

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

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Index Numbers of Retail Sales Higher in June

Index numbers of retail sales issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for June, showed a rise of one point over May. This is the first occasion in five years when the general index reached a higher figure in June as compared with May. The combined index rose from 85.3 in May to 86.3 in June, (January, 1929=100). Corresponding figures for May and June, 1932, when retail prices were at a higher level, were 91.5 and 91.1 respectively. While no correction is made for seasonal adjustments, the movement in June appears to have been contrary to a seasonal drop.

Group indexes were higher in four cases and lower in seven. Boots and shoes rose from 84.3 in May to 103.9 in June; clothing from 97.8 to 103.7; drugs from 69.0 to 74.9, and general and departmental from 94.1 to 96.7. Candy sales fell from 69.3 to 57.0; dyers and cleaners from 117.0 to 115.5; furniture from 53.0 to 46.4, and groceries and meats from 79.5 to 75.8. Hardware decreased from 109.2 to 99.2; music and radio from 20.5 to 15.9, and restaurants from 57.9 to 57.3.

The index numbers are based on returns from 83 chains, comprising approximately 2,700 stores, and 25 departmental stores.

Countries from Which Increased Imports Came in June

While the imports from British Empire countries increased in June the imports from foreign countries decreased. The total in June was valued at \$22,128,184 compared with \$30,929,792 in June, 1932. The following are the countries from which increased imports came, the figures in brackets being those of a year ago:

Brazil \$41,476 (\$38,457), China \$182,129 (\$143,432), Denmark \$7,424 (\$5,415), Ecuador \$3,113 (\$587), Egypt \$43,560 (\$39,362), Estonia \$10,579 (\$163), Finland \$7,745 (\$4,775), Madagascar \$771 (nil), Latvia \$5,955 (\$140), Morocco \$407 (\$375), Dutch West Indies \$24,099 (nil), Norway \$54,971 (\$24,613), Persia \$7,631 (nil), Poland \$2,344 (\$1,388), San Domingo \$21,647 (\$8,901), Siam \$4,407 (nil), Alaska \$4,774 (\$3,443), Yugoslavia \$357 (\$227).

Sugar Imports in June

Heavy consignments from the British West Indies were the feature of the raw sugar imports in June. With the exception of a small shipment from San Domingo all of the month's import came from Empire countries. The total was 95,551,500 pounds compared with 56,324,800 in June, 1932.

The imports by countries were: Barbados 25,603,700, Trinidad 24,324,400, British Guiana 15,770,900, Smaller British West Indies 14,560,000, San Domingo 2,283,700, Fiji Islands 1,740,000.

The refined sugar imports, which have been running heavier of late than formerly, totalled 773,900 pounds in June, the following being the consigning countries: British East Africa 601,000, United States 169,200, United Kingdom 2,900, Hong Kong 500, Porto Rico 200.

Imports of Canned Meats

The canned variety is the chief of our imported meats. It comes mainly from Argentina, no less than 608,675 pounds coming from that country in June at the apparently moderate valuation of \$30,217, or an average of less than five cents per pound. From Australia we got 52,490 pounds at \$3,647 or almost 7 cents per pound; from New Zealand 22,948 at \$2,028, or 9 cents per pound; from the United States 5,328 at \$765, or slightly over 14 cents; from Great Britain 2,266 at \$484, or over 21 cents; and, most expensive of all, from France 254 pounds at \$200.

Have a New Zealand Hot Dog Wrapping

Hot dog! We got \$50,000 worth of sausage skins from New Zealand last month. They were cleaned too before they left. That sausage skin trade runs to hefty proportions, and seems to be growing. The importation in June was valued at \$66,923, and the balance came from the United States at \$9,783, Great Britain \$5,382 and Australia \$2,461. In June, 1932, the import was \$12,255. During the twelve months ending June the total was \$421,000 compared with \$375,000 in the previous twelve months.

Food that Comes High

The most expensive canned meat that comes to Canada regularly is from France. In the main it is Pate de Foie Gras and the import value, excluding other costs, is about a dollar a pound. About 250 pounds arrived last month. Alsace is its home. It is sent abroad packed in attractive little earthenware pots.

The principal ingredient is the liver of geese forcibly overfed. The next principal addition is an underground fungus, much like mushroom, that herded pigs unearth. Just as the pig joyously seizes the delicious morsel, a watchful attendant raps the swine over the snout with a stick, the pig drops the toothsome morsel and it is gathered in to help make pate de foie gras. Other things are added and the whole comes high.

British Imports of Wood and Timber

British imports of hewn hardwood in June showed a very large increase in the supply from Canada, the amount being 255,853 cubic feet out of a total of 367,240. The amount in June, 1932, was only 5,916 cubic feet. The nearest competitor last month was British India with 10,404.

Hewn softwood imports totalled 30,416 loads, Soviet Russia supplying 15,404, Finland 3,477 and Canada 3,149.

The sawn hardwood imports, except mahogany, totalled 2,387,927 cubic feet, of which the United States supplied 1,493,322, Canada 268,599 and Poland 253,067.

Sawn softwood imports totalled 500,571 loads, of which Finland supplied 175,905, Sweden 145,240 and Canada 49,143.

Exports of British Coal to Canada

Exports of British coal to Canada in June totalled 163,572 gross tons and for the six months of the present year 684,144, as compared with 169,421 in June, 1932, and 558,403 in the first six months of 1932.

Sized coal, which is the chief class of coal sent to Canada totalled 132,148 gross tons valued at \$178,663, and for the six months 553,779 at \$750,504.

The cost of anthracite exported to all countries in June is stated by the Board of Trade to be 213,733 gross tons at \$341,767.

Carrying Eastern Grain by Water

More grain is being shipped by water from the Head of the Lakes than last year. Up to July 21 the amount was 73,375,000 bushels compared with 67,027,000 on the corresponding date last year.

A feature of the all water traffic has been shipments to Halifax of 239,000 bushels as against 30,000 a year ago, and 114,000 to Europe compared with nil last year.

The following are the totals up to July 21 by water from the Head of the Lakes, the figures in brackets being those of a year ago: To Georgian Bay ports, Port Colborne, Toronto, Prescott and Kingston, 37,502,000 (32,066,000); Montreal 17,666,000 (21,374,000); Sorel 1,751,000 (3,834,000); Quebec 3,413,000 (468,000); Buffalo 13,112,000 (8,950,000); other U.S.A. ports 2,589,000 (305,000); Europe 114,000 (nil); Halifax 239,000 (30,000).

Another feature is the amount of grain that is being shipped direct from the Head of the Lakes to Montreal and other St. Lawrence ports, instead of being shipped to Lower Lake ports and transhipped from these to Montreal, Quebec and Sorel.

Export Clearances of Wheat

Export clearances of wheat for the week ending July 28 amounted to 2,713,925 bushels compared with 2,005,941 in the previous week, an increase of 707,984. During the corresponding week of 1932 the clearances totalled 4,871,251 bushels. From August 1, 1932 to July 28, 1933, export clearances totalled 221,653,303 bushels compared with 172,535,877 in the corresponding period a year ago. Clearances by ports were as follows, the figures within brackets being those of the previous year:

Week ending July 28: Montreal 1,314,337 (1,543,416), Vancouver 903,254 (1,865,571), United States Atlantic Seaboard ports 196,000 (535,000), Quebec 300,324 (nil), Sorel nil (927,264), Total 2,713,925 (4,871,251).

Fifty-two weeks ending July 28: Vancouver 91,712,728 (75,627,167), Montreal 66,343,629 (53,854,011), United States ports 26,330,000 (32,025,000), Sorel 16,905,011 (7,758,165), Saint John 6,864,873 (2,017,008), Quebec 6,130,794 (120,248), Churchill 2,736,030 (544,769), Victoria 1,997,857 (224,000), Halifax 1,655,901 (45,189), Prince Rupert 976,480 (320,320), Total 221,653,303 (172,535,877).

Aluminum Imports in June

Amongst the aluminum imports in June was a consignment of 73,964 cwt. from the United Kingdom valued at \$142,873. This included bauxite. The amount from the United States was 45,776 cwt. at \$48,626. The total aluminum imported in June was valued at \$218,857 of which \$168,082 came from the United Kingdom.

Crude Petroleum Imports

Crude petroleum imports in June totalled 121,121,000 gallons compared with 83,981,000 in May and 113,948,000 in June, 1932. Last month's imports included 88,992,000 from the United States, 11,311,000 from Venezuela, 8,162,000 from Colombia, 8,913,000 from Peru, and 3,742,000 from the Dutch West Indies.

Gasoline Imports in June

Casinghead gasoline imported in June totalled 3,878,771 gallons valued at \$151,684, all from the United States, compared with 2,069,849 at \$78,587 in May and 2,812,792 at \$184,613 in June, 1932. The average declared value of the casinghead gasoline imported last month was 3.9 cents per gallon compared with 6.5 cents a year ago.

Farm Implements and Machinery Imported in June

Farm implements and machinery imported in June totalled in value \$203,089, compared with \$172,386 in May and \$152,053 in June, 1932. The amount from the United States was \$167,037 and from Great Britain \$14,791.

Imports of Autos etc. in June

Imports of vehicles of iron and parts in June totalled in value \$1,332,680 compared with \$1,369,899 in May and \$1,396,188 in June, 1932. The amount from the United States was \$1,233,930 and from the United Kingdom \$98,523. The consignments from the United States were mainly parts, totalling in value about \$1,130,000.

Amongst these imports were 65 autos valued at \$1,200 or less from the United States and 18 from Great Britain, 3 motor buses from Great Britain at \$24,694, 159 bicycles from Great Britain at \$2,099 along with parts at \$1,344, 89 motor cycles from Great Britain at \$16,857 and 15 at \$3,976 from the United States, steel bicycle rims from Great Britain at \$1,199, one traction engine from the United States at \$4,361.

Exports of Wood Pulp Increase

The export of wood pulp and screenings from Canada in June totalled 1,043,408 cwt. valued at \$1,904,248. In May 901,765 cwt. valued at \$1,693,621 were exported while in June 1932, total exports amounted to 597,177 cwt. valued at \$1,296,166.

Canada's Exports Compared with Exports of Other Countries.

Canada in the production and exportation of many staple products ranks high amongst the leading nations of the world. In the production of printing paper, nickel and asbestos she leads the world; comes second in the production of gold and zinc; in output of copper she occupies third place; and fourth place in the production of automobiles, wheat and lead. In the production of wheat, Canada, in 1932, was in fourth place with 428,500,000 bushels, being exceeded by Russia (production not available for 1932), the United States, 726,800,000 bushels, and China (production not available for 1932).

In export trade, the Dominion led the world in 1932 in the exports of wheat, printing paper, nickel and asbestos; occupied third place in exports of wheat flour Australia being in first place, and the United States in second place; fourth place in the exports of automobiles and wood pulp, being exceeded in the exports of automobiles by United States, United Kingdom and France, and of wood pulp by Sweden, Norway and Finland; sixth place in the exports of rubber tires, being exceeded by United States, United Kingdom, France, Belgium and Italy. The exports of these staple products from Canada make up fifty per cent of the Dominion's total domestic exports.

Canada also ranks high in the world's exports of many other staple products such as lumber and timber, fish, copper, barley, cheese, raw furs, whiskey, meats, farm implements, pulpwood, cattle, raw gold, silver, rye, oats, rubber footwear, leather and hides.

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