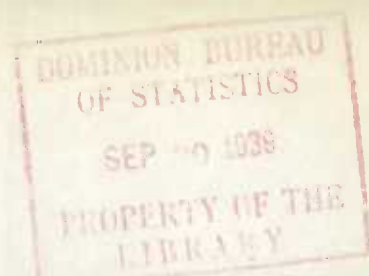


WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Weekly Review of Economic Conditions

The average of six economic factors was practically maintained for the third week of September. Car loadings, wholesale and bond prices advanced while the other three factors were at a lower position than in the preceding week. Prices of high-grade bonds and common stocks were lower than in the same week of last year, while four factors, considered in this connection, recorded a gain.

The railway freight movement rose considerably in the 37th week of the year, counterbalancing the major part of the decline of the preceding week. The index of car loadings was 99.0 in the week of September 16th against 94.8 in the preceding week. Considerable gains were recorded in both divisions, the index of the eastern division rising from 78.8 to 84.2. The traffic movement, during the first 37 weeks of the year, was 1,689,000 cars, a gain of 24,405 cars over the same period of 1938.

The gain in wholesale prices was of more moderate proportions in the third week of September, the index having risen from 77.4 to 77.9. Seven of the main groups recorded increases in the week under review, the exception being crop products. Wheat showed recession on the Winnipeg exchange, No. 1 Northern having been quoted at 74 against 75½. Oats and barley showed declines while flax and rye continued the advance of the preceding week. Electrolytic copper remained at 12 cents on the New York market and no change was reported in tin, lead or zinc. A majority of sensitive commodities on the New York markets participated in the advance.

The high-grade bond market recovered slightly in the week of September 21st, the average yield of the issues included in the index declining from 3.80 to 3.76. The daily index of bond prices which stood at 108.7 on the 14th advanced to 109.4 on the 21st, marking a gain of 1.5 points over the five-year low point of 107.9 established on the 13th. Speculative trading recorded some decline, while the adjusted index of bank clearings was practically maintained. The recession in common stock prices continued in the third week of September, the index dropping from 99.9 to 96.3. Advances were shown in machinery and equipment, pulp and paper, textile and beverage stocks. The index of 15 power and traction stocks receded from 53.5 to 52.1.

The weekly index based on six economic factors was nearly maintained in the third week of September, the standing having been 110.2 against 110.3 for the preceding week. A gain of 1.7 per cent was shown over the same week of 1938, when the standing was 108.3.

Weekly Index with the Six Components
1926=100

Week Ended	Car loadings ¹	Wholesale Prices	Capitalized Bond Yields ²	Bank Clearings ³	Prices of Common Stocks	Shares Traded	Weekly Index ⁴
Sept. 24, 1938	78.6	74.4	152.9	105.1	98.6	214.9	108.3
Sept. 16, 1939	94.8	77.4	127.9	125.3	99.9	507.5	110.3
Sept. 23, 1939	99.0	77.9	129.2	125.2	96.3	273.5	110.2

1. The index of carloadings is projected forward one week to correspond with the practice in computing the weekly index. 2. Present value of a fixed net income in perpetuity from Dominion long-term bonds. 3. Bank clearings were smoothed by taking a three weeks moving average for the purpose of eliminating irregular fluctuations. Totals for Ottawa were eliminated for all weeks shown, owing to incomparability introduced by the operations of the Bank of Canada. 4. The weighting of the six major factors is determined from the standard deviation from the long-term trend of each, based on data for the period from January 1919 to August, 1936. The weighting therefore represents, not an attempt to give the relative importance of the factors, but to place them on an equal footing by equating the tendency toward fluctuation. The long-term trend determined from half-yearly data in the post-war period was eliminated from the composite and the resulting index expressed as a percentage of the average during 1926.

Business Operations in August

Affected by the impending crisis in Europe, economic conditions in Canada were slightly less favourable in August than in the preceding month. Constructive factors included appreciable advances in business operations and bank deposits. Prices, on the other hand, were adversely affected, the indexes of common stock, bond and wholesale prices reaching a lower position. The index of the sum of notice and demand deposits rose two points to 127.5, counterbalancing in part the recession of recent months. Notice deposits rose to a new high point at the beginning of the month, the total having been \$1,697,000,000. A decline in current loans on the same date was somewhat greater than normal for the season, the index receding from 88.8 to 88.3. Recessions were shown in notes in the hands of the public and call loans in Canada, while a recession in security holdings was less than normal for the season.

The European crisis was the main influence in depressing high-grade bond prices during August. The index of capitalized bond yields receded from 166.4 to 159.0 in the month under review. An appreciable recession occurred in wholesale prices in the latter part of July and the lower standing has been practically maintained from week to week during August. Marked advances were shown in the early weeks of September and the weekly index is now at a higher level than at any other time in the last 12 months. The outbreak of war led to a sharp rally in grain prices on the Winnipeg Exchange, and other sensitive commodities have moved into higher positions.

Common stock prices were reactionary in August, the index dropping from 97.3 to 94.2. The recession was more than offset by sharp rallies in certain stocks during the early weeks of September. Measured by the weekly index, common stock prices were recently at a somewhat higher level than in the same period of 1938. No upward or downward trend, however, has developed since the later months of 1937, although markets have been characterized by rather sharp fluctuations.

Business operations have followed, in 1939, a similar pattern to that of last year. Reactions characterized the early months of 1938 followed by a constructive development. Marked gains were shown in April and May of this year and the position has been consolidated in subsequent months. Further improvement was noted in August when the index of the physical volume of business reported an appreciable gain over 120.5, the standing of the preceding month.

Factors indicating the trend of mineral production were uneven in August. A decline was shown in the index of copper exports, while the outward shipment of nickel showed a gain after seasonal adjustment. Copper exports were 45.7 million pounds against 46.9 million in the preceding month, the index receding from 567.7 to 500.8, while nickel exports receded from 17.3 million pounds to about 15 million pounds, the index adjusted for seasonal tendencies rising from 288.4 to 310.2. Lead production was practically maintained in the latest month for which statistics are available. Zinc exports were 47.7 million against 34.1 million in July, the index moving up from 268.5 to 334.3. Improvement was shown in the amount of gold shipped to the Mint and to external points during August. The increase in the index was about $1\frac{1}{2}$ points to 299.8. The total amount was 424,524 ounces against 409,192. Silver shipments, on the other hand, showed recession in August, the index dropping about 11 points to 120.4. A slight decline was shown in the exports of asbestos.

The industries manufacturing foodstuffs were more active in August than in the preceding month, the index having been 106.7 against 104.1. The meat-packing industry showed a considerable increase in operations, the index of inspected slaughterings having been 20 points higher at 155.5. Each of the main classes of livestock was slaughtered in greater numbers. The manufacturing of sugar in the latest four weeks' period was 101.6 million pounds against 85.8 million in the preceding period, the adjusted index consequently advancing from 85.1 to 91.3. A decline was shown in factory cheese production, the index being two points lower at 67.7. A recession in the output of creamery butter was less than normal for the season, resulting in a slight increase in the adjusted index to 148. The export of canned salmon remained at a low level although slightly above the standing of the preceding month. Releases of tobacco were in greater volume in August. Cigarettes released were 719.6 million against 677.1 million. About 11.3 million cigars were released as compared with 10.7 million. The output of pneumatic casings for automobile tires was somewhat greater in the latest month for which statistics are available. The production of leather boots and shoes was 1,591,656 pairs against 1,685,619 in the preceding month.

Raw cotton consumption amounted to 11.95 million pounds against 10.19 million in July. The consequent advance in the index was from 126 to 148.5. The forestry group was more active, as indicated by the index of 126.4 against 114.2. The output of newsprint was 236,975 tons compared with 227,630. The export of wood-pulp was also in much greater volume. The lumber industry increased its operations sharply, the exports of planks and boards having been 248.5 million feet against 185.1 million in July. The increase in the export in shingles was less than normal for the season.

The primary iron and steel industry operated at a greater percentage of capacity especially in the steel division. The index of the output of steel ingots advanced from 176 to 196, and a slight gain was also shown in the index representing the production of pig iron. The operations of the automobile industry were curtailed in August pending the introduction of the new models. The output was 3,475 units against 9,135 in July, the decline being considerably greater than seasonal expectations. The index of electric power production reached a new high level in August, the output having been 2,291,000,000 k.w.h. against 2,205,000,000 in July. The grain traffic assisted to swell car loading totals, the index rising from 76.8 to 82.0. The traffic amounted to 228,978 cars against 196,392 in July.

Domestic and foreign exports amounted to \$111,000,000 in August against \$91,700,000 in the preceding month. The advance was contra-seasonal, resulting in a marked increase in the adjusted index. Bank debits rose to a much higher level in the month under review, the total having been \$2,390,000,000 against \$2,377,000,000. The index, after adjustment for seasonal tendencies and changes in the general price level, rose 10 points to 116.3.

Economic Conditions in August

		August 1939	August 1938	July 1939	Percentage Increase or Decrease August 39-38
Physical volume of business ..	1926-100	126.1*	110.5	120.5	+ 14.1
Common stocks	1926-100	94.2	105.2	97.3	- 10.5
Copper exports	cwt.	456,965	460,864	469,353	- 0.8
Nickel exports	cwt.	149,921	150,359	172,757	- 0.3
Zinc exports	cwt.	476,545	176,643	340,735	+169.8
Asbestos exports	tons	14,125	12,759	14,450	+ 10.7
Sugar manufactured	lb.	101,582,123	100,705,387	85,837,830	+ 0.9
Cheese, factory production ..	lb.	20,180,672	19,818,162	22,215,571	+ 1.7
Butter, creamery production .	lb.	33,828,360	35,180,766	38,189,238	- 3.8
Newsprint production	tons	236,975	220,303	227,630	+ 7.6
Planks and boards exported ..	M.ft.	248,455	147,205	185,096	+ 68.8
Shingles exported	squares	310,576	276,692	303,741	+ 12.2
Pig iron production	l. tons	65,920	49,477	59,587	+ 33.2
Automobiles production	No.	3,475	6,452	9,135	- 46.1
Carloadings	No.	228,978	213,082	196,392	+ 7.5
Contracts awarded	\$	25,827,200	22,113,400	22,129,700	+ 17.0
Bank debits.....	\$	2,389,740,956	2,371,129,327	2,376,528,320	+ 0.8

* Preliminary estimate, based on 31 items out of 46.

Domestic Exports in August

Canada's exports to both the United States and the United Kingdom in August made sharp advances. The United States received Canadian products to the value of \$61,204,142 compared with \$39,601,895 a year ago, and the United Kingdom \$30,397,790 compared with \$26,735,540. While the increases were general throughout the list of commodities the most notable advance was in non-ferrous metals, particularly gold bullion, the export of it alone amounting to \$33,485,000, an increase of about \$20,000,000.

Exports to the British Empire totalled \$39,142,979 as against \$34,993,105, and to other countries \$70,798,298 as against \$48,475,892.

Exports to other leading Empire countries were as follows, with the 1938 figures in brackets: Eire, \$271,804 (\$155,065); British East Africa, \$65,511 (\$23,558); British South Africa, \$1,520,853 (\$1,483,227); Jamaica, \$370,564 (\$326,785); Newfoundland, \$694,313 (\$805,365); Australia, \$3,653,208 (\$2,581,236); New Zealand, \$761,473 (\$1,372,661).

Exports to other leading foreign countries were: Belgium, \$476,029 (\$535,970); China, \$88,644 (\$64,273); Denmark, \$213,416 (\$102,279); Finland, \$24,674 (\$24,126); France, \$713,209 (\$520,299); French East Indies, \$88,825 (\$551); French Oceania, \$19,992 (\$7,976); Germany, \$1,231,532 (\$1,862,372); Greece, \$500 (\$160,938); Italy, \$84,104 (\$317,336);

Japan, \$2,064,981 (\$754,150); Latvia, \$126,337 (\$36,411); Lithuania, \$2,220 (\$238,651); Mexico, \$174,376 (\$158,601); Netherlands, \$821,689 (\$524,509); Dutch East Indies, \$153,015 (\$112,631); Norway, \$1,007,512 (\$439,924); Poland and Danzig, \$144,777 (\$64,089); Portuguese Africa, \$314,954 (\$78,703); Rumania, nil (\$3,499); Russia, \$812 (\$141,895); Spain, nil (nil); Sweden, \$320,167 (\$593,514); Switzerland, \$31,517 (\$85,829); Hawaii, \$86,268 (\$229,165).

Domestic Exports during Eight Months

A marked advance was recorded in the value of Canada's domestic exports during the eight months ended August, aggregating \$662,726,000 compared with \$541,462,000 in the same period of 1938, a gain of 22.4 per cent. One of the features during this period was the sharp advance in the value of exports to the United States, the total being \$306,465,000 compared with \$183,064,000 a year ago, an increase of 67.4 per cent. Exports to the United Kingdom were also higher, totalling \$214,639,000 compared with \$213,463,000.

Australia was the next heaviest purchaser with a total of \$22,723,000 compared with \$22,765,000, followed by Japan at \$18,644,000 compared with \$11,656,000, British South Africa \$11,741,000 compared with \$11,357,000, New Zealand \$9,639,000 compared with \$10,766,000, Germany \$7,547,000 compared with \$8,864,000, British West Indies \$6,900,000 compared with \$7,105,000, Belgium \$5,261,000 compared with \$4,801,000, Norway \$5,250,000 compared with \$4,518,000 and the Netherlands \$5,039,000 compared with \$6,252,000.

Other leading purchasers were as follows, with figures for the corresponding period last year in brackets: France, \$4,731,000 (\$5,852,000); Newfoundland, \$4,376,000 (\$4,908,000); British India and Burma, \$3,231,000 (\$1,948,000); Sweden, \$3,224,000 (\$3,200,000); Eire, \$2,408,000 (\$3,024,000); China, \$2,256,000 (\$1,709,000); Italy, \$1,908,000 (\$1,183,000); and Poland and Danzig, \$1,280,000 (\$570,000).

Exports of Butter

August exports of butter totalled 10,147 cwt. valued at \$204,439 compared with 16,448 at \$345,334 in the previous month and 1,594 at \$34,216 in August, 1938. The United Kingdom took 9,339 cwt. The exports during the eight months ended August showed a sharp advance, totalling 115,519 cwt. valued at \$2,448,225 compared with 5,218 at \$136,967 in the same period of 1938.

Exports of Cheese

Exports of cheese in August amounted to 127,633 cwt. valued at \$1,509,699 compared with 127,502 at \$1,609,551 in July and 105,695 at \$1,541,820 in the corresponding month last year. The amount sent to the United Kingdom was 124,288 cwt. Total exports during the eight months ended August were 409,018 cwt. valued at \$5,204,595 compared with 347,207 at \$5,153,014 in the same period of 1938.

Exports of Aluminium

Canada's exports of aluminium moved higher in August, totalling 145,927 cwt. worth \$2,734,914 compared with 113,028 at \$2,043,993 in July and 118,090 at \$2,062,574 in July last year. The United Kingdom and Japan were the chief purchasers. Exports during the eight months ended August totalled 1,048,473 cwt. valued at \$18,628,207 compared with 802,478 at \$14,370,554 in the same period of 1938.

Exports of Paints and Varnishes

Exports of paints and varnishes in August were valued at \$119,767 in comparison with \$121,825 in July and \$77,161 in August, 1938. Purchases by the United Kingdom totalled \$52,676 and by the United States \$25,512. During the eight months ended August the value was \$970,500 compared with \$598,518 in the same period last year.

Exports of Cattle

There were 30,159 head of Canadian cattle exported in August valued at \$1,354,297 compared with 44,121 at \$2,110,543 in July and 12,317 at \$617,584 in August last year. The number sent to the United States was 27,906 and to the United Kingdom 1,345.

August Exports of Newsprint Paper

Advance was shown in Canada's August exports of newsprint paper, the total being 4,709,735 cwt. valued at \$10,194,899 compared with 4,003,475 at \$8,586,411 in July and 4,392,214 at \$9,621,715 in August, 1938. The United States led the purchasers with a total of 3,561,284 cwt., followed by the United Kingdom with 570,283, Australia 381,271, New Zealand 49,918, Argentina 49,281, Eire 33,860 and British South Africa 26,923. Exports during the eight months ended August totalled 33,015,582 appraised at \$71,307,596 compared with 30,474,727 at \$65,368,860 in the corresponding period last year.

Exports of Farm Implements and Machinery

Canada's August exports of farm implements and machinery were valued at \$674,405 in comparison with \$729,974 in July and \$553,735 in the corresponding month last year. Argentina was the leading buyer at \$219,241, followed by the United States at \$117,188, the United Kingdom \$109,158 and British South Africa at \$87,326. The exports during the eight months ended August aggregated \$4,814,523 compared with \$6,386,050 in the corresponding period last year.

Exports of Lumber in August

Both the volume and value of Canada's August exports of planks and boards were sharply higher, the total amount being 248,455,000 feet valued at \$5,633,760 compared with 185,096,000 at \$4,346,259 in July and 147,205,000 at \$3,346,821 in the corresponding month last year. Purchases by the United Kingdom totalled 172,443,000 feet and by the United States 54,022,000. The total export for the first eight months this year was 1,363,359,000 feet valued at \$29,961,163 compared with 1,069,207,000 at \$22,759,264 a year ago.

Stocks of Foreign Corn

A sharp advance was recorded in the amount of foreign corn in Canada on September 22, the total being 5,334,543 bushels compared with 1,744,102 on the corresponding date last year. The amount of United States corn in store in this country was 4,039,247 bushels compared with 1,527,311, South African 1,291,693 compared with 147,542 and Argentine 3,603 bushels compared with 69,249.

World Shipments of Wheat

World shipments of wheat during the week ended September 23 totalled 7,613,000 bushels as compared with 6,209,000 in the previous week and 9,200,000 in the corresponding week last year. During the first eight weeks of the crop year shipments aggregated 72,414,000 bushels as compared with 87,016,000 in the same period of the previous crop year.

Wheat Stocks in Store

Canadian wheat in store for the week ending September 22 amounted to 254,943,864 bushels compared with 221,952,832 in the previous week and 131,586,568 in the corresponding week last year. The amount in store in the United States was 9,381,000 bushels compared with 8,276,000 the week before.

Primary Movement of Wheat

Wheat receipts in the Prairie Provinces for the week ending September 22 totalled 35,076,215 bushels compared with 42,821,114 in the previous week and 32,148,351 in the corresponding week last year. By provinces the receipts were as follows, figures within brackets being those for 1938: Manitoba, 2,277,910 (1,768,809) bushels; Saskatchewan, 23,051,204 (11,797,462); Alberta, 9,747,101 (18,582,080).

Marketings in the three Prairie Provinces during the eight weeks ended September 22 aggregated 180,155,882 bushels compared with 131,651,124 in the same period of the previous crop year. The totals follow by provinces: Manitoba, 41,374,608 (34,315,594) bushels; Saskatchewan, 101,170,264 (52,181,894); Alberta, 37,611,010 (45,153,636).

World Wheat Situation

War developments and subsequent adjustments to war conditions have completely engrossed the wheat trade within the past month. Unsettlement of markets dating from August 19 began with the intensified German demands for the accession of Danzig backed by concentration of troops on Polish borders. In this preliminary phase wheat prices rose and subsided with the varying war or peace prospects under conditions similar to those of the September 1938 crisis. With the German invasion of Poland on September 1, and the British and French declarations of war on September 3, North American wheat markets passed through a period of daily maximum allowable gains. At the same time the Liverpool market was closed. A third phase in the rapidly moving situation has been discernible since September 7, when trading once more became active in Winnipeg and Chicago, and prices have groped toward establishment of war-time levels. In the net result, the Winnipeg October future closing at 74 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents on September 20 registered a gain of 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents over the close on August 19. The Chicago September future was similarly 17 $\frac{7}{8}$ cents higher.

The outbreak of hostilities has occasioned numerous governmental changes in wheat policy designed to meet the war conditions. Outstanding among these was the action of the British Government on September 4 in requisitioning all grain stocks in the United Kingdom and in closing the Liverpool and London futures markets. Control of the nationalized wheat stocks and of imports is vested in the Food Defense Department under which Port Area Grain Committees and a Cereals Purchasing Committee have been established. It is understood that cash trading at fixed prices is to be permitted at Liverpool and London. Imports are in the hands of the Cereals Purchasing Committee. Millers have been licensed and are for the present required to produce straight-run flour of 70 per cent extraction for sale at fixed prices. Apart from the settlement of futures contracts and the turning over of stocks at fixed prices, which appear to have been done quite smoothly, conduct of the wheat and flour trade on a nationalized basis has barely had time to get under way.

The Canadian Government announced on September 8 that the Winnipeg futures market would continue to operate for the present. Similarly the United States and Argentine wheat markets have remained open. The United States Government, however, has temporarily withdrawn the export subsidy on wheat which had just been recommenced on August 21. The Argentine Government on September 6 suspended the domestic minimum price of seven pesos per quintal which had been in force for farm deliveries and domestic sales of the 1939 crop. This action also removed the peg from the Buenos Aires market. In Australia, the Commonwealth Government, which had been negotiating early in August with the State governments for a stabilization plan for the wheat industry, announced on September 14 that it would requisition all domestic wheat stocks other than those on farms, and that a compulsory marketing pool would be organized, with returns to growers equalized.

Apart from the series of government actions affecting the wheat trade, the unsettlement of foreign exchange rates, ocean freight and war-risk insurance rates have been of major significance.

Only scant attention has been paid to anything of a statistical nature during the recent developments. Any preliminary forecasts of international wheat trade during the 1939-40 season predicated upon peace conditions must be largely disregarded.

August Building Permits

The value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during August was slightly lower than in July, but was somewhat greater than in August last year. These municipalities authorized building estimated to cost \$6,159,468 compared with \$6,535,813 in July and \$5,829,984 in August, 1938. The total for the first eight months of the year was \$39,807,093 compared with \$37,897,396 in the corresponding period of 1938.

Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales

There were 13,998 new and used motor vehicles financed in August to the extent of \$5,564,690 as compared with 15,693 for \$6,061,155 in July and 13,938 for \$5,733,670 in August, 1938. August marks the first month of the current year in which the number of vehicles financed has been higher than in the corresponding month last year. Financing of motor vehicle sales during the first eight months totalled 109,708 transactions involving \$45,121,506, compared with 120,733 contracts involving \$52,131,449 in the same period of 1938.

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the war. It is a very interesting and detailed account of the events of the year.

The second part of the report deals with the military operations of the year. It is a very detailed account of the campaigns and battles of the year.

The third part of the report deals with the political situation of the country. It is a very detailed account of the events of the year.

The fourth part of the report deals with the financial situation of the country. It is a very detailed account of the events of the year.

The fifth part of the report deals with the social situation of the country. It is a very detailed account of the events of the year.

Sales of New Motor Vehicles

Sales of new motor vehicles declined in August, the total being 6,140 retailing for \$6,718,307 compared with 7,877 for \$8,487,187 in the previous month and 7,204 for \$8,018,020 in the corresponding month last year. There were 3,646 passenger cars sold for \$3,918,523 in August compared with 4,591 sold for \$4,962,613 in the same month last year. Sales of new trucks and buses during the month numbered 2,494 units with a retail value of \$2,799,784 compared with 2,613 which sold for \$3,055,407 in August, 1938.

New motor vehicles sold during the eight months of 1939 numbered 81,913 units with a retail value of \$89,108,638, 11 per cent in number and 13 per cent in value below the 91,853 units which were sold for \$102,093,471 in the first eight months of 1938.

Production of Automobiles in August

Automobile production was at a lower point in August when 3,475 units were manufactured compared with 9,135 in July and 6,452 in August, 1938. Included in the month's output were 1,068 passenger models and 2,407 trucks. Of these totals, 459 passenger cars and 1,455 trucks were made for sale in Canada with the balance of 609 passenger cars and 952 trucks being intended for export.

For the eight months ending August, the cumulative production of automobiles numbered 106,365 units compared with 117,617 in the same period of 1938 and 157,254 in 1937.

August Production of Steel and Iron

Steel mill operations were accelerated in August when 122,019 tons of steel ingots and castings were produced compared with 111,419 in July and 82,871 in August, 1938. Pig iron output advanced to 69,520 tons from 59,587 in the previous month and 49,477 a year ago. Output of ferro-alloys at 3,313 tons was little more than half the July total of 6,475 tons, but was almost double the 1,857 tons reported for August, 1938.

Cumulative production of steel for the eight months ending August totalled 813,309 tons compared with 837,449 during the eight months of 1938. Output of pig iron aggregated 422,028 tons as against 504,873 tons a year ago, and of ferro-alloys 40,692 tons as compared with 39,145.

Gold Production in July

The Canadian output of gold in July set up a new high monthly record at 440,065 ounces. In June the total was 436,783 ounces, while in July last year 419,685 ounces were produced. The value of the month's production was computed at \$15,430,439 compared with \$15,317,106 in June and \$14,739,699 in July, 1938. During the seven months ended July, 2,930,510 ounces of gold were extracted compared with 2,639,755 in the same period of 1938.

The July production was as follows by provinces, with figures for July, 1938, in brackets: Ontario, 260,920 (259,272) ounces; Quebec, 74,877 (71,391); British Columbia, 56,975 (57,536); Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 22,357 (20,960); Yukon and Northwest Territories, 22,703 (8,102); Nova Scotia, 2,029 (2,313).

World Production of Gold

The estimated world output of gold in July, exclusive of Russia, was 2,855,000 ounces compared with 2,820,000 in July, 1938. The South African production amounted to 1,081,000 ounces as against 1,059,000. Production in the United States totalled 459,958 ounces, made up of 281,317 received at the Mint, 178,391 received at private smelters and refiners, and 250 contained in exports of ore and base bullion.

Production of Copper and Nickel

The Canadian copper output in July amounted to 50,203,445 pounds compared with 54,581,869 in June and 48,271,652 in July, 1938. Production during the first seven months of 1939 aggregated 346,672,044 pounds compared with 332,173,260 in the corresponding period of 1938.

Canada produced 19,648,013 pounds of nickel in July, compared with 20,103,880 in the previous month and 17,429,616 in July, 1938. During the seven months ending July the output totalled 129,962,767 pounds compared with 126,584,357 in the same period of 1938.

September Employment Situation

Industrial employment showed decided improvement at the beginning of September, the gains being widely distributed, both geographically and industrially. The advance was smaller than that noted at September 1 in either 1938 or 1937, but with these exceptions was the largest recorded at that date in any of the years since 1920. Statistics were compiled from 11,856 employers whose staffs aggregated 1,165,631 compared with 1,145,384 on August 1, a gain of 20,247 or 1.8 per cent. On September 1 last year, 10,915 firms reported 1,103,989 persons at work.

Unusually marked expansion was recorded in manufacturing, in which over 13,000 persons were added to the reported payrolls. The greatest improvement in factory employment took place in vegetable foods, textiles and iron and steel. In the first two of these industries, the large advances were seasonal in character, while those in iron and steel were contra-seasonal.

In the non-manufacturing industries coal-mining, transportation, construction and maintenance, services and wholesale trade showed heightened activity. The increases in construction were most extensive, and were especially interesting because the average change in employment at September 1 in the experience of past years has been a decline. On the other hand, logging and retail trade were quieter.

Employment in all five economic areas was brisker than at September 1 last year. In Quebec and the Prairie Provinces the index was also higher than at September 1, 1937, but the situation in the remaining provinces was not so favourable, although activity was generally greater than in September in any of the years 1930-36. In the Prairie Provinces, however, the favourable comparison goes back only to 1932.

Production of Radio Receiving Sets

Production of radio receiving sets in Canada during the second quarter of 1939 amounted to 68,189 sets with a factory selling value of \$1,261,158 compared with 33,611 worth \$806,085 in the previous quarter and 51,135 at \$1,562,875 in the quarter ended June, 1938. Inventories of radio sets in the hands of Canadian producers stood at 66,643 at the end of June against 50,175 at the end of March.

Retail Prices, Rents and Costs of Services

The index number of retail prices, rents and costs of services on the base 1926=100, fell from 83.1 in July to 83.0 in August, as a result of slight reductions in the food and fuel groups. An index for retail prices alone, including foods, coal, coke, household requirements, etc., changed from 77.5 in July to 77.4. When foods were removed from this index it remained unchanged at 79.8. An index for 46 food items fell from 75.1 to 74.9, owing to easier quotations for beef, veal, salt pork, bacon, lard butter, onions and potatoes. Mutton, fresh pork, cooked ham, eggs and tea recorded gains. The fuel index fell from 83.9 to 83.7.

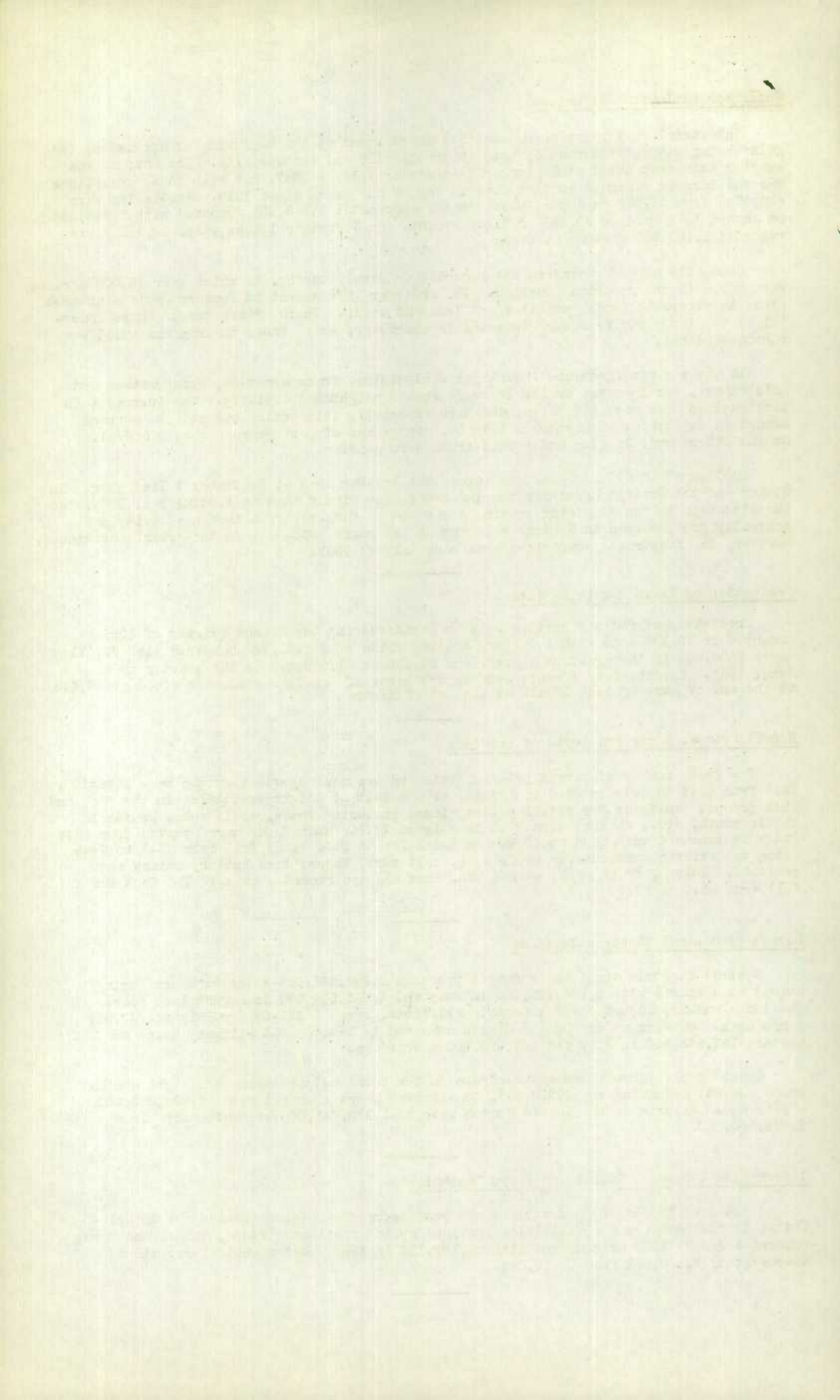
Output of Central Electric Stations

Central electric stations in Canada produced 2,291,425,000 kilowatt hours during August as compared with 2,205,189,000 in July and 2,075,000,000 in August last year. The index number, adjusted for seasonal variations, rose ^{from} 235.49 for July to 240.97, a new high. Exports to the United States amounted to 177,334,000 kilowatt hours as against 162,973,000 in July and 149,493,000 a year ago.

Considerable improvement was recorded in the total output during the eight months ended August, amounting to 18,239,617,000 kilowatt hours compared with 16,782,052,000 a year ago. Exports to the United States rose to 1,295,741,000 kilowatt hours from 1,182,730,000.

International Bridge, Tunnel and Ferry Companies

A total of 17,568,467 pedestrians and passengers of vehicles crossed the Ontario-United States boundary via facilities provided by international bridge, tunnel and ferry companies during 1938 as compared with 21,182,120 in 1937. Motor vehicle crossings decreased to 7,260,661 from 7,474,048.



Births, Deaths and Marriages

Births registered in 67 cities and towns in August numbered 7,217, deaths 3,786 and marriages 3,859 as compared with 7,473 births, 3,686 deaths and 3,625 marriages in August last year, showing a decrease of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in births and increases of three per cent in deaths and $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in marriages.

Fruit and Vegetable Crops

Canada's 1939 apple crop is at present estimated at 5,135,000 barrels, showing a reduction of 87,400 barrels from the 1938 estimate of 5,222,400 barrels. The pear crop is now placed at 584,300 bushels as compared with 653,400, while plum production is expected to be 222,000 bushels as compared with 238,000. Production of peaches this year is estimated at 866,700 bushels compared with 700,000, while the grape crop is placed at 50,444,300 pounds compared with 35,973,600 pounds.

Root crops in Quebec are expected to produce heavily, while onions now show a considerable reduction. The general condition of most vegetables in western Ontario is better than in the eastern section of the province. Although there is an increase in acreage in the district east of Toronto, yields are below average. The root crops in Manitoba are better than average. The yield of Manitoba potatoes, on the other hand, is reported to be below average.

Reports Issued during the Week

1. The Nickel-Copper Mining, Smelting and Nickel Refining Industry, 1938 (25 cents).
2. Births, Deaths and Marriages, August (10 cents).
3. Production of Iron and Steel, August (10 cents).
4. Automobile Production, August (10 cents).
5. Output of Central Electric Stations, August (10 cents).
6. Production and Sales of Radio Receiving Sets, Second Quarter, 1939 (10 cents).
7. The Processed Cheese Industry, 1938 (10 cents).
8. Retail Merchandise Trade, Ontario, 1938 (10 cents).
9. Fruit and Vegetable Crop Reports (10 cents).
10. Telegraph and Cable Statistics, 1938 (10 cents).
11. Sales of New Motor Vehicles, August (10 cents).
12. Gold Production, July (10 cents).
13. Quarterly Report of the Trade of Canada, June (50 cents).
14. Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation (10 cents).
15. Building Permits, August (10 cents).
16. Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales, August (10 cents).
17. Statistics of Steam Railways, 1938 (10 cents).
18. Births, Deaths and Marriages, First Quarter, 1939 (10 cents).
19. Car Loadings (10 cents).
20. Imports of Paints and Varnishes, July (10 cents).
21. Imports and Exports of Fertilizers, July (10 cents).
22. Imports of Stoves, Sheet Metal Products, Refrigerators, July (10 cents).
23. Imports and Exports of Soap, July (10 cents).
24. Imports and Exports of Toilet Preparations, July (10 cents).
25. Exports of Milk, Milk Products and Eggs, August (10 cents).
26. Canada's Domestic Exports, August (10 cents).
27. Security Prices and Foreign Exchange (10 cents).
28. Prices and Price Indexes, August (10 cents).
29. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
30. Exports of Petroleum and Its Products, August (10 cents).
31. Exports of Pulp Wood, Wood Pulp and Paper, August (10 cents).
32. Exports of Farm Implements and Machinery, August (10 cents).
33. Exports of Lumber, August (10 cents).
34. Exports of Non-ferrous Ores and Smelter Products, August (10 cents).
35. Exports of Paints and Varnishes, August (10 cents).
36. Exports of Living Animals, August (10 cents).
37. Imports of Pulp Wood, Wood Pulp and Paper, July (10 cents).
38. Weekly Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices (10 cents).
39. International Bridge, Tunnel and Ferry Companies, 1938 (15 cents).
40. The September Employment Situation (10 cents).
41. Copper and Nickel Production, July (10 cents).
42. Domestic Exports to Principal Countries, August (10 cents).

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