,947 barrels from nil. Crude output from Turner Valley dropped to 299,109 barrels from 351,714 and Lloydminster to 53,799 barrels from 70,978.

The month's output from wells in Saskatchewan amounted to 56,203 barrels compared with 93,749 in August last year, Ontario 24,518 barrels compared with 15,144, Northwest Territories 17,621 barrels compared with 29,703, and New Brunswick 1,805 barrels compared with 1,827.

In August, output of natural gas reversed the downward trend shown since the beginning of the year, amounting to 3,479,690 M cubic feet as compared with 3,473,012 M in July and 3,404,976 M a year ago. In the cumulative period, 39,921,562 M cubic feet were produced as against 37,693,696 M in the same months last year. Production in Alberta totalled 2,773,389 M cubic feet compared with 2,807,269 M a month earlier; Ontario, 661,886 M (624,353 M); New Brunswick, 23,000 M (23,412 M); and Saskatchewan, 21,415 M (17,978 M). (14)

LANDINGS OF SEA-FISH
HIGHER IN OCTOBER

Landings of sea fish in Canada in October -- excluding Newfoundland -- amounted to 124,130,000 pounds valued at \$4,122,000 as compared with 114,170,000 pounds valued at \$6,220,000 in the corresponding month last year. In the first 10 months of this year, landings totalled 989,841,000 pounds valued at \$47,360,000 compared with 1,045,492,000 pounds at \$53,536,000 in the like period of 1948.

The catch on the Pacific Coast in October amounted to 71,033,000 pounds -- up 2.5 per cent over the same month last year. Indications are that the salmon run tapered off more abruptly and the herring fishery swung into stride more rapidly than was the case last year. Landings of the former species were down approximately 13,400,000 pounds, while those of the latter were up 15,700,000 pounds as compared with the same month of 1948.

The month's landings on the Atlantic Coast amounted to 53,097,000 pounds, showing an increase of 18.4 per cent over October, 1948. With the exception of haddock, greater quantities of groundfish were caught. Landings of herring, sardines and oysters were higher in the month. (15)

CANAL TRAFFIC DOWN
12 PER CENT IN OCTOBER

Volume of freight passing through Canadian canals in October was considerably reduced from the same month of 1948 due to the continuation of the steel and soft coal strikes in the United States. While the grain movement was much heavier as the season drew to a close, the drop in soft coal shipments was very large, amounting to over 998,000 tons for the three main Canadian canal systems.

Total freight carried on all Canadian canals in October amounted to 2,820,085 tons as compared with 3,205,143 tons one year earlier, a decline of 12 per cent. There were 2,826 vessels using the canals as against 3,006 in the same month of 1948.

Total traffic through the Sault Ste. Marie canals -- Canadian and United States locks -- was at the lowest volume for the month since 1932, amounting to 4,438,079 tons compared with 14,352,563 a year ago. Iron ore dropped from 10,183,168 tons to 2,044,826 tons as most steel mills were idle in the United States. Shipments of soft coal fell from 1,991,194 tons to 123,604, reflecting both the work stoppage and the declining stocks of American forwarders.

Freight tonnage using the Welland Ship canal, at 1,338,280 tons in October, was off 443,236 tons from October last year. Large declines were shown in soft coal, rye, flour, gasoline, pulpwood, coke and iron ore, but marked increases in wheat, corn, oats and petroleum.

Freight traffic on the St. Lawrence system in the month amounted to 1,202,308 tons as compared with 1,087,436 a year earlier. The smaller canals showed a heavier movement this year on the Richelieu and Rideau only. (16)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended November 19 totalled 82,950 cars, up 1,377 cars over the preceding week but off 4.6 per cent or 4,011 cars from the corresponding week last year when 86,961 cars were loaded. Loadings in the eastern division were 51,749 cars as compared with 54,560 in the same week last year, while loadings in the western division totalled 31,201 cars compared with 32,401. (17)

PRODUCTION AND DOMESTIC SALE
OF RIGID INSULATING BOARD

Production of rigid insulating board in October amounted to 18,319,600 square feet as compared with 14,919,600 in the preceding month and 19,067,300 in October last year. During the first 10 months of this year, 186,265,000 square feet were produced as against 180,481,500 in the similar period of 1948.

Domestic sales in the month increased to 19,220,500 square feet compared with 14,396,200 in September and 17,699,900 in October last year. In the cumulative period, 182,318,800 square feet were produced against 152,601,100 in the same months last year. (Mem. 1)

PRODUCTION AND DOMESTIC SALES
OF ASPHALT FLOOR TILES

Production and domestic sales of asphalt floor tiles were at higher levels in October, the month's output amounting to 1,796,100 square feet compared with 1,555,200 in September and 1,499,100 in October last year. During the first 10 months of this year, 13,775,700 square feet were produced against 16,226,700 in the similar period of 1948.

Domestic sales in October totalled 1,550,200 square feet compared with 1,471,800 in September and 1,311,200 a year ago. In the cumulative period, sales amounted to 14,024,600 square feet, slightly above last year's corresponding total of 14,019,700. (Mem. 2)

CONTRACT DIAMOND DRILLING IN 1948 There were 38 firms engaged in contract diamond drilling of Canadian mineral deposits, other than fuels, in 1948, as compared with 48 in the preceding year. The footage drilled during the year was 4,027,977 as compared with 4,072,622 in 1947, and the income from drilling was \$5,801,117 as against \$6,635,476.

Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec accounted for a large part of the footage drilled. In 1948, the footage in Ontario was 1,314,308 compared with 1,493,597 in the preceding year, British Columbia 1,131,745 compared with 819,001, and Quebec 115,550 compared with 1,404,277. (18)

LIST OF FEED MILLS The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has issued a list of feed mills reported to be operating in Canada in 1949. The list gives the names and addresses of 997 mills, of which 608 were located in Ontario, 286 in Quebec, 42 in Alberta, 19 in New Brunswick, 17 in Manitoba, 10 in Saskatchewan, seven in Prince Edward Island, five in Nova Scotia, and three in British Columbia. Copies of this list may be obtained from the Dominion Statistician at \$1.00 each. (19)

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. Summary of Domestic Exports, October (10 cents).
2. Prices and Price Indexes, October (20 cents).
3. Advance Statement of Employment and Weekly Earnings, October 1 (10 cents).
4. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, October (10 cents).
5. Canadian Statistical Review, November (35 cents).
6. Dairy Review of Canada, October (20 cents).
7. Monthly Poultry Estimates, October (10 cents).
8. Canadian Milling Statistics, October (10 cents).
9. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
10. Seed Crop Report, 1949 (10 cents).
11. Births, Deaths and Marriages, First Quarter of 1949 (25 cents).
12. Motor Vehicle Shipments, October (10 cents).
13. Radio Receiving Sets, August (25 cents).
14. Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas, and Manufactured Gas, August (15 cents).
15. Canadian Fisheries Statistics, October (30 cents).
16. Summary of Canal Traffic, October (10 cents).
17. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
18. Contract Drilling in the Canadian Mining Industry, 1948 (25 cents).
19. Feed Mills in Canada, 1949 (\$1.00).
20. Quarterly Report on Processed Foods, September (25 cents).
21. Railway Revenue Freight Loadings, October (10 cents).
22. Civil Aviation, June (10 cents).
23. Fluid Milk Trade, September (10 cents).
24. Earnings and Hours of Work in Manufacturing, 1947 (40 cents).
25. Survey of Production in Canada, 1947 (50 cents).

Memoranda

1. Rigid Insulating Board, October (10 cents).
2. Asphalt Floor Tiles, October (10 cents).

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