

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics
Department of Trade and Commerce

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Balance of Trade in January

The excess of exports over imports in January was \$7,559,329 compared with \$4,948,902 in January 1932 and an excess of imports over exports of \$4,799,293 in January, 1931.

The excess of exports to the United Kingdom over imports in January was \$7,305,143, compared with \$2,585,334 in January 1932 and an excess of imports over exports of \$40,583 in January 1931.

The excess of imports from the United States over exports last month was \$4,550,131 compared with \$3,713,818 a year ago and \$11,429,628 two years ago.

Run of Trade in Past Twelve Months

The excess of exports over imports in the twelve months ending January was \$51,835,436 compared with an excess of imports over exports of \$1,107,108 in the same period a year ago and \$98,524,731 two years ago.

In the twelve months ending January trade with the United Kingdom there was an excess of exports over imports of \$89,306,293, \$66,755,378 in the same period a year ago and \$73,451,688 two years ago.

In the twelve months ending January trade with the United States the excess of imports over exports was \$95,438,154 compared with \$119,513,662 in the same period a year ago and \$238,041,039 two years ago.

Export Clearances of Wheat

Export clearances of wheat during the week ending Feb. 17 amounted to 4,583,231 bushels compared with 3,148,831 in the previous week and 2,309,403 in the corresponding week of 1932. Port clearances were as follows, the figures in brackets being those of a year ago:

Week ending Feb. 17: 3,529,591 (1,074,629), Montreal 160 (nil), West St. John 233,480 (167,774), United States Atlantic seaboard ports 820,000 (1,067,000), Total 4,583,231 (2,309,403).

Twenty-nine weeks ending Feb. 17: Vancouver 63,467,537 (39,167,149), Montréal 45,166,740 (25,061,238), United States ports 16,465,000 (18,275,000), Sorel 11,073,265 (6,601,722), St. John 4,493,057 (718,134), Churchill 2,736,030 (544,769), Quebec 1,217,804 (88,326), Prince Rupert 677,813 (nil), Victoria 596,121 (nil), Halifax 370,492 (37,215), Total 146,263,959 (88,493,553).

Heavy Increase in Export of Bacon

Shipments of bacon and hams in January amounted to 4,126,500 pounds valued at \$371,688 which in volume was almost double the export of December and three times that of January, 1932. The quantity sent to Great Britain last month was 3,918,700 pounds.

Fresh Beef Export Increasing

The export of fresh beef has been showing a large advance of late. The quantity in January was 743,500 pounds valued at \$41,207, compared with 542,600 at \$27,060 in December and 289,400 at \$32,965 in January, 1932. More than half went to Great Britain.

Creamery Butter Production

The production of creamery butter in Canada in January totalled 8,124,081 pounds, compared with 9,394,976 pounds in the preceding month and 8,483,081 pounds in January 1932.

Export of Canadian Petroleum and Gasoline

Export of Canadian crude petroleum in January was 321,940 gallons. This was an increase of over 11,000 gallons compared with January a year ago but a decrease in value of over \$4,000.

The export of Canadian gasoline and naphtha was 192,617 gallons at \$24,168, more than double the export of a year ago.

Production of Automobiles

Production of 3,358 automobiles in Canada during January marked an improvement of 38 per cent over the 2,139 cars of December. The gain over the previous month was accounted for by the number of passenger cars increasing to 2,921 from 1,561, an advance which more than offset the decline in the number of trucks to 437 from 578.

Of this month's output 3,030 cars were made for sale in Canada, leaving a balance of 328 cars intended for export. The apparent consumption of cars during the month, as determined by adding the 3,030 cars made for sale in Canada to the 129 imported, amounted to 3,159 cars. Exports for January were reported at 504 cars.

Pig Iron Production Increasing

Production of pig iron in Canada at 29,209 tons in January was 7 per cent over the output of 27,031 tons in December which in turn was the record month of 1932. The increase over the previous month was in basic iron made for further use of the producers, this grade advancing to 27,459 tons from 22,842 tons. Of the iron made for sale the foundry grade dropped to 500 tons from 4,189 tons but malleable iron increased to 1,250 tons, none of this grade being made in December.

Ferro-Alloy Production

Output of ferro-alloys in Canada amounted to 1,217 tons in January as compared with 1,090 tons in December. This month's tonnage was mostly spiegeleisen but also included a small quantity of ferrosilicon.

Steel Ingots and Castings

Production of 40,766 tons of steel ingots and steel castings in Canada during January was the highest reported for any month since the 43,572 tons of March, 1932, and compared with 30,755 tons in December. The improvement over December was in the ingot grade which rose to 39,820 tons from 29,986 tons while the change in direct steel castings was comparatively small at 946 tons as against 769 tons.

Fruit Production Less than a Decade Ago

Fruit production and the acreage of orchards in Canada are less than they were ten years ago. The last census shows that the acreage was 279,472 acres under orchard compared with 297,053 acres in 1921.

Apple production declined considerably. There were 8,235,717 bearing trees in the Dominion as against 9,421,540 in 1921. Ontario is the leading apple producing province but the number of trees declined to 3,669,381 from 3,550,663 ten years before. Nova Scotia with 1,824,600 bearing trees showed a decline of about 11,000 while British Columbia with 1,397,649 bearing trees showed a decrease of nearly 300,000.

The pear was the only fruit tree to increase. At the last census the number of bearing trees was 452,607 compared with 440,206 in 1921. More than half of these were in Ontario.

There was a heavy decline in the number of peach bearing trees. The total was 600,100, a decrease of about 333,000 from ten years before. The number of plum bearing trees was 645,951 compared with 854,857 and cherries numbered 506,183 compared with 581,413.

Excepting peaches all of the non-bearing fruit trees were fewer than in 1921, apples alone being about 450,000 fewer.

Export of Butter

There was another heavy drop in the export of butter in January, the amount being 39,500 lb. valued at \$9,993. The twelve months export which was for the most part to the British West Indies was 3,432,600 lb. valued at \$638,311 compared with 10,727,200 lb. valued at \$2,334,440 last year.

Average Wages of Farm Help

For all Canada, the average wages of farm help per month during the summer season of 1932 were for men \$19 as against \$25 in 1931 and for women \$11 as against \$15. The value of board is placed at \$15 per month for men, as compared with \$18 in 1931, and at \$12 as compared with \$15 for women. Thus the value of wages and board combined amounted to \$34 for men, as compared with \$43 in 1931 and to \$23 for women as compared with \$30 in 1931. By provinces, the average monthly wages in the summer season for men and women respectively, plus the value of board, were in 1932 as follows, with the figures for 1931 within brackets: Prince Edward Island \$30, \$21 (\$39, \$25); Nova Scotia \$37, \$25 (\$44, \$29); New Brunswick \$33, \$22 (\$43, \$26); Quebec \$30, \$19 (\$41, \$25); Ontario \$33, \$24 (\$43, \$32); Manitoba \$32, \$23 (\$39, \$28); Saskatchewan \$33, \$23 (\$42, \$29); Alberta \$36, \$26 (\$44, \$32); British Columbia \$44, \$30 (\$58, \$39).

The yearly wages in Canada were reported for men as \$176 as compared with \$240 in 1931 and for women as \$120 as against \$159. The value of the yearly board is given for men as \$165 (\$199 in 1931) and for women \$135 (\$163 in 1931). The value of the yearly wages and board thus amounted to \$341 as against \$439 in 1931 for men and to \$255 as against \$322 for women.

Hospital Libraries

Reading is one of the chief pastimes of people who have the misfortune to be confined to a hospital for a long period. The Bureau of Statistics has learned that 80 per cent of 31,572 inmates of Canadian mental and neurological hospitals in 1930 were in institutions equipped with libraries. The average size of these libraries was 1,231 volumes, and the average number of patients to an institution 901.

Sanatoria for tuberculosis are smaller, having an average of only 183 patients. But 84 per cent of the patients have access to libraries which average 1,993 volumes per hospital.

Libraries in Penitentiaries and Reformatories

The Dominion's seven penitentiaries in 1931 had 48,342 books in their libraries for 3,748 inmates, or an average of 13 books each. In addition each penitentiary received an average of 54 periodicals. Books and periodicals cost an average of \$878 per institution.

All but 3 of the 36 reformatories and industrial schools in Canada reported libraries,--an average of 837 books apiece for 121 persons detained.

Increase in Concentrated Milk Production

The production of concentrated milk, including all items, in January, amounted to 4,126,962 pounds, an increase over January last year of 355,231 pounds. Evaporated milk was the largest item being about half of the whole. The quantity of evaporated milk exported last month was 1,858,800 pounds.

Paint and Varnish Export Increases

The export of paints in January was valued at \$23,931, which was another large increase. The twelve months export was valued at \$289,868 compared with \$218,770 in the corresponding period a year ago.

The export of varnish in the twelve months amounted to \$28,483, double the previous twelve months.

