

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

No. 26.

Ottawa, Monday, April 17, 1933.

Travelling Libraries

The number of individual travelling libraries, circulated from any one source in 1931, ranged from M'Gill's 213 to the Saskatchewan Government's 1,943. The total from all sources was about 3,500. Some of them are sent to schools and consist mainly of children's reading material, but the majority are taken out by voluntary community organizations. In British Columbia the average size of the travelling library considerably exceeds those of other provinces, as many as 300-400 books being sent out in some and the average size of the libraries sent to communities being 92. The exact circulation of travelling libraries is not known in all cases but it approaches a million volumes. In Saskatchewan the circulation represents more than one book to every two people in the province five years of age or over.

A related service, usually called an Open Shelf Library, is carried on by the same Departments as are the travelling libraries in the four western provinces. Under this arrangement an individual may borrow one or a few books by mail. The British Columbia Public Library Commission reports 4,791 transactions of this kind in 1931 involving the loan of 12,479 books; the Saskatchewan Bureau of Publications loaned 22,795, the Manitoba Department of Education (1932) 1,279, the Extension Department of the University of Alberta (1930) 23,991.

Five annual grants, to total \$100,000 are in progress of being paid by the Carnegie Corporation to the British Columbia Library Commission for the purpose of experimenting with the provision of a regional library scheme. In Ontario the aim is definitely towards the county library service and in some localities steps have been taken in this direction. The need for it is affirmed in recent reports of the Public Libraries Branch of the Department of Education: "The time seems to have arrived when there should be provision for larger library units. The county as a unit has proven satisfactory in Great Britain and in parts of the United States" (1928). "The funds for the support of a county library should come from a general county fund which would be provided by a special tax levy for library purposes. This rate might vary from fifty cents to one dollar per capita. The Government grants might be increased to assist in the experimental stages of development" (1931).

Export Clearances of Wheat

Wheat clearances for overseas for the week ending April 7 amounted to 2,099,052 bushels compared with 2,668,855 bushels the week before and 2,366,098 in the corresponding week a year ago. The following were the port clearances, the figures in brackets being those of last year:

Week ending April 7: Vancouver 1,525,014 (1,565,448), Halifax 232,000 (nil), Saint John 248,338 (33,650), United States Atlantic seaboard ports 94,000 (767,000), Total 2,099,052 (2,366,098).

Thirty-six weeks ending April 7: Vancouver 76,114,425 (49,666,528), Montreal 45,167,926 (25,061,238), United States ports 19,969,000 (23,143,000), Sorel 11,073,265 (4,601,722), Saint John 6,812,128 (2,005,892), Churchill 2,736,030 (544,769), Halifax 1,312,552 (45,189), Quebec 1,217,904 (120,248), Victoria 1,166,721 (nil), Prince Rupert 677,813 (nil), Total 166,247,764 (105,188,586).

The Anticipated Wheat Carry-Over

The carry-over of Canadian wheat at July 1, 1933, is expected to be in the neighborhood of 156,000,000 bushels. Our total stocks of wheat in Canada (carry-over at July 31, 1932 plus the new crop) have fallen 246.6 million bushels since the beginning of the present crop season, of which total exports account for about 193 million bushels. Proceeding from the total stocks on hand at March 31, 1933 (viz. 312,819,144 bushels) and with allowances for domestic consumption, further proof of increased carry-over is obtained. Calculating in this way leaves the impression that the 1932 crop may be underestimated about 2 per cent, which would increase the carry-over by 8 or 10 million bushels.

Wheat Stocks in Farmers' Hands

According to the reports of crop correspondents, 19 per cent of the 1932 wheat crop, or 80,037,000 bushels out of a total crop of 428,514,000 bushels remained in farmers' hands at March 31, 1933. This included seed for the 1933 crop. At March 31, 1932, 19 per cent, or 61,840,000 bushels remained on farms while in 1931 at the same date 93,922,000 bushels remained.

Distribution of Wheat in Store

Canadian wheat in store on April 7 totalled 225,875,792 bushels, distributed as follows: Western country elevators (Manitoba 9,540,245, Saskatchewan 63,068,260, Alberta 34,952,942) 107,561,447; interior private and mill elevators 5,813,306; interior public and semi-public terminals 3,149,348; Vancouver and New Westminster 9,677,736; Victoria 512,656; Prince Rupert 301,695; Churchill 2,430,283; Fort William and Port Arthur 71,944,830; Eastern elevators, lake ports 13,708,558; eastern elevators, seaboard ports, 5,111,581, of which 1,880,265 at Montreal, Sorel 691,132, Quebec 596,828, St. John 52,745, Halifax 1,014,383 etc; United States lake ports 5,253,143, of which 3,924 at Duluth, 2,268,866 at Buffalo, 2,247,353 at Buffalo afloat, 733,000 at Erie; United States Atlantic seaboard ports 411,209, of which 78,890 at New York and 32,319 at Boston.

Values of Fur Bearing Animals

The average prices obtained in 1931 for fur bearing animals sold from fur farms were: Fisher \$120, blue fox \$95, silver fox \$86, nutria \$87, beaver \$76, mink \$29, badger \$24, Karakul sheep \$11, red fox \$15, raccoon \$10, coyote \$7, muskrat \$4.37, Chinchilla rabbit \$1.10. Only two nutria were sold. They are a large South American rodent with much the habit of the beaver, whose fur, when stripped of the outer hair, it resembles. It does not build dams.

Pelts of Fur Bearing Animals

The average prices obtained in 1931 for pelts sold from fur farms were: Fisher \$36, silver fox \$29, blue fox \$19, badger \$15, white fox \$14, beaver \$12, marten \$11, red fox \$9, coyote \$7, mink \$5, raccoon \$4, fitch \$3, Chinchilla rabbit \$1.16, skunk \$1, muskrat 82 cents.

Sugar Imports in February

Raw sugar imports in February were all from British Empire countries, the sources being: Fiji Islands 12,001,800 pounds at \$196,114, British Guiana 6,274,200 at \$97,989, Australia 2,630,000 at \$38,756. The total import in February was 20,906,000 pounds, compared with 28,422,500 in February last year. The two months imports this year and last year were about the same.

Refined sugar imports in February totalled 105,800 pounds valued at \$4,851, compared with 269,300 at \$11,641 a year ago. The sources last February were: United States 105,300 pounds, United Kingdom 500 pounds.

Gold Production in January

Canadian gold production in January totalled 233,456 ounces as compared with the preceding month's output of 266,719 ounces and the January, 1932, total of 233,826 ounces.

Ontario operators reported an output of 171,879 ounces, made up of 84,381 ounces from the Kirkland Lake area, 78,002 ounces from the Porcupine camp and 9,496 ounces from other sources. Production in Quebec increased 8.3 per cent to 33,041 ounces from the previous month's total of 30,496 ounces. British Columbia produced 17,804 ounces. The first shipments from the new Reno mill in the Sheep Creek district are included. The Manitoba production was obtained from the Flin Flon, Central Manitoba and San Antonio mines. The month's output was recorded at 10,491 ounces. Receipts at the Royal Canadian mint from Nova Scotia amounted to 241 ounces.

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