

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

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Weekly Review of Economic Statistics

Note: The following is the first of a series of weekly reviews of economic conditions Canada as revealed by the statistics issued by this Bureau from day to day. This initial summary, being in its native introductory, describes the economic situation in August.

Economic conditions were well maintained in August despite the speculative reaction in the latter part of the preceding month. The favourable factors tending to inspire confidence were the substantial gain in business operations, continuing the marked advance of the second quarter, and the significant strength in high-grade bonds indicating the further betterment in credit conditions. The yield on representative Ontario government bonds was 4.55 per cent in August compared with 4.63, reflecting a relatively substantial gain in prices. The bid prices of four Dominion Government refunding bonds showed gradual appreciation during the month, when a high point was reached for the period since Great Britain was forced off gold in September 1931. The yield on the four bonds was computed as 4.43 per cent compared with 4.50 in July.

The decline in demand deposits at the end of July was mainly seasonal, and a fall was shown in notice deposits and current loans. Investment holdings at \$865,900,000 show a gain to a new high point contributing to the improved liquid position of the banks.

The index of common stock prices receded to 78.7 compared with 83.3 in the preceding month, while the average prices were lower, weekly analysis shows that subsequent to the reaction in the latter part of July, the trend was upward during the month under review.

It was gratifying to find that the reaction in speculative prices did not interfere with industrial expansion, business operations in August showing a considerable advance over the preceding month. The index of the physical volume of business was 89.8 compared with 84.1 in July a gain of 6.8 per cent. Marked gains in mineral production manufacturing and distribution were the influences in raising the business index in August, a decline being shown in construction.

Most of the indicators used for measuring the trend of mineral production showed gains in August. Nickel exports at 8,443,800 compared with 10,501,100 showed a decrease, but were still at a very high level. The outward shipment in August, 1932, was only 1,022,000 pounds and the index number for the month under review was higher than in any month of last year. Gold shipments from Canadian mines to the Mint and to external points were 211,062 fine ounces compared with 192,740 in July, the adjusted gain being more than 23 per cent. Silver shipments increased from 936,609 ounces to 1,374,068. Exports of copper ore and blister were 7,660,200 pounds compared with 3,734,900, the index moving up from 36.6 to 68.0. Asbestos exports of the better grades were 8,342 tons compared with 6,259, the adjusted gain being more than 32 per cent. Imports of bauxite ore for the manufacture of aluminium were 12,176,800 pounds compared with 4,799,600 in July.

The industries manufacturing food products were more active in the current period, the index being 100.1 compared with 88.5 in July. The output of wheat flour in the latest month for which statistics are available was 1,322,923 barrels compared with 1,186,006, the index adjusted for seasonal tendencies moving up from 88.6 to 106.5. The production of rolled oats was 10,030,000 pounds compared with 7,721,000, and oatmeal and corn flour were produced in greater volume after seasonal adjustment. The manufacture of sugar was 88,089,000 pounds, compared with 57,332,000 in the preceding four-week period.

Cattle slaughterings were heavier, the total being 99,081 head, compared with 88,135. The gain in lamb and sheep slaughterings was less than normal for the season and the slaughter of hogs showed decline. Cheese exports were in lesser volume, while a marked gain was shown in exports of canned salmon.

Imports of raw material by the textile industry showed marked gain in August indicating preparation for increased operation in textile mills. The index of textile imports was 136.7 in August compared with 111.3 in July adjustment being made for seasonal tendencies. Imports of raw cotton were 10,784,000 pounds compared with 9,790,000, the adjusted gain being about 14 per cent. A decline was shown in the imports of cotton yarn, the total being 345,000 pounds compared with 513,000. Imports of raw wool and wool yarn were 2,009,084 pounds compared with 1,246,000, the adjusted gain being pronounced.

Marked gain was shown in the operations of the paper and lumber industries, the index moving up from 87 to 94. The output of newsprint was 194,262 tons compared with 180,387 in July and shipments in August were greater than production resulting in a decline in mill stocks. The gain in wood pulp exports was less than normal for the season. Exports of planks and boards were 128,459,000 feet compared with 116,179,000, the adjusted gain being nearly 11 per cent. The gain in the exports of shingles was from 205,986 squares to 257,993.

Operations in the iron and steel industry were well maintained in August, the output of steel being 48,659 tons compared with 49,076, while pig iron production was 35,233 tons compared with 31,689. Imports of iron and steel were valued at \$6,079,000 compared with \$5,636,000, the index moving up from 35.1 to 372. The production of motor cars was 6,079 units compared with 6,540, a moderate decline being shown after seasonal adjustment. Imports of crude rubber were 4,022,000 pounds compared with 2,670,000. Petroleum imports at 116,300,000 gallons compared with 118,271,000 showed a gain of nearly 2 per cent after seasonal adjustment.

Operations in the construction industry continued at a low level, contract awards being \$9,480,000 compared with \$12,652,000 in July. Building permits at \$1,928,000 compared with \$2,082,000 were slightly more than maintained after seasonal adjustment.

Carloadings made a good showing in August, the total being 185,555 compared with 162,728 in the preceding month, the adjusted gain being 3.5 per cent. Imports showed the fourth consecutive gain since April, the total being \$38,747,000 compared with \$35,738,000 in July. Exports declined from the relatively high level of the preceding month, the decline after seasonal adjustment being about 9 per cent. The total was \$45,135,000 compared with \$51,866,000 in July but was an increase over August 1932.

Owing mainly to the decline in speculative activity bank debits at \$2,648,500,000 showed a decline of 18 per cent from the high level of the preceding month.

August Automobile Production

Production of automobiles in Canada during August numbered 6,079 units as compared with 4,067 cars in August, 1932. The apparent consumption of cars in Canada during the month, as determined by adding the 4,160 cars made for sale in Canada to the 172 imported, amounted to 4,332 cars. For the eight months ending August 31, a total of 50,881 cars were produced in Canada, 1,282 were imported and 12,258 exported.

Concentrated Milk Production

The total output of concentrated milk, covering all items, in August was 8,584,530 pounds, a slight increase over the preceding month, but a decrease from August, 1932, of 317,211 pounds. The decrease from the total of a year ago is due chiefly to the item of condensed milk, which decreased in quantity by about 55 per cent. Evaporated milk increased its production, while the output of skim milk powder was about the same in August of both years.

The total output of all items during the eight month period ended August was 58,121,618 pounds, compared with a total of 60,130,729 pounds in the corresponding period of 1932. The total production of condensed milk in the eight months of 1933 is considerably below that of 1932, while the production of evaporated milk is about the same, and an increase is recorded for skim milk powder.

The principal item of export among the various kinds of concentrated milk is evaporated milk, which shows for August a total of 1,928,100 pounds. Other items include condensed milk, 184,200 pounds, and milk powder 313,200 pounds. The imports of concentrated milk are relatively small, totalling in August only 30,965 pounds.

The holdings at date of September 1 show decreases for most items of concentrated milk, compared with the quantities recorded for September 1, 1932. Evaporated milk decreased by 43 per cent, skim milk powder by 52 per cent, and condensed milk by 30 per cent.

August Export of Meats

The August export of meats was valued at \$805,262, compared with \$1,039,134 in July and \$739,486 in August, 1932. The value of the consignments sent to Great Britain last month was \$693,965 and to the United States \$36,483.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics-No. 4, Flour Milling in Canada

Note: The following is the fourth of a series of articles descriptive of the responsibilities and duties of the Bureau. These are appearing weekly.

Flour milling is the oldest of all Canadian manufacturing industries and the most important industry connected with the field crops. In 1930, it stood third in Canada's leading industries, with pulp and paper holding first place, followed by slaughtering and meat packing. Since the days of the quern several centuries ago the milling industry has been subjected to progressive evolution.

Flour milling in Canada dates back to 1605, when the first permanent Canadian settlement was made by the French at Port Royal (now Annapolis, N.S.). In this year the first wheat ever raised in America was grown at this spot and here in the same year was erected the first water wheel, to turn a millstone for the grinding of wheat, on the North American Continent.

Hand and water-power mills developed steadily throughout the French regime in the settlements on the Atlantic seaboard and along the St. Lawrence river, providing flour and feed for the use of pioneers. Early census figures give the number of mills in New France during the French period as follows: 1665, 9; 1685, 41; 1695, 39; 1721, 90; 1734, 118.

The coming of the United Empire Loyalists and the colonization of Upper Canada led to the erection of mills for the grinding of the grain produced in the new settlements. One of the earliest mills was built at Niagara Falls in 1786, while another mill was established in Napanee about the same year. The Napoleonic wars in Europe caused a rapid increase in the prices of cereals, and an export business in wheat and flour from Canada grew up.

Large scale production from milling in Canada began with the competition between the two processes, stone and roller milling. Many of the small mills were unable to compete with the larger mills in the production of flour and either disappeared or were transformed into chopping mills. The more complete transformation of the wheat into flour by the new process, and the consequent reduction of the amount of offal feed for stock further stimulating the growth of chopping mills. With the cutting of forests in the settled districts more rapid evaporation caused reduction in water power for the small flour mills and further tended to their disappearance. By the 'eighties the roller process has secured a virtual monopoly of the flour-milling industry in Canada. Elevators sprang up at railway points and the grain was sold and shipped as grain to be ground at the large milling centres.

The last quarter of the nineteenth century brought about the settlement of the Prairie Provinces with railway communications to the Atlantic seaboard and wheat-raising became the primary occupation of many thousand of settlers who hurried in growing numbers to Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The quality of the grain was such that it immediately found a ready market in both its raw and manufactured states.

The geographical distribution of the milling industry has been governed largely by the necessity of keeping as much as possible within easy access to the Atlantic seaboard, from which a great deal of the export business is carried on. In the early times Montreal became the centre of the industry and has continued in this predominant position. The flour mills of Western Canada are situated where power is cheap and shipping facilities are most favorable. These strategic points are to be found at Fort William and Lake Superior, at Keewatin and Kenora on the Lake of the Woods, at Winnipeg, and at various other localities on the trunk lines of railways. It is interesting to note that the three mills at Medicine Hat obtain their power from natural gas which is used to drive electric motors.

Statistical data are collected from mills both large and small throughout the Dominion and the generous response to questionnaires has made it possible to compile publications of value to the trade. A monthly report is published under the heading "Canadian Milling Statistics" showing the wheat and coarse grains ground, together with the resulting products. Copies of this report are available separately or in conjunction with the "Canadian Grain Statistics" - a weekly report on grain supplies and movements. The yearly report of milling statistics appears in a section of the Annual Report of the Grain Trade of Canada. A list of mills with capacities is published in mimeograph form for distribution.

The flour mills of Canada have attained a capacity far beyond the requirements of their domestic markets. The population of the home market, numbering approximately ten and one-half million, requires only about 41,750,000 bushels of wheat. The quality of the hard spring wheat flour is widely known and the flour manufactured from soft winter

wheat grown in Ontario has considerable reputation in British markets. The distribution of the commercially important milling capacity may be shown by provinces as follows: Prince Edward Island 18 mills with a capacity of 706 barrels per day, Nova Scotia 16 with 168, New Brunswick 30 with 526, Quebec 352 with 13,614, Ontario 670 with 55,427, Manitoba 38 with 12,090, Saskatchewan 60 with 13,957, Alberta 75 with 14,166, British Columbia 6 with 1,394. Canada has 1,265 mills with a capacity of 112,048 barrels per day.

The more important milling centres, with capacities in barrels per day are located as follows: Montreal 21,000, Keowatin-Kenora, 14,800, Port Colborne, 14,000, Winnipeg-St. Boniface 8,500, Medicine Hat 6,000, Peterborough, 5,500, Calgary 5,200, Saskatoon 4,200, Moose Jaw 4,000, Toronto 3,125, Fort William 3,000, Goderich 2,500, Portage la Prairie 1,500, Brantford 1,200, Midland 1,200, Vancouver 1,100, London 1,050, Brandon 950, Factoria, Sask. 850, Chatham, Ont. 800, St. Mary's Ont. 700, Seaforth, Ont. 700, Stratford Ont. 700, Edmonton 640, Lethbridge 600, New Hamburg, Ont. 500, Souris Man. 500, Renfrew 400, Woodstock, Ont. 350, Preston, Ont. 325, Tavistock, Ont. 325.

The following was the quantity of flour in barrels manufactured in Canada over a period of years: 1931-32, 14,631,504; 1930-31, 15,967,696; 1929-30, 15,757,850; 1928-29, 20,872,094; 1927-28, 19,074,007; 1926-27, 17,861,911; 1925-26, 19,024,715; 1924-25, 18,179,820; 1923-24, 20,845,308; 1922-23, 19,436,775; 1921-22, 15,468,007; 1920-21, 10,500,248.

One of the chief factors in the development of milling in Canada has been the abundance of readily available water power. Few of the big milling plants are now dependent upon steam, since water-driven electrical equipment has largely supplanted that means of operation. The country is rich in unused power resources that are certain to be brought into service in years to come.

Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings for the week ending September 16 amounted to 47,634 cars, which was 6,607 over the previous week but 7,889 under the total for the 37th week last year. The holiday on Labor Day, September 4 affected the comparison with the previous week but the index number recorded a rise from 65.19 to 67.38. Last year the heaviest loading of grain in the West was for the 37th week whereas in previous years the peak has occurred six weeks later. Although there is about 50 per cent more grain in western interior elevators than at this time last year there is also about 50 per cent more grain at the head of the lakes and lake ports and last year's heavy loading at this time is not to be expected.

Foreign Corn Stocks in Store in Canada

Foreign corn in store in Canada on September 15 was as follows in bushels, the figures in brackets being those of a year ago: United States 6,917,045 (2,151,213), Argentine 144,399 (101,688), South African 336,367 (264,656).

Destination of Canadian Flour

The Irish Free State was the second largest buyer of Canadian wheatflour in August, the export to that country being 44,001 barrels, Great Britain being the largest with 219,595. The export to other countries included: Trinidad 26,166 barrels, Newfoundland 25,954, Hong Kong 25,380, Jamaica 21,023, Smaller British West Indies 13,093, Italy 10,054, Norway 8,915, Denmark 8,586, Netherlands 7,469. Canadian wheatflour in August went to 58 countries. The total export was 480,288 barrels compared with 492,765 in July and 330,382 in August, 1932.

Registrations of Births, Deaths and Marriages, August

Births registered in August in 70 cities of Canada, numbered 6,704, deaths 3,423 and marriages 2,539 as compared with 7,655 births, 3,577 deaths and 2,631 in August last year, showing decreases of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in births, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in deaths and $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in marriages.

During the eight months January - August of this year, births registered in the same cities totalled 54,859, deaths 30,841 and marriages 18,274 as against 58,430 births, 32,196 deaths and 18,793 marriages during the corresponding period last year. This comparison shows decreases of 6 per cent in births, 4 per cent in deaths and 3 per cent in marriages.

Canada's International Trade in August

The improvement in Canada's trade which began in May and continued in June and July was again reflected by the August figures. The domestic exports last month totalled in value \$44,723,000, compared with \$41,314,000 a year ago, an increase of 8.3 per cent. During the five months of the fiscal year ending August the total domestic exports were valued at \$207,624,000 compared with \$191,888,000 for the same period of 1932, an increase of 8.2 per cent.

Imports during August totalled \$38,747,000 compared with \$36,528,000, an increase of 6.1 per cent. During the five months beginning with April the imports were \$161,488,000 compared with \$187,137,000, a decrease of 13.7 per cent.

Canada's total trade in August amounted to \$83,822,000 compared with \$78,383,000 in August, 1932, the increase being 7 per cent.

August Export to Foreign Countries

Canada's international trade in August showed an increase of almost six million dollars in domestic exports to foreign countries. The total export to these countries was valued at \$26,183,000 compared with \$20,408,000 in August last year.

The outstanding feature of the August exports was increased shipments to forty-three foreign countries which, with increased exports to nineteen British countries, or groups of countries, made sixty-two countries that last month purchased Canadian products in greater volume than a year ago.

During the five months of the present fiscal year the exports to foreign countries totalled \$112,225,000, an increase of \$215,000, while exports to all countries at \$217,624,000 showed an increase of \$15,735,000, or over 8 per cent.

Exports to Empire Countries Gain Steadily

Exports to British Empire countries in August, exclusive of those to the United Kingdom, totalled in value \$4,074,408. This was an increase of \$622,352 over August last year and was the highest since November, 1931, when the total was \$4,372,097.

The largest export last month was to Australia, valued at \$966,342, an increase of \$101,220, in which lumber from British Columbia played a conspicuous part. Exports to the Irish Free State, Newfoundland, Bermuda, the British West Indies, the British countries of Africa, British Guiana, Hong Kong, Straits Settlements, Palestine and British Oceania all showed gains last month.

During the present fiscal year the gain in exports to Empire countries exclusive of Great Britain has been steady. In April the total was \$1,913,927; in May it increased to \$3,785,625; in June to \$3,912,496; and in July to \$4,023,705. The total in these five months was \$17,710,161 compared with \$14,516,043 in the corresponding period of 1932, a gain of \$3,194,118, or 22 per cent.

Canada's Exports to the Empire by Countries

The following were the British countries to which increased exports went in August, the figures in brackets being those of August last year: Irish Free State \$327,392 (\$142,111), British East Africa \$17,252 (\$16,635), British South Africa \$564,957 (\$366,382), Southern Rhodesia \$32,725 (Last year these were included with British South Africa), Gold Coast \$26,244 (\$15,195), Sierra Leone \$9,622 (\$6,321), Bermuda \$126,092 (\$83,740), Straits Settlements \$15,057 (\$7,706), British Guiana \$67,456 (\$51,236), British Sudan \$177 (nil), Barbados \$117,430 (\$75,588), Trinidad and Tobago \$223,252 (\$137,543), Smaller British West Indies \$111,038 (\$76,335), Gibraltar \$344 (\$15), Hong Kong \$136,866 (\$98,138), Newfoundland \$549,398 (\$528,755), Australia \$966,342 (\$865,122), Fiji \$10,237 (\$4,946), Smaller British Oceania \$120 (nil), Palestine \$3,781 (\$1,916).

The following were the Empire countries to which decreased exports went: United Kingdom \$14,466,304 (\$17,454,056), Aden \$446 (\$2,366), Gambia \$171 (\$837), Nigeria \$3,399 (\$9,334), British India \$199,253 (\$361,230), Ceylon \$5,717 (\$9,241), British Honduras \$20,096 (\$22,071), Jamaica \$208,311 (\$217,494), Malta \$9,381 (\$17,194), New Zealand \$321,852 (\$334,560).

Imports from Empire Countries Increased in August

The imports from British Empire countries in August totalled \$13,696,442, compared with \$11,018,722 in August last year, an increase of \$2,677,720, or 24 per cent.

There were 15 countries from which increased imports came, the figures in brackets being those of a year ago: United Kingdom \$10,034,288 (\$7,461,328), Aden \$597 (nil), British East Africa \$49,968 (\$27,179), British South Africa \$729,881 (\$485,012), Gold Coast \$5,624 (nil), Nigeria \$15,620 (nil), British India \$541,674 (\$266,514), Ceylon \$163,719 (\$105,367), Straits Settlements \$90,127 (\$4,175), Smaller British East Indies \$294 (nil), British Sudan \$802 (\$552), Smaller British West Indies \$99,754 (\$59,016), Hong Kong \$37,749 (\$28,588), New Zealand \$244,803 (\$33,518), Palestine \$1,721 (\$484).

There were 10 countries from which decreased imports came: Irish Free State \$890 (\$4,019), Bermuda \$5,963 (\$6,098), British Guiana \$187,400 (\$221,118), British Honduras \$133 (\$2,012), Barbados \$326,188 (\$360,192), Jamaica \$382,494 (\$546,902), Trinidad and Tobago \$231,080 (\$328,332), Newfoundland \$52,551 (\$79,073), Australia \$329,239 (\$738,105), Fiji \$163,883 (\$260,597).

Lowered Wheat Export Affects Trade with Great Britain

Exports to the United Kingdom in August totalled in value \$14,466,304 compared with \$17,454,056 in August last year, a decrease of \$2,987,752. This decrease was due entirely to the wheat situation last month. Canadian exports of wheat to the United Kingdom totalled in value \$3,228,577 compared with \$6,680,683 in August, 1932. That was a decrease of \$3,452,000, or more than half a million dollars in excess of the total decrease.

August Exports to the British West Indies

The exports to the British West Indies in August totalled in value \$660,031, compared with \$506,960 in August, 1932, an increase of \$153,071 or 30 per cent.

Large Increase in Exports to United States

August saw another heavy increase in exports to the United States. The total value was \$17,754,000 compared with \$12,233,000 in August last year, an increase of \$5,521,000, or 45 per cent. The July increase was 43 per cent. The largest item was newsprint valued at \$5,184,000 followed by wood pulp at \$2,324,000, planks and boards at \$1,012,000, nickel at \$917,000 and pulpwood at \$806,000.

Export of Farm Products to United States in August Shows Large Increase

The export of farm products to the United States in August totalled in value \$841,597 compared with \$248,140 in August last year, an increase of almost 240 per cent. Cattle, bacon and hams, fresh pork, dry salted pork, dressed poultry, butter, cheese, cream, milk powder, hay and turnips were all down, but oats, rye, bran and shorts, wheat-flour, berries, fresh beef, potatoes, maple sugar and wool were up.

The largest item in the August export to the United States was bran and shorts which was 310,383 cwt. valued at \$290,431 compared with 10,282 cwt. at \$5,620 in August, 1932. Maple sugar at \$94,744 increased nine-fold and wool \$183,432 compared with none a year ago.

Canada's Chief Markets in August

There were 12 countries to which exports valued at over half a million dollars went in August, compared with 11 in July. They were: United States \$17,754,000, United Kingdom \$14,466,000, Netherlands \$1,545,000, Belgium \$1,402,000, Australia \$966,000, Japan \$824,000, France \$742,000, British South Africa \$565,000, Germany \$562,000, St. Pierre and Miquelon \$561,000, Newfoundland \$549,000, Norway \$510,000.

Imports from Great Britain Increase and from United States Decrease

The August imports totalled in value \$38,747,030, of which \$10,034,288 came from the United Kingdom and \$20,063,719 from the United States. The imports from the United Kingdom were an increase of \$2,572,960 over those of August last year while the imports from the United States were a decrease of \$941,520.

During the five months of the fiscal year the imports from the United Kingdom totalled \$40,227,541, an increase of \$4,501,316, while the imports from the United States totalled \$88,037,731, a decrease of \$21,742,811.

The excess of exports over imports in trading with Great Britain in August was \$4,463,564 and in the five months \$37,712,165, while the excess of imports over exports in trading with the United States in August was \$1,990,302 and in the five months \$14,110,992. Imports from the United States in August, 1932, exceeded exports to by \$8,343,659 and in the five months by \$40,517,458.

Trend of Exports to Foreign Countries in August

There were 43 foreign countries to which increased exports went in August, the figures in brackets being the exports in August, 1932: Argentine \$333,000 (\$216,000), Austria \$1,300 (\$100), Belgian Congo \$4,000 (\$900), Brazil \$130,000 (\$66,000), Chile \$12,000 (\$3,000), Costa Rica \$4,000 (\$2,500), Czechoslovakia \$4,800 (\$1,300), Denmark \$158,000 (\$103,000), Ecuador \$8,000 (\$1,500), France \$742,000 (\$490,000), French Guiana \$580 (nil), St. Pierre and Miquelon \$561,000 (\$410,000), Greece \$400 (nil), Guatemala \$13,000 (\$7,000), Hayti \$8,000 (\$6,000), Honduras \$13,000 (\$11,000), Hungary \$380 (nil), Iceland \$2,000 (\$570), Japan \$824,000 (\$476,000), Korea \$33,000 (\$160), Mexico \$147,000 (\$71,000), Dutch West Indies \$9,000 (\$5,000), Norway \$510,000 (\$221,000), Panama \$25,000 (\$8,000), Persia \$950 (nil), Poland \$7,000 (\$180), Portugal \$3,000 (\$2,000), Azores and Madeira \$2,000 (nil), Salvador \$1,600 (\$1,500), San Domingo \$12,000 (\$11,000), Switzerland \$20,000 (\$16,000), United States \$17,754,000 (\$12,233,000), Alaska \$13,000 (\$4,000), American Virgin Islands \$1,300 (\$370), Hawaii \$10,000 (\$9,000), Philippines \$45,000 (\$28,000), Puerto Rico \$33,000 (\$23,000), Uruguay \$18,000 (\$5,000), Venezuela \$36,000 (\$28,000), Iraq \$470 (nil).

There were 26 foreign countries to which decreased exports went in August: Albania nil (\$2,000), Belgium \$1,402,000 (\$1,414,000), Bolivia \$6,000 (\$9,500), China \$258,000 (\$308,000), Colombia \$33,000 (\$36,000), Cuba \$38,000 (\$43,000), Egypt \$3,000 (\$4,000), Estonia \$125 (\$150), Finland \$17,000 (\$20,000), French Africa \$1,500 (\$5,000), French Oceania \$350 (\$6,000), French West Indies \$9,000 (\$13,500), Germany \$562,000 (\$633,000), Italy \$409,000 (\$637,000), Tripoli nil (\$700), Liberia \$480 (\$770), Morocco \$9,000 (\$81,000), Netherlands \$1,545,000 (\$1,614,000), Dutch East Indies \$12,000 (\$16,000), Dutch Guiana \$3,000 (\$4,000), Nicaragua \$1,500 (\$1,800), Peru \$52,000 (\$74,000), Portuguese Africa \$69,000 (\$77,000), Portuguese Asia nil (\$400), Roumania \$1,000 (\$15,000), Russia nil (\$481,000), Sweden \$156,000 (\$381,000), Syria \$1,600 (\$2,000), Turkey nil (\$500).

Fluctuations of Imports by Countries

Imports in August from foreign countries totalled \$25,050,588 a decrease of \$457,932 compared with August 1932. The 37 foreign countries from which increased imports came were as follows, the figures in brackets being those of a year ago: Argentina \$179,000 (\$26,000), Belgium \$328,000 (\$187,000), Chile \$15 (nil), China \$129,000 (\$69,000), Cuba \$159,000 (\$46,000), Denmark \$63,000 (\$5,000), Ecuador \$3,000 (\$500), Egypt \$82,000 (\$8,000), Finland \$3,500 (\$1,200), France \$696,000 (\$595,000), French Africa \$26,000 (\$2,000), French East Indies \$33 (nil), French Oceania \$270 (nil), St. Pierre and Mequelon \$57,000 (\$7,000), Greece \$9,000 (\$1,500), Honduras \$1,600 (nil), Hungary \$7,000 (\$260), Italy \$294,000 (\$195,000), Latvia \$300 (nil), Mexico \$13,000 (\$9,000), Dutch East Indies \$24,000 (\$22,000), Dutch West Indies \$124,000 (\$25,000), Norway \$66,000 (\$36,000), Panama \$4 (nil), Persia \$19,000 (\$7,000), Peru \$532,000 (\$414,000), Poland \$2,300 (\$1,000), Roumania \$2,300 (\$1,700), Russia \$6,000 (nil), Siam \$1,500 (nil), Sweden \$89,000 (\$33,000), Switzerland \$258,000 (\$146,000), Turkey \$2,300 (\$1,700), Alaska \$3,700 (\$1,400), Philippines \$28,000 (\$1,500), Uruguay \$4,800 (nil).

The 19 foreign countries from which decreased imports came in August were: Abyssinia \$20 (\$530), Austria \$15,000 (\$23,000), Brazil \$53,000 (\$66,000), Colombia \$163,000 (\$351,000), Costa Rica \$2,300 (\$4,000), Czechoslovakia \$100,000 (\$124,000), Germany \$804,000 (\$921,000), Japan \$216,000 (\$292,000), Netherlands \$262,000 (\$603,000), Portugal \$13,000 (\$15,000), Azores and Madeira \$6,000 (\$15,000), Portuguese Africa nil (\$500), San Domingo nil (\$37,000), Spain \$64,000 (\$73,000), Canary Islands \$60 (\$340), Syria nil (\$170), United States \$20,064,000 (\$21,005,000), Hawaii \$3,000 (\$5,000), Puerto Rico nil (\$280), Venezuela \$67,000 (\$125,000), Yugoslavia \$120 (\$380), Iraq \$2,000 (\$3,000).

Cigarette Paper from Spain

An item interesting to those who "roll their own" appears in a trade report from Venezuela. It says that Spain supplies all the paper for the manufacture of cigarettes in that country. Canada's supply comes mainly from France and Great Britain.

Canada's Trade Balance

Canada's trade balance for the first five months of the current fiscal year was favourable to the extent of \$48,406,000, compared with a favourable balance for the first five months of the previous year amounting to \$8,045,000. The improvement, therefore, in Canada's trade balance for the first five months of this year compared with a similar period of last year was \$40,361,000. In April the improvement in Canada's trade balance amounted to \$2,241,000; in May to \$16,258,000; in June to \$11,990,000; in July to \$8,811,000; and in August to \$1,061,000.

Newprint Export in August

Newsprint export in August totalled 3,317,606 cwt. valued at \$6,237,054, compared with 3,346,053 at \$6,281,525 in July and 3,055,213 at \$7,251,752 in August, 1932. The value of the export to the United States was \$5,092,974, to the United Kingdom \$492,172, to Australia \$231,783, to Argentina \$106,663, to China \$70,101, to Mexico \$70,062 and to New Zealand \$41,166.

Export of Wood Pulp, Pulp Wood and Screenings Higher

The export of wood pulp and screenings in August totalled in value \$2,655,779 compared with \$2,327,980 in July to \$1,486,689 in August, 1932, a gain over last year of \$1,169,090. The value of the export to the United States last month was \$2,324,888 and to the United Kingdom \$47,182.

Pulpwood exported to the United States in August totalled 104,205 cords valued at \$806,306, compared with 59,399 at \$580,429 in August last year.

About Free Imports

In consequence of the increase in the number of commodities entitled to free entry into Canada under the trade agreements, the free imports for August compared with August, 1932, increased from 40.07 to 45 per cent of the total imports and for the period April-August, compared with the same period a year ago, from 37.1 to 43 per cent.

Canadian Wheat in Market

The visible supply of Canadian wheat on September 15 was 209,438,779 bushels compared with 205,242,924 on September 8 and 153,759,175 on the corresponding date last year. Canadian wheat in store in the United States was 4,864,583 bushels compared with 7,384,633 on the same date last year.

Export clearances during the week ending September 15 by ports were as follows, the figures in brackets being those of a year ago: Montreal 1,267,161 (2,018,054), Vancouver 861,597 (1,072,181), Quebec 301,481 (nil), Sorel 267,000 (657,641), United States Atlantic Seaboard ports 498,000 (476,000), Total 3,195,239 (4,223,876). Seven weeks ending Sept. 15: Montreal 10,927,035 (12,832,614), Vancouver 3,433,755 (5,782,389), United States Ports 2,510,000 (2,775,000), Churchill 2,401,881 (1,367,713), Sorel 1,602,369 (1,977,444), Quebec 605,981 (79,970), Halifax 18,667 (nil), Victoria nil (62,695), Total 20,499,688 (24,877,825).

Sharp Increase in August Production of Creamery Butter

There was a sharp increase in the production of butter in August. The total production was 27,670,954 pounds as compared with 25,822,000 in August, 1932, a gain of over 7 per cent. Ontario and Quebec, the great producing provinces, increased slightly while there was an increase of 39 per cent in Saskatchewan, 25 per cent in Alberta and 20 per cent in Manitoba. There were decreases in the Maritime Provinces and British Columbia. The production during the eight months of 1933 was 153,719,727 pounds compared with 148,610,169 in the same period last year, an increase of over 3 per cent.

Great Credit due to Canadian Salt Producers

Salt production in Canada during 1932 amounted to 283,543 short tons valued at \$1,947,551 as compared with 259,047 tons worth \$1,904,149 in 1931. This represents an increase of 1.7 per cent in quantity and 2.3 per cent in value and not only emphasizes the sound basis upon which this Canadian industry is established but reflects great credit to the salt producers of the Dominion who were able to record progress throughout such a period of adverse industrial conditions.

During 1932 salt was produced in Nova Scotia, Ontario and Manitoba. The Canadian salt companies now produce an extensive variety of high grade products; various table salts, including free running and iodized, are of equal quality with the better brands produced throughout the world, other grades are manufactured and marked for dairy, crop, highway, chemical, fishery, and other purposes. It is interesting to note that smoked salt is now produced in Canada. Exports of Canadian salt in 1932 totalled 11,253,900 pounds as against 12,251,700 pounds in 1931, the greater part of this going to the United States, New Zealand and Newfoundland.

Growth of Electricity Output Continues

The production of electricity in Canada continued to increase in August. The total output was 1,508,213,000 kilowatt hours which was an increase of 11.5 per cent over the July output and 22.6 per cent over August 1932 output. The Maritime provinces produced less than during July this year and August last year but Quebec, Ontario, Prairie Provinces and British Columbia all showed large increases over both of those months' outputs. Also a larger proportion was consumed in Canada than in July, the exports to the United States declining from 119,192,000 kilowatt hours in July to 112,322,000 kilowatt hours in August. This is the fourth successive month that the daily output has increased over the output of the previous month.

Pig Iron and Steel Production Higher

Pig iron producers in Canada reported August output at 35,233 long tons which was the highest monthly tonnage since July, 1931, and compares with 31,689 tons in the previous month and 5,992 tons in August of a year ago. Ferro-alloys production in Canada during August at 1,796 tons represented an increase of 42 per cent over the 1,266 tons of July and 106 per cent over the 871 tons reported for August 1932. Production of 48,659 tons of steel ingots and direct steel castings in Canada during August showed little change from the 49,076 tons reported for July.

Decrease in Commercial Failures in July

A decrease in the number of assignments under the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts was recorded in July, as compared with a year ago, while the liabilities of the assignors also showed a decrease. Commercial failures numbered 142, as compared with 158 in June and 175 in July, 1932. The liabilities of the assignors, amounting to \$2,289,454 as compared with \$2,338,726 in June and \$2,986,840 in July, 1932. Trading establishments furnished the largest number of failures, 74 assigning in July, as compared with 84 in July 1932. Of these concerns 9 were general stores. Manufacturing establishments to the number of 31 assigned in July as against 33 in July, 1932. Agriculturists assigning numbered 3 as compared with 13 in July last year.

Canal Traffic Again Increases in August

In common with all previous months of the season of navigation this year the freight carried by vessels through all-Canadian canals in August showed an increase. The total last month was 2,543,949 tons compared with 2,439,664 in August, 1932. The number of vessels locking rough was 4,034 compared with 3,589 and the passengers numbered 13,651 compared with 13,535.

Iron ore traffic through the Sault Ste Marie Canal, Canadian and United States locks, continued to increase, amounting to 5,277,137 tons in August, as against 3,461,141 tons in July and only 748,189 tons in August last year. Wheat was considerably lighter than last year, but flour increased and also upbound coal. The total traffic using the canals amounted to 7,690,863 tons, or almost two and a half times the tonnage of August last year.

Vessels with Cargoes from and to United Kingdom and North America

The net tonnage of British vessels with cargoes which entered United Kingdom ports from the Pacific Coast of North America during the first seven months of 1933 were 578,086 tons and cleared for the Pacific Coast was 131,255, whilst the tonnage of United States vessels in the same trade was 45,216 and 10,721 respectively.

The total British tonnage which entered United Kingdom ports from the ports of the Atlantic Coast of North America was 3,533,964 tons and United States 909,278. The British tonnage cleared for the Atlantic Coast of North America was 3,626,606 and United States 608,774.

The total British and Foreign tonnage which entered United Kingdom ports from all areas of the world in the seven months was 33,890,059 tons, of which 20,157,785 was British and 13,732,274 foreign. Of this the United States tonnage was 1,266,558, Norwegian 1,740,890, German 2,448,689, Dutch 1,755,450. The cleared tonnage with cargoes was 19,259,344 British and 12,732,274 foreign.

Hong Kong's Importation of Motor Cars

The Hong Kong Government's legislation imposing a duty of twenty per cent on motor cars of other than British manufacture has had the result that during the first half of 1933 the purchases of cars from Canada increased from \$13,456 in the corresponding period of 1932 to \$24,278, United Kingdom cars from \$86,099 to \$109,424, while United States cars decreased from \$174,353 to \$12,534.

The value of shipments of lead from Canada at \$11,094 showed a decided increase over the \$6,665 over the same period of 1932. Canada was the main supplier of this commodity, followed by Australia and Burma.

Charitable and Benevolent Institutions

The number of charitable and benevolent institutions charged with the institutional care of adults and children on June 1, 1931 was 316. There were 118 homes which had the care of adults only with an inmate population of 8,122, of whom 4,160 were males and 3,962 were females. In homes for adults and children there were 3,628 adults, of whom 1,374 were males and 2,224 were females, making a grand total of 11,750 adults in all institutions, of whom 5,534 were males and 6,196 females.

Children were given permanent care in homes for adults and children and in orphanages. In the 79 homes for adults and children there were 5,330 children on June 1, 1931, of whom 2,290 were males and 3,040 females. In 119 orphanages there were 6,178 males and 5,001 females, making a total of 11,179 children in care. The total number of children cared for in above institutions was 16,509, of whom 8,468 were males and 8,041 were females. In the eleven schools for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb there were 1,687 inmates, of whom 1,561 were under 18 years of age. The males totalled 932 and the females 755.

There were 20 Day Nurseries operating in Canada on June 1, 1931. The total number of children in care on that date numbered 2,513, of whom 1,404 were boys and 1,109 were girls. The number of Mothers' Employment Agencies in connection with Day Nurseries totalled ten and showed a total days' employment secured of 52,683 days with total Mothers' earnings of \$114,746 during 1930, and the number of days' care given to children during 1930 totalled 736,951. Child-Placing Agencies totalled 90, of which 89 were Children's Aid Societies. These agencies had under care 14,607 children, of whom 7,687 were males, 6,835 females and 85 whose sex was not given. There were 19 Juvenile Immigration Societies in Canada which had in their care 6,466 boys and girls, of whom 6,113 were males and 353 were females.

Index Numbers of Security and Mining Stocks

The investors' index of industrial common stocks was 103.9 for the week ending September 14 compared with 102.3 in the previous week, domestic utility common 45.6 compared with 47.2, common of companies located abroad 70 compared with 69.6, and for all three groups 74, exactly the same as the previous week.

The weighted index number of twenty mining stocks was 110.8 as compared with 111.7. Eleven gold stocks fell from 105.5 to 104.7, four gold-copper stocks from 147.9 to 145.2, and five silver and miscellaneous stocks rose from 39.2 to 42.1.

British Imports of Gold Bullion

British imports of gold bullion and coin in July totalled £26,988,754, of which France supplied £6,338,733, South Africa £5,215,600, Germany £3,989,031, British India £3,426,017, United States £1,351,615, Canada £1,242,493. Canada was thus sixth in the list. During the first seven months of the present calendar year the total imports were £147,805,323, of which South Africa supplied £39,270,039 and British India £20,961,736. Canada was eighth with £6,254,857. Last year no gold bullion was received from Canada. The British export of gold during the first seven months of 1933 was £44,306,027, of which £16,372,133 went to the United States and £12,815,078 to Holland.

Births, Deaths and Marriages in the First Quarter of 1933

Live births in Canada during the first quarter of 1933 numbered 55,646 giving an equivalent annual rate of 21.2 per 1,000 population, as compared with 59,727 births and a rate of 23.1 for the first quarter of 1932. Deaths totalled 28,248 with a rate of 10.8 as against 28,004 and the same rate for the corresponding period of last year. There were 10,546 marriages and a rate of 4 as compared with 11,309 marriages in the first quarter of 1932 and a rate of 4.4. Deaths under one year of age numbered 4,723 giving a rate of 84.9 per 1,000 live births. These figures compared with 4,419 deaths under one year and a rate of 74 in 1932. There were 275 maternal deaths, a rate of 4.9 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 320 deaths and a rate of 5.4 in the corresponding quarter of 1932.

The number of deaths assigned to certain causes in the first quarter of 1933 was as follows, the figures for the corresponding period of 1932 being given in parentheses: Typhoid and paratyphoid fever 43 (68); Smallpox 2 (16); Measles 48 (111); Scarlet fever 58 (67); Diphtheria 66 (139); Influenza 2,586 (1,382); Infantile paralysis 15 (18); Tuberculosis 1,803 (1,886); Cancer 2,568 (2,566); Diseases of the heart 4,148 (4,121); Diseases of the arteries 1,887 (1,865); Pneumonia 2,362 (2,309); Diarrhoea and enteritis 526 (581); Nephritis 1,430 (1,564); Suicide 202 (209); Homicide 34 (46); Automobile Accidents 145 (181); Other violence 843 (911).

The Wheat Agreement and the Present Crop Year

It is apparent that the London wheat conference weighed the European situation with utmost care. It is known that crops developed well throughout Europe during the 1933 growing season with the result that a record harvest has been or will be harvested. The obvious deduction from this situation is that import requirements will be relatively small during 1933-34.

The chief increase in production as compared with last year lies in the Danubian area. These countries experienced a partial crop failure in 1932 but production recovered in 1933. The four Danubian states will harvest over 100 million bushels more wheat than last year and will have a surplus of about 50 million bushels for export during 1933-34.

In addition to the increased production in the Danubian countries, France, Germany and Italy have all harvested good crops. France estimates 1933 production at 339 million bushels as compared with 330 million produced last year. Germany's wheat crop is estimated at 192 million bushels as compared with 184 million harvested last year. It might be mentioned that some authorities think the 1933 German crop is too highly rated. The Italian crop has not been officially estimated but private reports indicate a substantial production of good quality wheat. The United Kingdom reports a wheat crop estimated at 57 million bushels compared with 45 million bushels harvested in 1932. With satisfactory crops in other countries, European production in 1933 has reached a very high level.

Since Europe is still the market for a large percentage of the surplus wheat of the world, this situation becomes of primary importance in evaluating market prospects for the present crop year. It was this situation that faced the world wheat conference in London and caused serious thought on the part of both exporting and importing countries. Importing countries, and especially France, were concerned with the problem of maintaining price levels in the face of heavy production while exporting countries could not look forward to prospective demand with any marked degree of enthusiasm. Mr. Broomhall had estimated world import requirements at 552 million bushels, a relatively small figure compared with actual shipments in preceding years.

It was apparent that any attempt of exporting countries to enter into strenuous competition for a limited market during the present crop year would not be helpful to the price structure. For this reason, along with others, the world wheat conference agreed that exporting countries would not ship more wheat than importing countries could be expected to absorb under existing conditions. It was agreed that exporting countries would respect a total estimated world demand for wheat of 560 million bushels and that exporting countries would allocate the prospective market among themselves for the present crop year.

The allocation of quotas and the mere existence of a limit on total exports may be expected to lend strength to price levels during the present crop year. During the last four years, wheat prices in the United Kingdom and other importing markets have been weakened on many occasions by the shipments of more wheat than these markets could currently consume. It is assumed that the fixing of the total amount of wheat which may be shipped by exporting countries will largely remove this factor from the international market during the coming months.

Wheat Situation in North America

While Europe has apparently harvested a large wheat crop in 1933, unfavourable climatic conditions have greatly reduced production in Canada and the United States. The factors causing decreased production over the great wheat belts of North America were many and varied. Drought, excessive heat, insects, plant disease, frost and hail each played a part in reducing the production of cereals to a point greatly below average expectations. The net result is that North American production in 1933 constitutes a major factor in the world wheat situation as well as in the domestic situation in both countries.

The 1933 wheat production in the United States is estimated at 507 million bushels compared with 726 million harvested in 1932 and average production of 861 million from 1926 to 1930. This means that 1933 wheat production in the United States is estimated to be 354 million bushels less than the five-year average production from 1926 to 1930 and 219 million less than the outturn in 1932.

The preliminary estimate of September 11 placed the total Canadian wheat crop at 282,771,000 bushels, consisting of 268,628,000 bushels for spring wheat and 14,143,000 bushels of fall wheat. 264,000,000 bushels of the spring wheat production are in the three Prairie Provinces. The Canadian and Prairie crops are the lowest since 1924, but the season and the harvest bear a close resemblance to 1931.

Marketings to date have been slightly above those of the same period last year. The grades are high, although the limited amounts becoming visible do not give a representative sample of the whole crop. The recent cold and rainy weather may cause loss of grade in the grain still to be cut or thrshed.

A feature of the storage stocks this year is the large amount held in export position in Canada. This is largely a result of low lake rates. On the contrary, stocks at Churchill and on the United States seaboard are much less than at the same date last year. The storage positions indicate that Montreal and Vancouver will share most of the export trade of the near future.

Wheat Situation in the Southern Hemisphere

The growing crops in Australia and the Argentine are now the subject of international interest. Both countries have experienced adverse climatic conditions since seeding time and present prospects indicate lower production in 1933 than last year.

Australia experienced extremely dry weather at seeding time and in addition to the crop receiving a poor "start" some loss of acreage is reported as a result. Seeding was followed by dry weather and the crop did not receive its usual fall start. The drought situation has been temporarily relieved with good rains over the wheat belt. However, a lack of soil moisture still exists and good rains will have to be received to prevent further deterioration. The Canadian Trade Commissioner for Australia reports that ample rains will be necessary in the month of October to carry the crop along. This authority estimates that with favourable conditions from now on, Australia will harvest about 160 million bushels in 1933 - a sharp reduction from the volume of preceding crops.

Supplies of old crop wheat are limited in Australia. During the first seven weeks of the present crop year shipments of wheat from Australia have amounted to 12 million bushels compared with shipments of 8 million bushels for the same period last year. Shipments for the balance of the present calendar year will be light and the Australian carry-over will be negligible when the new crop is harvested in December.

The Argentine crop was sown under favourable conditions but during the last month a decidedly serious drought situation developed which will no doubt affect the outturn of the crop.

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