

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

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The August Employment Situation

The number of employees of 8,261 firms reporting to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics aggregated 804,219 on August 1, as compared with 780,015 on July 1, being an increase of over 24,000 in the month—an increase which of course, does not include the large number of persons employed in harvesting operations on farms. The figure of 804,219 on August 1, is the highest recorded during the past twelve months. More especially during the last four months since the beginning of the fiscal year there has been an increase totalling 104,000 workers and the index of employment has risen from 76 on April 1 to 87.1 on August 1, while the number of employees in the reporting industries is normally considerably larger on August 1 than on April 1, the increase of 104,000 in the last four months is considerably greater than the average increase in the last thirteen years during which the record has been maintained. Thus, even after correction for seasonal variation the index of employment at the latest date shows a distinct advance.

Further, since the larger firms making monthly reports as to the number of their employees give work to about 45 per cent of the total number of wage-earners in the industries other than agriculture and professional and domestic service, and since the smaller firms have also been affected by the improvement in business, it may be fairly estimated that the number of unemployed in the Dominion has been reduced by 200,000 in the last four months. It is noteworthy that the increase of employment in the recent months has been common to all the economic areas of Canada.

The World Wheat Situation

The present world wheat situation is dominated by two major considerations which are acting with opposite effects upon the world's markets. On the one hand there is the fact of greatly reduced cereal production in North America in 1933 due to drought and excessive heat during the growing season over the central areas of the United States and over large areas of the Prairie Provinces. On the other hand there is the prospect that Europe has harvested and will harvest bountiful crops of wheat and that world import requirements will be abnormally low during the present crop year. These two propositions form the basis of the wheat position for 1933-34.

Preliminary estimates have been issued covering the main cereal crops in the United States. Adverse climatic conditions not only reduced 1933 wheat production to the lowest point in years but also reduced production of corn, oats, barley, and rye by millions of bushels. Considering the five leading grains together, 1933 preliminary estimates show a reduction of well over one billion bushels as compared with average production during the five years from 1926 to 1930. If the known (but not quantitatively expressed) reduction in yield in Canada be considered along with the reduced production in the United States, the 1933 growing season stands as one of the most disastrous in the agricultural history of the two countries.

While not all European wheat crops have been estimated and while only early estimates are available for many countries, it now appears likely that Europe will harvest another large crop of wheat which will be supplemented by reserves carried over from 1932-33, notably in France and Germany. This factor along with all the concomitants of world-wide depression will tend to reduce import requirements to a low level. Mr. Broomhall estimates that world import requirements will amount to 552 million bushels during 1933-34 or to about 60 million bushels less than actual shipments during the past crop year when the volume of world trade in wheat was not impressive.

During the past month, the Canadian situation has become more definite with the progress of the crop, the publication of the carry-over at July 31 and the issuance of 1933 acreages for the Prairie Provinces. The condition of the spring wheat crop declined greatly during July and was numerically expressed as 57 at the end of July as compared with 77 on June 30 this year and 88 on July 31, 1932. Harvest has been aided by bright, hot weather. This has further reduced the prospective yields of late sown wheat but has minimized the menace of fall frosts.

Stocks of Foreign Corn in Canada

Stocks of foreign corn in Canada on August 18 were as follows, the figures in brackets being those of a year ago: United States 7,448,032 (547,745), Argentina 158,324 (67,734), South Africa 436,999 (327,211).

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics--Its Story

Note: This is the first of a series of articles dealing with the work of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics which will appear in the Bulletin from time to time. These will embrace the activities of the Bureau and set out its responsibilities.

While Canada, under the French regime, has the distinction of having taken the first organized census in the world in the modern sense of the term, the later statistics of the scattered British colonies which now constitute the Dominion were scrappy and incomparable. Just prior to Confederation, there was a revival of interest in statistics under the auspices of Hon. D'Arcy McGee, then Minister of Agriculture of the Province of Canada, and his interest in the matter was probably a reason why the subject of "the Census and Statistics", was among those "exclusively assigned" to the new Dominion Government by the British North America Act and later placed under the Department of Agriculture for administrative purposes. The first, second, third and fourth Dominion censuses were taken by temporary organizations, but in 1905 a permanent Census and Statistics Office was created, which may be regarded as the progenitor of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Subsequent to Confederation, various other statistical offices had arisen in the Dominion Government service as subordinate branches of particular Departments, notably in respect of trade statistics, railways statistics, mining statistics, fisheries statistics, forestry statistics, immigration statistics, criminal statistics, etc., but these statistics, as well as the statistics collected by provincial departments in the course of their administration, were often found to be quite incomparable with each other as well as with those of the Census and Statistics Office. Departments interested in production often paid scanty or no attention to the statistics of capital, labour, wages, etc., which might have been collected at the same time.

In those circumstances the official statistics of Canada were found so inadequate and confusing that the Royal Commission on Statistics, which was set up in 1912 to investigate the situation, advised strongly in favour of a policy of centralization of the statistical services of Canada. This centralization was put into effect by the Statistics Act of 1918 and in the subsequent years the Dominion Bureau of Statistics as it now exists was constituted by the transfer from various Departments of the following branches: the Census and Statistics Office, fisheries statistics, mining statistics, forestry statistics, dairy and food statistics, water and electric power statistics, the statistical branch of the Railways and Canals Department, the trade statistical branch, grain trade statistics, live-stock statistics, prices statistics and employment statistics, while four new branches were created dealing with public finance, internal trade, vital statistics and education, respectively.

The new Bureau also fell heir to the statistical activities of the war-time Fuel Controller and the Board of Commerce. Under the terms of the Statistics Act, its mandate now embraces all official statistics "relative to the commercial, industrial, social, economic and general activities and conditions of the people."

In order that statistics may serve departmental requirements as well as those of general policy, machinery is created under the Statistics Act for close collaboration both between the Bureau and the several Departments of the Dominion Government, and also between the Bureau and the more important provincial executive departments.

The history of the Bureau since its creation has furnished indubitable proof of the expediency of the policy it reflects. Among the advantages flowing from the adoption of centralization have been a realization of the economies which it permits in respect of staff, equipment and in the elimination of duplication. Further, large scale operations have made possible the economical use of expensive electrical tabulating machinery, while central library, record and administration systems have also promoted economy.

Even more important perhaps is the fact that the Bureau has brought all the chief statistical officers of the Government into close touch with each other and has favoured the bringing together of comparable statistics as in the fields of production, trade, transportation, prices, etc. Thus, in the existing statistical system of Canada, not only are the possibilities of error reduced to a minimum by the constant checking up of the statistics in one field with those in another, but the interpretation of statistics is greatly facilitated. For example, the estimates of the yield of grain are all the time being checked by the receipts of grain at the elevators, while the annual statistics collected on agriculture are checked by the comprehensive and elaborate investigations of the decennial census.

Thus the Dominion Bureau of Statistics aims to have, on almost any subject which comes to the attention of the Government and people of Canada and which lends itself to statistical measurement, the most accurate available statistics. In brief, the final objective of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics is the creation of a nation-wide conspectus covering all the more important phases of social and economic activity, and relating these to the general background of nature and history in the Dominion. A numerous series of weekly, monthly, and annual reports is issued, for information as to which either as a whole or on any particular subject application made to the Bureau will bring prompt response. A Daily Bulletin is published which summarizes in convenient, readable form the reports issued on that same day, and at the end of each week a Weekly Bulletin is issued which combines the references of each day.

Silver Mining Industry in 1932

Silver mining in Canada is not a distinct mining industry as silver or silver bearing minerals usually occur in association with those of other metals; with lead and zinc; with cobalt, nickel, arsenic; with lode and placer gold; in copper-gold and nickel-copper ores, and at Great Bear Lake, N.W.T., with uranium and radium. Silver in lead and zinc ores and in cobalt-nickel-arsenic ores is generally an important or predominating factor in determining the marketability of such ores. Silver-lead-zinc mining is a very important industry in British Columbia, the Yukon Territory, and sometimes to a less extent in Ontario and Quebec.

The total primary production of these metals from all Canadian sources in 1932 was as follows: silver, 18,349,450 fine ounces valued at \$5,811,569; lead, 255,947,378 pounds worth \$5,409,704; zinc, 172,283,558 pounds worth \$4,144,454; cobalt, 490,631 pounds worth \$587,957; and arsenic worth \$98,714. The arsenic was recovered as white arsenic and arsenate of lime at the Ontario smelter of the Deloro Smelting and Refining Company from silver-cobalt ores mined in Northern Ontario.

Among the metals produced in Canada during 1932 silver held fourth place, lead fifth place, and zinc sixth place in point of value. The Belgian Congo and Canada are the two largest producers of cobalt, the production from the former has, during recent years, considerably surpassed that of the Dominion.

Producers of both silver-lead and cobalt-silver ores in Canada during 1932 continued to feel adversely the almost unprecedented low prices prevailing for silver, lead and zinc and it is indeed of great credit to the miners and smelters of these ores that their operations were so generally continued and much needed employment provided.

Wheat Clearances and Stocks in Store

Canadian wheat in store on August 25 was 196,524,975 bushels, an increase of 4,990,328 over the previous week. Export clearances by ports during the week ending August 25 were as follows, the figures in brackets being those of a year ago: Montreal 1,063,061 (2,066,446), Vancouver 376,520 (668,886), Churchill 1,234,661 (255,700), Sorel 234,000 (709,213), United States Atlantic Seaboard ports 278,000 (187,000), Total 3,186,242 (3,887,245). Four weeks ending August 25: Montreal 6,259,207 (6,343,475), Vancouver 1,393,259 (3,047,644), Churchill 1,234,661 (535,713), Sorel 1,130,370 (338,013), United States ports 969,000 (1,531,000), Total 11,290,997 (12,475,815).

Decrease in Commercial Failures

A decrease in the number of assignments under the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts, as reported to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, was experienced in June, as compared with June, 1932, while the liabilities of the assignors also showed a decrease. Commercial failures numbered 158, as compared with 179 in the same month of the previous year. The liabilities of the assignors, amounting to \$2,338,726 showed a decrease when compared with \$3,794,281 in June, 1932. There was a marked decrease in the Maritime Provinces.

Trading establishments furnished the largest number of failures, 81 assigning in June, as compared with 84 in June, 1932. Manufacturing establishments to the number of 31 assigned in June, as against 36 in June, 1932.

Index Numbers of Security Prices

The investors' index of industrial common stocks was 102.8 for the week ending August 24 compared with 99.1 for the previous week. Domestic utility common 47.0 compared with 46.4, common of companies located abroad 67.2 as compared with 64.5, and for all three groups 73.7 as compared with 71.5.

Vital Statistics

Births registered in 67 cities of Canada in July numbered 6,813, deaths 3,440 and marriages 2,748 as compared with 7,306 births, 3,381 deaths and 2,927 marriages in July last year, showing a decline of 7 per cent in births, an increase of 2 per cent in deaths and a decrease of 6 per cent in marriages.

During the seven months January - July of this year, births registered in the same cities totalled 48,155, deaths 27,418 and marriages 15,735 as against 50,671 births, 28,569 deaths and 16,133 marriages during the corresponding period last year. This comparison shows decreases of 5 per cent in births, 4 per cent in deaths and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in marriages.

Railway Train Accidents

Last year 7 passengers were killed in train accidents and 339 were injured. This was an average of one killed in each 3 million passengers carried and one injured in each 62 thousand. Injuries to passengers range from scratches and bruises to more serious injuries. Two passengers were killed in collisions, two fell from trains, two were killed getting on or off trains and one from other causes. There were 57 employees killed in train accidents. The number of employees injured was 957, a low record for the last twenty-two years. There were 94 persons killed at highway crossings, of which 78 were motorists. Thirty were killed at protected crossings.

Coal Production in July

Coal production in Canada during July totalled 675,631 tons, an advance of 3.6 per cent over July, 1932, output of 651,910 tons but a decline of 35 per cent from the 1928-1932 average for the month of 1,039,892. The output of bituminous coal in July amounted to 599,482 tons; sub-bituminous coal, 15,208, and lignite coal, 60,941.

Nova Scotia's production of 342,966 tons recorded an increase of 10.9 per cent over the July, 1932, total of 309,142. Alberta mines produced 197,316 tons as compared with 197,158 in the corresponding month last year. Coal production in British Columbia decreased 15.3 per cent to 94,713 from the July, 1932, output. Mines in Saskatchewan produced 17,816 tons and in New Brunswick, 22,820 tons; in July, 1932, the outputs were 19,075 tons and 14,720 tons, respectively.

Sales of New Automotive Vehicles in July Increased

Retail sales of new passenger cars, trucks and buses in Canada reported to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics by nineteen companies, whose sales comprise over 90 per cent of total Canadian sales, indicate an increase of 35 per cent as compared with July, 1932. The total number of vehicles sold was 5,140 compared with 4,017 in July 1932; and the retail value was \$5,045,231 compared with \$3,729,211 in July, 1932.

There were 4,569 new passenger cars sold in July as against 3,473 in July, 1932; while trucks and buses numbered 571 compared with 544 in July, 1932. The retail value for new passenger cars was \$4,492,645 compared with \$3,261,756 in July, 1932, and the total for trucks and buses was \$552,586 as against \$467,455 in July, 1932.

Production of Coke in July

Production of 144,812 tons of coke in Canada during July was the second highest monthly output reported for the year to date, being only exceeded by the 150,350 tons of January. The tonnage for July showed an improvement of nearly 7 per cent over the previous month and 14 per cent over July of a year ago. Output in the western provinces at 13,189 tons showed little change as compared with 13,299 tons in June but the tonnage made in the eastern provinces advanced to 36,625 from 30,846 and in Ontario to 94,998 from 91,401.

During the month 43,387 tons of Canadian coal and 154,597 tons of imported coal were carbonized to make 144,812 tons of coke. For the first seven months of the year output of coke totalled 953,622 tons as compared with 968,821 tons during the corresponding period of 1932.

Grain Exports by Countries of Destination

Exports of Canadian wheat by countries of destination amounted to 240,136,568 bushels in the crop year 1933 compared with 182,803,382 bushels for the previous year, making the fifth largest export from Canada in any crop year. The chief countries of destination of the 1933 export were as follows in bushels: Great Britain 156,461,736, Netherlands 17,616,333, Belgium 17,511,631, France 12,223,736, Germany 10,501,736, China 7,792,969, Japan 4,239,402.

Wheatflour exports amounted to 5,370,613 barrels, slightly less than the previous crop year when 5,383,594 barrels were exported. Of the former amount, Great Britain received 2,372,063 barrels; British West Indies, 757,077 barrels; Newfoundland, 317,006 barrels; Irish Free State, 243,523 barrels; Hong Kong, 238,902 barrels; Norway, 176,381 barrels; Japan 150,727 barrels; China, 147,623 barrels; Denmark, 116,895 barrels; while smaller amounts went to other countries.

Oats exports for the crop year 1933 amounted to 11,075,797 bushels compared with 13,611,111 bushels in 1932. Great Britain was the chief country of import with 6,820,013 bushels. The other important countries in order of quantity were: Netherlands, 1,501,025 bushels; Belgium, 1,191,739 bushels; Newfoundland 413,903 bushels; British West Indies, 338,073 bushels; Bermuda, 273,789 bushels; and France, 249,744 bushels.

Barley exports amounted to 5,391,399 bushels compared with 13,538,225 bushels for the previous crop year. The majority of the 1933 export amounting to 4,745,053 bushels was destined to Great Britain. Netherlands was next with 337,475 bushels; Irish Free State, 152,500 bushels; Belgium, 129,167 bushels; and a small balance to other countries.

July Meat Exports Again Exceed One Million Dollars

Canada's export of meats was again over the million dollar mark in July, the actual value being \$1,039,134 compared with \$741,712 in July, 1932. The chief item was bacon and hams, the total of which was 74,305 cwt. valued at \$854,627. The amount sent to the United Kingdom was 73,003 cwt. at \$827,428, out of a total meat export to Great Britain of \$942,364. A year ago the bacon and ham export to Great Britain was 48,795 cwt. at \$502,768.

A rapidly growing export is in canned meats. It has multiplied almost three times in the last twelve months. The July quantity was 113,512 pounds valued at \$20,841, the amount to Great Britain being 106,893 pounds at \$19,393.

British imports of bacon in July totalled 778,595 cwt. of which Canada supplied 53,730, compared with 31,133 in July, 1932, and 1,648 in July, 1931. The countries from which larger supplies were received last month were Denmark, Holland and Poland.

British imports of hams in July totalled 121,143 cwt. of which the United States supplied 85,118 and Canada 21,548. The quantity from Canada in July, 1932, was 20,724 cwt. and in July of the previous year 4,655.

The July imports of meats, valued at \$88,050, were above the average during the past twelve months. This was due mainly to a supply of 739,265 pounds of canned meats valued at \$39,592 from the Argentine. The supply from Australia was 37,320 at \$3,525 and from Uruguay 48,000 at \$2,148. In addition to the meats the United Kingdom sent \$26,973 worth of sausage skins, New Zealand \$25,957 and United States \$16,915.

About Canadian Cheese

Canada stands second to New Zealand in the British cheese market. While the imports from New Zealand and Australia have been increasing the receipts from Canada have been decreasing. The following were the imports in cwt. from these three countries in the first seven months of 1933 with those of the same period of 1932 in brackets: New Zealand 1,443,423 at £3,375,616 (1,310,310 at £3,876,719), Canada 121,353 at £342,829 (190,325 at £546,784), Australia 73,878 at £174,664 (41,886 at £ 125,024).

Export of Non-Ferrous Metals

The export of gold bullion in July totalled \$4,719,365, of which \$4,714,365 went to the United Kingdom and \$5,000 to Great Britain. The raw gold export of \$147,621 went entirely to the United States.

The July export of aluminum in blocks etc. was 50,814 cwt. valued at \$829,141, compared with 50,690 at \$861,583 in June and 5,357 at \$84,501 in July, 1932. The aluminum scrap export was 793 cwt. at \$8,861 as against 353 at \$3,400 in June and 204 at \$2,610 in July, 1932.

The July export of fine nickel totalled 62,453 cwt. valued at \$2,189,129, compared with 57,236 at \$2,107,917 in June and 8,739 at \$225,937 in July, 1932. The export of nickel in ore etc. was valued at \$699,874 in July, \$753,750 in June and \$141,034 in July 1932. Nickel oxide export was valued at \$145,757 in July, \$193,439 in June and \$182,791 in July, 1932.

The export of copper in its various forms in July totalled 248,118 cwt. valued at \$1,769,790 compared with 226,968 at \$1,476,242 in June and 200,829 at \$1,008,470 in July, 1932. The heavy importer was the United Kingdom.

Pig lead export in July totalled 154,317 cwt. valued at \$322,783 compared with 200,514 at \$375,608 in June and 213,451 at \$248,645 in July, 1932. Lead in ore exported was 4,722 cwt. at \$9,408 compared with 60 at \$120 in June and 5,317 at \$21,268 in July, 1932.

The export of zinc spelter in July was 109,703 cwt. valued at \$316,396 compared with 146,911 at \$406,413 in June and 135,217 at \$283,999 in July, 1932.

Silver bullion exported in July amounted to 578,108 ounces valued at \$221,290, compared with 1,040,206 at \$373,898 in June and 880,970 at \$250,316 in July, 1932. Last month's export went to China, British India and the United States. Silver in ore, concentrates, etc. exported in July totalled 332,751 ounces at \$103,656 compared with 69,942 at \$17,659 in June and 604,983 at \$169,482 in July, 1932.

British Imports of Some Non-Ferrous Metals

British imports of copper ore, regulus, matte etc. from Canada in July totalled 4,054 gross tons valued at £138,300, compared with nil in July, 1932, and 515 at £25,243 in July, 1931. The seven months imports from Canada were 10,500 gross tons at £333,671 compared with 9,154 at £280,961 in the same period of 1932, an increase in quantity but a decrease in value.

British imports of unwrought copper from Canada totalled 3,072 gross tons at £124,839 compared with 1,717 at £56,749 in July, 1932, and 356 at £15,303 in July, 1931. The seven months imports from Canada were 20,062 at £717,206 compared with 8,205 at £307,906 in the same period of 1932 and 996 at £43,304 in the same period of 1931.

Canada has supplied more than half of all the United Kingdom's imports of crude zinc in the first seven months of 1932, the quantity being 26,229 gross tons valued at £434,118 out of a total of 42,894 at £714,313. In the same period of 1932 the supply from Canada was 31,159 gross tons at £432,027 out of a total of 65,697 at £907,934. This was a decrease in quantity but an increase in value. The July import from Canada was 4,898 tons out of a total of 8,185.

British Imports of Wheat from Principal Countries

During the nine months beginning November, when the Empire agreements went into effect, the imports of wheat by the United Kingdom totalled 151,796,000 bushels compared with 150,070,000 in the same period of 1931-2. The supply from Canada was 76,237,000 compared with 46,744,000. This was a gain of 63 per cent.

The next contributor was Australia was 40,776,000 bushels as against 33,853,000, a gain of 20 per cent. The 29,474,000 supply from the Argentine was a decrease of 23 per cent, the 350,000 from Russia a 97 per cent decrease and the 754,000 from United States a 92 per cent decrease.

Canada in the last nine months supplied 50 per cent of the imported wheat in the British market compared with 31 per cent in the corresponding nine months of the previous year, Australia 26 per cent compared with 22, and the Argentine 19 per cent compared with 25. The proportion from Empire countries was 77 per cent as against 53 per cent, a gain of 24 per cent.

British Imports of Cattle in July

British imports of cattle from Canada in July numbered 6,166 valued at £104,227 and from the Irish Free State 18,301 at £185,553. The supply from Canada is about double that of two years ago.

The Sugar Trade

Raw sugar imports in July totalled 61,452,100 pounds compared with 95,841,700 in July last year. Last month's supply came from the following countries: Cuba 17,371,900 pounds, Barbados 11,137,700, Fiji 8,289,100, Trinidad 7,306,200, British Guiana 5,484,200, Smaller British West Indies 5,195,000, Jamaica 3,539,000, British East Africa 3,129,000.

Refined sugar exports in July totalled 2,122,100 pounds valued at \$99,027 compared with 802,200 at \$38,295 in July last year. The chief buyers last month were Newfoundland with 1,300,600 pounds, Norway 524,000, British Honduras 143,700 and the British West Indies 91,600.

British Imports of Unmanufactured Tobacco

British imports of unmanufactured tobacco in July totalled 14,457,512 pounds, of which 7,741,171 were received from Empire countries and 6,716,341 from foreign. The quantity from Canada was 1,240,316 compared with 75,391 in July, 1932. The following were the leading seven months imports, the figures in brackets being those of the same period of 1932: United States 70,434,095 (58,361,169), Canada 11,881,463 (8,760,956), Southern Rhodesia 3,311,860 (2,656,425), Nyasaland 2,884,164 (3,205,336), British India 7,741,655 (5,092,469), Total 98,605,481 (81,124,637).

Gasoline, Naphtha and Coal Oil Export Up

Canadian Gasoline and naphtha exported in July totalled 949,192 gallons valued at \$159,746, of which 796,307 at \$137,440 went to Newfoundland. The July export was considerably in advance of the June quantity which was 145,937 gallons and also of July, 1932, which was 113,710 gallons.

Canadian coal oil and kerosene exported in July totalled 218,054 gallons valued at \$43,924, compared with 5,662 at \$527 in June and 32,551 at \$2,853 in July, 1932. The amount sent to Newfoundland last month was 215,276 gallons.

July Trade in Asbestos

The exports of asbestos sand and waste in July totalled 13,490 tons valued at \$406,436 compared with 6,714 tons at \$193,838 in July, 1932. The export of asbestos manufactures was valued at \$12,139 as against \$3,374 a year ago. The chief buyers were the United States, Germany, Japan and the United Kingdom.

The imports of asbestos brake and clutch lining were valued at \$14,952 compared with \$20,723 a year ago, all of it coming from the United Kingdom and United States; asbestos packing \$2,134 compared with \$5,932; other manufactures of asbestos \$17,467 compared with \$20,815.

Imports of Coal in July

July imports of coal were recorded at 1,239,693 tons, an 18.4 per cent falling-off from the five-year average for the month of 1,519,700 tons. Anthracite importations totalled 340,885 tons consisting of 177,974 from Great Britain and 162,911 from the United States. During the past four months Great Britain has been the principal source of Canada's anthracite supply, accounting for 65.9 per cent of the importations during the period; the United States supplied 34.1 per cent. Receipts of bituminous coal in July amounted to 898,754 tons, made up of 877,516 from the United States and 21,238 from Great Britain. Fifty-four tons of lignite were imported from the United States during July.

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