

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

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Weekly Review of Economic Statistics--Economic Index Shows a Gain
of 24 p.c. over same Week of 1933--Bank Debits at High Level in March--
Newsprint Production at New High Since October, 1930--Automobile Output
Greater than Any March Since 1930--Mint Gold Receipts at New High

The economic index, revised for the period from January of last year to the present, was 24.3 p.c. higher in the week ended April 14 than in the corresponding week of last year. Regarding the year 1926 as the base equalling 100, the index for last week was 91.3 compared with 73.5 in the same week of 1933. The index, maintained by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, is a weighted composite of six major factors available on a weekly basis. These include carloadings, wholesale prices, bond prices, bank clearings, common stock prices and the number of shares traded on the Montreal and Toronto stock exchanges. The index for carloadings and bank clearings are adjusted for seasonal tendencies. The weighting system is designed to reduce the influence of wide fluctuations in any particular factor.

The economic index was well maintained at a relatively high level during the first two weeks of April. The standing was 91.3 in the week ended April 14 compared with 91.6 in the preceding week, which in turn compared with 91.4 in the week ended March 31.

Bank clearings in the second week of April were \$305,400,000, a new high point for the present year.

Bank debits or cheques cashed at the branches of the chartered banks in the 32 principal cities were \$2,489,000,000 in March, representing a gain of about 32 p.c. over the same month of last year. Debits in Toronto were \$978,000,000 compared with \$595,000,000 in March 1933, an increase of no less than 64.5 p.c., and the gain in Montreal was nearly 40 p.c. in the same comparison. Bank debits in the first quarter were \$7,175,000,000 compared with \$5,686,000,000 in the same period of 1933, a gain of 26 p.c. Each of the five economic areas showed marked gains over the first quarter of 1933, except the Prairie Provinces where the total was not far from maintained. Even after seasonal adjustment, debits in March were 9.6 p.c. greater than in February.

The spectacular news of the week was the marked gain in newsprint production. The output in March was greater than in any month since October 1930. The total was 210,129 tons compared with 174,447 in February. After seasonal adjustment, the index moved up from 119.3 to 131.8. Production in March 1933 was 137,078 tons, the gain in the interval being 53.3 p.c. Shipments were 207,197 tons compared with 169,050 in February, mill stocks showing a gain from 40,450 tons to 42,970 tons. Except for the prosperous period of the two years ended October 1930, the level of production exceeded in March all previous records of the newsprint industry in Canada.

The steel division of the primary iron and steel industry was more active in March than in any month since May, 1931. The output of steel ingots was 72,923 tons, the production in February being nearly 58,000. The gain after seasonal adjustment was about seven per cent. The output in March of last year was limited to 11,212 tons, the marked gain over the level of twelve months ago reflecting a transformation in demand. The production of 191,700 tons of steel ingots in the first quarter of the present year compares with 97,100 tons in the same period of 1932 and 64,400 in the first quarter of 1933. Pig iron production was 12,101 tons in March compared with 12,199 in February. Blast furnaces were out of operation in March of last year.

The production of motor cars reached in March a higher point than for the same month of any year since 1930. The output was 14,180 cars and trucks compared with 6,632 in March of last year and 8,318 in the same month of 1932.

Production in the first quarter of the present year was 29,655 units. This compares with 13,288 in the same period of last year and with 17,526 in the first three months of 1932. The output in the first quarter of 1931 was 29,353 units and production this year is consequently running ahead of the same period of any year since 1930. The seasonally adjusted gain in March over the 8,571 units produced in February was 37 p.c.

Receipts of gold at the Mint from Canadian mines were 303,939 fine ounces in March, a new high point in history. This total compares with 189,323 ounces in February and 234,455 ounces in the first month of the year. The receipts in March of last year were 264,159 ounces, the gain in this comparison being 15.1 p.c.

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Gold receipts from mines amounted to 727,717 ounces in the first quarter of the present year. A gain was shown over 1931 and 1932 when receipts were 332,921 ounces and 601,467 ounces, respectively. The total for the first quarter of last year was slightly greater than in the first three months of 1934, the amount being 732,186 ounces.

The activity of the meat-packing industry, after seasonal adjustment, was at a somewhat lower level in March. Cattle slaughterings were 102,914 head in March compared with 84,475 in the preceding month, the seasonally adjusted index declining from 152.0 to 126.0. Sheep and lamb slaughterings at 38,133 head compared with 36,313, while hog slaughterings declined from 263,000 head to 259,000. The index of inspected slaughterings was 126.7 compared with 137.4 in February. The corresponding index in March of last year was 119.2.

Shipments of Wheat and Flour

World shipments of wheat and wheat flour for the week ending April 16, amounted to 10,714,000 bushels as compared with shipments of 8,119,000 bushels for the previous week and 9,424,000 for the corresponding week in 1932-33. Shipments from North America and Australia increased slightly and from the Argentina an increase of 1,888,000 bushels.

Shipments of wheat have averaged 10.2 million bushels per week during the thirty-seven weeks of the crop year as compared with 12.3 and 15.3 per week during the corresponding period in 1932-33 and 1931-32 for world countries. North American shipments have averaged 4.3 million bushels per week compared with 6.0 million during the first thirty-seven weeks of 1932-33. Argentine shipments have averaged 2.5 million as compared with 2.1 million during the same period in the last crop year.

Stocks of Foreign Corn in Canada

Stocks of foreign corn in Canada on April 13 were as follows, the figures in brackets being those of a year ago: United States 6,432,307 (1,322,225), Argentina 1,066,878 bushels (9,424), British South Africa 53,714 (1,511,570), Total 7,552,899 (2,843,219).

Car Loadings Increase

Car loadings for the week ended April 14 amounted to 41,578 cars, an increase of 867 over the previous week's total, and the index number rose from 71.13 to 72.50. Comparisons with last year's loadings are affected by the holiday (Good Friday) in the fifteenth week last year. The gain, however, was 11,442 cars.

In the eastern division light loading of coal, coke and other forest products reduced the total which was 561 cars under the previous week's and the index number declined from 71.46 to 69.69.

In the western division grain was 1,796 cars above the previous week's loadings. Also live stock, lumber, pulp and paper and ore showed small increases, but other commodities showed decreases. Total loadings were up 1,428 cars and the index number rose from 70.29 to 78.29. Both the loadings and the index were the highest reached this year.

External Trade Shows Increase over February after Seasonal Adjustment

The external trade made an excellent showing in March, contributing to the bright picture of the expansion in business operations. Exports at \$58,300,000 compared with \$38,400,000 in February recorded a gain of more than 14 p.c. even after seasonal adjustment. Exports are normally much greater in March than in February, but even after allowance is made for the seasonal disparity, the gain was pronounced.

Imports according to the preliminary statement of the National Revenue Department were \$47,500,000 in March compared with \$33,600,000 in February. The gain in this instance was slightly more than normal for the season. The value of the external trade is usually much greater in March than in February owing to the practice of the Department in obtaining full returns for the month, while in other months only the accounts received at headquarters up to and including the last day of the month are included. The gain after seasonal adjustment of more than 14 p.c. in the exports and with a like adjustment the maintenance of imports at a slightly higher level are regarded as bright spots in the economic tendencies of the month.

Production of Leading Minerals in January

The production of Canada's leading minerals in January which recorded increases over the same month last year were, the figures in brackets being those of the corresponding month last year: Asbestos 8,502 tons (5,951), Cement 68,784 brl. (64,750), Clay products \$115,353 (\$111,056), Copper 26,514,543 lb. (22,950,527), Feldspar 1,344 tons (400), Gypsum 3,303 tons (2,728), Lead 28,022,906 lb. (20,782,296), Lime 26,060 tons (18,224), Natural gas 2,961,453,000 cu. ft. (2,945,452,000), Nickel 9,268,292 lb. (1,780,899), Petroleum 124,425 brl. (82,778), Commercial salt 10,503 tons (9,884), Silver 1,403,036 fine oz. (1,383,776), Zinc 21,767,490 lb. (13,892,630). There were decreased outputs of: Gold 231,288 fine oz. (233,456), Coal 1,270,567 (1,038,528) tons.

February Crude Petroleum Output

Crude Petroleum output in Canada during February totalled 116,546 barrels as compared with 124,425 in January and 73,087 in February 1933. Production in Alberta amounted to 106,797 barrels, consisting of 103,048 of crude naphtha and 1,706 of light crude oil from the Turner Valley field, 1,634 barrels of light crude oil from the Red Coulee-Keho fields and 359 of heavy crude oil from the Wainwright field. Handling losses in the Turner Valley field in February amounted to approximately 2,700 barrels. Stocks on hand in the Turner Valley field on February 28 totalled 19,521 barrels, a decline of 1,844 during the month.

Natural Gas Production in February

The production of natural gas in Canada during February totalled 2,697,423,000 cubic feet as compared with 2,961,453,000 cubic feet in the preceding month and 2,826,995,000 in February 1933.

Gasoline Sales in January

Gasoline sales statistics for January are not yet available for Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Prince Edward Island sales of gasoline in January were reported at 21,000 gallons as compared with 84,000 a year ago. In New Brunswick 208,000 gallons were sold; in January 1933 sales totalled 503,000. Ontario's total in January was 13,564,000; a year ago 15,830,000 were sold. Sales in Manitoba were recorded at 990,000 gallons or 15.0 per cent above the January 1933 total of 861,000. Alberta's records showed sales of 1,761,000 gallons in January; a year ago 1,887,000 gallons were sold.

Asbestos Production in Canada in February

Asbestos production in Canada during February advanced to 9,256 tons from the preceding month's total of 8,502 tons and the February 1933 output of 5,482. During the two months ending February the output totalled 17,758 tons as compared with 11,433 in the corresponding period of 1933. Canada exported 8,976 tons of asbestos in February; during the preceding month 11,129 tons were exported and in February 1933, exports amounted to 4,527 tons. Shipments to the United States accounted for 86.5 per cent of the February exports.

Feldspar Production in January

Feldspar shipments by Canadian producers totalled 1,344 tons in January; during the preceding month 1,020 tons were shipped and in January 1933, the total was 400 tons. Approximately 1.5 tons of ground feldspar valued at \$38 were imported into Canada in January as compared with 70 tons worth \$822 imported in December.

Index Numbers of 23 Mining Stocks

The weighted index number of twenty-three mining stocks computed by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on the base 1926=100 was 141.1 for the week ending April 12 as compared with 141.9 for the previous week. Nineteen gold stocks fell from 139.0 to 135.7, and four base metals stocks rose from 158.2 to 167.0.

Commercial Salt Production Increases in January

Producers of commercial salt in Canada in January reported shipments totalling 10,503 tons as against 8,532 shipped in December and 9,884 shipped in January 1933. Salt exports from Canada were recorded at 72 tons; in the preceding month 196 tons were exported. Imports of salt into Canada during January totalled 3,686 tons worth \$14,409 as compared with 1,383 tons valued at \$7,994 in January 1933.

Laundering During 1932

There were in 1932, 243 establishments whose principal operation was the laundering of garments, household effects, etc., who reported work performed to a gross value of \$12,297,061, which was a decrease of \$2,582,858 or 17.3 per cent from the previous year. The capital investment, \$18,525,196, also declined by \$568,265 or three per cent. Employment was furnished to 8,292 employees in 1932, representing a decrease of 515 persons or 5.8 per cent, while the salary and wage bill declined to \$6,482,339, a decrease of \$1,227,517 or 15.9 per cent. The cost of materials used was \$1,065,906, \$284,109 or twenty-one per cent less than the 1931 cost, and the value added by work performed, \$11,231,155, had decreased by \$2,298,749 or seventeen per cent.

Dyeing and Cleaning Industry in 1932

There were 166 establishments whose principal operations were dyeing and cleaning. This was an increase of nine over the year before. The gross value of work performed in 1932 was \$5,005,718, a decrease of \$1,139,047 or 18.5 per cent from 1931. The capital invested in this industry in 1932, \$6,367,918, also showed a decline of \$160,185 or 2.5 per cent. The number of persons furnished employment was 2,878, eighty-seven less than in 1931, and their salary and wage bill, \$2,538,102, also dropped by \$423,657 or 14.3 p.c. All materials used decreased by \$96,334 or 15.6 per cent to a cost of \$521,680, while the value added by manufacture, \$4,484,038, showed a decline of \$1,042,713 or 18.9 per cent.

The Wheat Situation in The Argentine

The correspondent of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Buenos Aires reports under date April 1 as follows: "During the past month the quantity of wheat and wheat flour expressed as wheat shipped out of the Republic totalled 18,604,000 bushels made up of 18,264,000 bushels of wheat and 340,000 bushels of flour expressed as wheat. This quantity compares with 14,636,000 bushels in February and 13,079,000 bushels during January of this year. The total for the first three months of this year is 46,319,000 bushels of wheat and flour, which is rather below the figure for the corresponding period of 1933, viz; 48,441,000 bushels.

"The hoped-for improvement in the market in Europe has not yet materialized. Neither England nor the Continent has shown more than a very slight interest in Plate wheats recently, and it is said that some very substantial losses have been incurred by exporters with unsold wheat afloat. Much of this wheat was probably shipped in order to make use of freight which had been chartered for Maize, of which the available stocks turned out to be short of the exporters' calculations."

Maize in the Argentine

The correspondent of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Buenos Aires reports under date April 1: "Exports of maize during the month of March totalled 7,643,000 bushels, as compared with 11,718,000 bushels in February and 23,522,000 in the month of January. There has thus been a sharp dropping off in the shipments as the available stocks become exhausted, and apparently some of the exporters found supplies substantially below their anticipations and engaged freight which they were unable to use for maize, having to substitute unsold wheat.

No estimate has yet been published by the Ministry of Agriculture of the volume of the new crop, but in reliable quarters it is anticipated that there will be a surplus available for export of at least 197,000,000 bushels. It is quite evident that the yields are very variable in all the zones, running from a quarter crop to a normal one, and that the quality of the crop is also very uneven.

Mortality in Canada According to Locality in 1931

A special report on mortality in Canada according to locality of residence, which has just been issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for the year 1931, shows some interesting results. The report covers cities and towns of 5,000 population and over, while the remaining parts of each county or census division have been treated as a unit. To eliminate the effects of difference in sex and age composition of the population, standardized rates have been computed for certain groups, and for the largest individual cities.

Standardized rates for groups of urban municipalities arranged according to population were as follows: cities of 100,000 and over, 11.7; cities of 40,000 - 100,000, 10.2; cities and towns of 10,000 - 40,000, 11.0; cities and towns of 5,000 - 10,000, 11.7; remaining parts comprising towns under 5,000, all villages and rural parts, 9.3 per 1,000 population. Thus the group-rates ranged from 9.3 for the "remaining parts" to 11.7 for cities of 100,000 and over and for cities and towns of 5,000 to 10,000. These rates compared with a rate of 10.1 for Canada as a whole.

Amongst cities of 100,000 and over, the standardized rates ranged as follows: Winnipeg, 8.7; Vancouver, 9.2; Hamilton, 10.1; Toronto, 10.7; Ottawa, 12.0; Montreal, 13.6; Quebec, 15.6 per 1,000 population.

Infant mortality according to residence of mother showed the following group-rates per 1,000 live births: cities of 100,000 and over, 94; cities of 40,000 - 100,000, 65; cities and towns of 10,000 - 40,000, 85; cities and towns of 5,000 - 10,000, 92; remaining parts comprising towns under 5,000, all villages and all rural parts, 83. Thus the group-rates ranged from 65 for cities of 40,000 to 100,000 to 94 for cities of 100,000 and over. These rates compared with 85 for Canada as a whole.

Amongst cities of 100,000 and over the infant mortality rates were as follows: Vancouver, 42; Winnipeg, 52; Hamilton, 58; Toronto, 73; Ottawa, 98; Montreal, 115; Quebec, 149.

Increase in Building Permits in March Was Recorded

The value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during March was \$1,089,481, according to returns tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was an increase of 23.6 per cent over the February total of \$881,152 and an increase of 14.2 per cent over the January 1933 total of \$953,966. The gain in March over March last year, though comparatively small, is interesting because, with the exception of December 1933, this is the first month in several years in which such a comparison has been favourable.

New Brunswick, Quebec, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia reported increases during March as compared with February, while Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia recorded increases as compared with March 1933.

Some Aspects of School Support in 1931 and 1913

Examination of the provision of schools in perspective as an economic activity in 1931 and 1913 shows that expenditure on publicly-controlled elementary and secondary schools increased from \$54,000,000 to \$140,000,000, or about 160 p.c., but that in spite of this increase, a day's schooling was really cheaper in the more recent years. In other words, the dollar-cost of everything that the consumer buys averaged higher in 1931, but the cost of a day's schooling had not increase in as high a proportion as the cost of other things.

Although payment for a day's schooling in 1931 required less purchasing power, there is very strong evidence that the quality of it was at the same time improved. Teachers had more training and experience, and more diversity of opportunity was open to pupils in the selection of courses.

The average child leaving the schools in 1931 had received more than eight years of schooling, in 1913 probably less than six years. This increase of more than one-third in the length of the child's school life made the weight of school costs heavier, although the cost of a day's schooling was less. In other words, more purchasing power was being spent on the schools per capita in 1931 for the reason that more schooling was being received, and for this reason only.

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If the number of persons gainfully employed is a fair indication of ability to pay, the weight of school costs could be said to have been in recent years about 40 p.c. heavier in the country as a whole than in pre-war years, but because schools are in the main supported by small communities, the increase has been much more than 40 p.c. in some and less in others.

Exports of Wheat and Flour to the United Kingdom in March

Exports of wheat in March to the United Kingdom amounted to 7,353,723 bushels valued at \$5,070,618 as compared with 8,202,303 bushels at \$4,208,774 in March 1933. During the eight months ended March the export of wheat to the United Kingdom has dropped considerably. The price recently has been better, having the result that the export of 77,058,405 bushels was valued at \$52,349,355 while the 120,732,292 bushels exported in the corresponding period of last year brought only \$62,373,285.

Flour exports to the United Kingdom in March totalled 248,217 barrels at \$821,236 compared with 196,865 at \$609,897 in March 1933. During the eight months ended March the export was 1,771,616 barrels at \$6,162,928 compared with 1,592,430 at \$5,020,401 last year.

Shipments of Rigid Insulating Board Increase in March

Shipments of rigid insulating board in March amounted to 1,580,457 sq. ft. compared with 891,914 in March 1933.

Export of Coarse Grains in March

There was no rye exported from Canada in March. Oats exported increased from 567,884 bushels at \$145,149 in March last year to 868,716 at \$290,663.

The export of barley in March was 92,210 bushels at \$41,977 compared with 356,683 bushels at \$112,941 in March 1933. The eight months' export was 1,005,625 bushels at \$427,788 compared with 4,827,455 at \$2,000,065 for the corresponding period of 1933; nearly all the barley exported went to the United Kingdom, namely 986,809 bushels.

Production and Value of Commercial Fruits

The total estimated value of the commercial fruit production in 1933 is \$15,024,900 as compared with \$11,989,900 in 1932. The total values by provinces are as follows, with valuations for 1932 in brackets: Nova Scotia \$2,894,000 (\$1,689,000); New Brunswick \$171,800 (\$164,400); Quebec \$1,398,600 (\$1,198,000); Ontario \$5,354,500 (\$3,957,000); British Columbia \$5,206,000 (\$4,980,000).

The total production of commercial apples in Canada for the year 1933 is estimated preliminarily at 4,641,000 barrels of the value of \$9,390,700 as compared with 3,737,960 barrels, valued at \$7,007,900 in the previous year. The average per barrel in 1933 is \$2.02 as compared with \$1.87 in 1932. Of the other fruits the estimated commercial production and value for 1933 are as follows, with the corresponding figures for 1932 placed within brackets: Pears 434,015 bushels; \$473,300, \$1.09 per bushel (374,500, \$298,000, \$0.80); plums and prunes 230,280 bushels, \$258,400, \$1.12 per bushel (243,000, \$226,800, \$0.93); peaches 795,100 bushels, \$1,100,300, \$1.38 per bushel (812,500, \$907,000, \$1.12); apricots 26,000 bushels, \$66,000, \$2.54 per bushel (56,000, \$133,000, \$2.38); cherries 227,250 bushels, \$491,600, \$2.16 per bushel (258,500, \$500,500, \$1.94); strawberries 20,901,000 quarts, \$1,854,200, 9 cents per quart (24,533,000, \$1,440,700, 6 cents); raspberries 6,760,900 quarts, \$738,100, 11 cents per quart (9,128,900, \$780,700, 9 cents); grapes 42,445,000 pounds, \$652,300, .015 cents per pound, (49,694,000, \$695,300, .014 cents).

Nursery Fruits Stocks Sales

During the year 1932-33, 247,336 apple trees were sold to the value of \$83,189, comprising 41,281 early apples, value \$14,485; 56,046 fall apples, value \$18,014; 131,361 winter apples, value \$47,080; and 11,648 crab apples, value \$3,610. The number and value of other descriptions of fruit trees, bushes and plants sold in 1932-33 were as follows: Trees:-Pears 49,480, \$22,617; plums 42,205, \$16,627; peaches 135,045 \$33,640;

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cherries 46,284, \$20,768; apricots 2,215, \$575; nectarines 26, \$13; quinces 55, \$28. Bushes: Blackberries 24,888, \$996; currants, 70,408, \$5,583; grapes 143,126, \$12,463; gooseberries 36,425, \$4,317; raspberries, 721,969, \$24,657; loganberries 803, \$112; strawberries 1,064,737, \$9,500.

The average wholesale prices per unit were in cents as follows, with the average prices of the previous year in brackets: Apples 34 (33); pears 46 (45); plums 39 (41); peaches 25 (22); cherries 45 (47); apricots 26 (30); nectarines 50 (50); quinces 60 (50); blackberries 4 (4); currants 8 (8); grapes 9 (6); gooseberries 12 (13); raspberries 3 (4); loganberries 14 (10); strawberries per 100, 0.89 (0.76).

Floricultural and Decorative Plant Production

The total value of the floricultural and decorative plant production by Canada during the year ended May 31, 1933 is \$1,451,477, comprising \$59,086 for outdoor roses, \$305,927 for outdoor trees, shrubs and plants, \$203,100 for specific indoor plants, \$33,196 for other indoor plants, \$19,817 for flowering bulbs and \$897,733 for cut flowers. Thus the cut flower industry exceeds all the other categories together in volume and value. The value of the cut flowers sold represents in fact, 62 per cent of the total.

Harness and Saddlery, Trunks and Bags and Leather Goods Industry in 1932

The total value of production of the harness and saddlery, trunks and bags and leather goods industries combined in 1932 was \$4,510,891, of which \$1,726,516 is contributed by the harness and saddlery industry, \$918,281 by the trunk and bag industry, and \$1,866,094 by the industry of leather goods. For the first time in a number of years the output of harness shows an increase, the total value for the several items of harness and saddlery amounting to \$947,568, in comparison with \$858,310 in 1931. Next in importance are the following items: hand bags (\$819,815), suitcases and club bags (\$732,933), leather garments (\$323,976), and trunks (\$308,961).

Wheat Stocks and Movement

Canadian wheat in store on April 13 amounted to 220,823,304 bushels compared with 222,765,772 for the previous week and 224,362,050 on the corresponding date last year. Canadian wheat in the United States amounted to 3,817,633 bushels of which 426,004 were at Buffalo, 1,667,362 at New York and 1,498,000 at Albany. This compared with 4,896,843 in store on the same date last year, of which 3,740,278 were at Buffalo, 138,822 at New York and 280,819 at Boston. United States wheat in Canada was shown as 2,228,643 bushels as compared with 6,319,030 last year.

Wheat marketings in the Prairie Provinces for the week ending April 6 amounted to 2,173,112 bushels compared with 1,999,270 in the previous week and 2,556,368 in the corresponding week of 1932. By provinces the receipts were as follows, the figures in brackets being those for the same week last year: Manitoba 247,400 (165,412), Saskatchewan 1,107,564 (1,229,363), Alberta 818,148 (1,161,593) bushels. Marketings for the thirty-six weeks of the crop year were: Manitoba 24,873,944 (32,890,470), Saskatchewan 94,088,628 (164,119,041), Alberta 71,693,844 (125,139,227), Total 190,656,416 (322,148,738).

Export clearances of wheat during the week ending April 13 amounted to 2,226,498 bushels compared with 1,969,149 the week before and 2,135,460 in the same week last year. Clearances by ports were as follows, the figures in brackets being those of the same week last year: Vancouver-New Westminster 1,145,220 (1,426,555), United States Ports 672,000 (494,000), St. John 391,000 (52,748), Halifax 18,006 (162,000), Montreal nil (160), Total 2,226,498 (2,135,460). This is the first time since the week ending January 19, 1934 that the weekly clearances of this year have exceeded those of the same week of a year ago. Clearances during the thirty-seven weeks of the crop year were: Vancouver-New Westminster 36,636,422 (77,540,980), Montreal 31,928,354 (45,168,086), United States ports 20,446,000 (20,463,000), Quebec 8,491,685 (1,217,904), St. John 5,482,408 (6,864,873), Sorel 5,287,684 (11,073,265), Churchill 2,707,891 (2,736,030), Halifax 1,784,691 (1,474,552), Victoria nil (1,166,721), Prince Rupert nil (677,813), Total 112,765,115 (168,383,224).

Clay Products in January

Canadian producers sold clay and clay products valued at \$115,353 in January compared with \$111,779 in December and \$111,056 in January 1933.

Zinc Production in January

Canadian zinc producers reported an output of 21,767,490 pounds in January compared with 13,392,630 in January 1933 and 21,863,002 in December. Zinc averaged 3.3246 cents per pound on the London market (in Canadian funds) in January, at which price the Canadian output was worth \$723,682. In December the average price was 3.372 cents per pound and the total value of the month's production was \$737,542. On the St. Louis market the average price was 4.271as compared with 4.461 in December.

World Production of Zinc

World production of zinc in January advanced 1.9 per cent to 105,782 tons from the previous month's total of 103,813. Zinc stocks on hand in the United States totalled 111,982 tons on January 31; this represented an advance of 6,422 during the month. An increase of 6,228 was recorded in the International Zinc Cartel stocks during January; at the end of the month 154,203 were on hand.

Index Numbers of Security Prices

The investors' index of industrial common stocks was 133.3 for the week ending April 12 compared with 133.1 for the previous week, domestic utility common 53.7 compared with 53.6, common of companies located abroad 96.2 compared with 94.4 and for all three groups combined 97.2 compared with 96.7.

Lime Production in January

Production of lime in January amounted to 26,060 tons, an advance of 43 per cent over the production of a year ago.

Silver Production in January

Production of silver in January was 1,403,066 ounces as against 1,086,434 in December and 1,383,776 in January 1933. On the New York market silver was quoted at an average of 44.138 cents per ounce as compared with the December average of 43.55. In Canadian funds, the January average was 44.39405 at which price the month's production was worth \$622,878. The December average price in Canadian funds was 43.34967 and the total production value was \$470,966.

World Output of Silver in January

The world output of silver in January totalled 14,465,000 ounces or 11.7 per cent above the December total of 12,949,000. Mexico's production was estimated at 6,000,000 ounces in January and the United States output at 2,025,000. Silver stocks held by the United States refiners at the end of January amounted to 7,275,000 ounces, an increase of 2,001,000 during the month. Stocks of silver on hand in Shanghai on February 3 totalled 440,320,000 as against 439,340,000 on January 1. The Indian currency reserve in silver coin and bullion declined 3,162,000 in January to 344,816,000.

January Production of Lead the Highest Since January 1931

Lead production in Canada in January advanced to 28,022,906 pounds, the highest monthly total on record since January 1931. The December output totalled 19,383,504 pounds and the January 1933 total was 20,732,296. On the London market lead quotations declined to an average of 2.5586 cents per pound (in Canadian funds) from the December average of 2.6004. Based on these quotations the Canadian output in January was worth \$716,994 and in December \$517,051. On the New York market lead averaged 4 cents per pound as compared with 4.141 in December. Quotations on the St. Louis market decreased to 3.9 from the December average of 4.042.

World Lead Production refined

The world lead production in January was recorded at 122,610 tons; in the preceding month 135,050 were produced. In the United States lead output from domestic ore declined 5 per cent to 34,818 tons from the December total; on the other hand stocks increased 4,613 during the month to 207,674 tons.

Production of Ice Cream

Commercial ice cream production in the depression year of 1932 suffered a heavy reduction. Quantity was down to 6,175,000 gallons from 8,234,000 in 1931, a loss of 25 per cent while value was down to \$8,166,000 from \$11,162,000, a drop of 26 per cent. Every province had a lowered production.

Portland Cement Production

Shipments of Portland cement by Canadian producers in January totalled 68,784 barrels compared with 64,750 a year ago. Production in December was 100,288 barrels.

Production of Creamery Butter Increases

The production of creamery butter in March amounted to 9,879,093 pounds compared with 7,494,344 in the preceding month and 9,389,542 in March of last year. New Brunswick's production showed an increase over March last year of 59.1 p.c., Nova Scotia 14.3, British Columbia 12.5, Manitoba 8.8, Quebec 6.4, Ontario 4.7, Alberta 3.4, Production in Prince Edward Island recorded a decrease of 1.4 p.c. and Saskatchewan 2.5 p.c. The cumulative production for the first three months of this year was 25,943,274 pounds compared with 25,160,242 pounds produced in the same period last year.

Production and Use of Electric Energy in 1933

Central electric stations in Canada produced 17,746,000,000 kilowatt hours in 1933, including of 194,400,000 for small stations which do not make monthly reports. Over 98 per cent of this was produced by water power and the remainder by thermal engines. Compared with the final production data for 1932, this output was an increase of 1,694,000,000 kilowatt hours, or 10.5 per cent. Exports to the United States, amounting to 989,364,000 kilowatt hours, increased by 321,484,000 kilowatt hours, or by 48.1 per cent; 83,042,000 kilowatt hours of this increase was in surplus power exported.

The increasing use of electric drive is indicated by the steadily increasing ratio of rated capacity of electric motors in manufacturing industries to total capacity of power equipment. These ratios have increased from 61 per cent in 1923 to 77 per cent in 1932 with scarcely a halt. Electric drive in the mining industry constituted 75.41 per cent of the total power equipment in use, which was slightly less than the 1931 ratio.

Over 83 per cent of the electric motor capacity is driven by power purchased from central electric stations and almost 65 per cent of the total power equipment in manufacturing industries is driven by central electric station power. The corresponding ratios in 1929, the last year for which data have been published for the United States, were 53.1 per cent for the United States and 58.5 per cent for Canada.

Registrations of Motor Vehicles in 1933

Registrations of motor vehicles in Canada during 1933 numbered 1,082,957 compared with 1,114,503 in 1932, a decrease of 31,546, or 2.8 per cent. Ontario had by far the largest number at 520,353, a decrease of 11,244, Quebec 160,012 or 5,718 less than 1932, British Columbia 88,554 compared with 91,042, Alberta 86,110 compared with 86,878, Saskatchewan 84,734 compared with 91,275, Manitoba 68,740 compared with 71,570, Nova Scotia 40,443 compared with 41,153, New Brunswick 26,842 compared with 28,044, Prince Edward Island 6,940 compared with 6,982 and the Yukon 229 compared with 232. Saskatchewan showed the largest percentage decrease with 7.2, New Brunswick 4.3, Manitoba 4.0, Quebec 3.4, British Columbia 2.7, Ontario 2.1, Nova Scotia 1.7, Yukon 1.3, Alberta .9 and Prince Edward Island .6.

Production of Iron and Steel in March

An improved volume of business and firmer prices characterized the Canadian iron and steel industry in March. As formerly, the mining industry was responsible for the greater part of the business done but buying on the part of other trades also showed an increase.

Production of steel ingots and castings in Canada at 72,923 tons in March compares with 57,999 in February of this year and 11,212 in March 1933. For the three months ending March 31, 1934, the cumulative output of primary steel amounted to 191,709 tons as compared with 64,352 and 97,101 made in the corresponding periods of 1933 and 1932 respectively.

Production of pig iron at 12,101 tons in March showed little change from the 12,199 of February. The output included 8,141 tons of basic iron, 2,692 tons of foundry iron and 1,268 tons of malleable iron.

Furnace charges during the month included 22,255 long tons of imported iron ore, 6,192 short tons of limestone and 12,003 short tons of coke. Only 794 tons of the limestone were quarried in Canada but all of the coke was carbonized in Canada from imported coal. On March 28 one 550-ton furnace was blown in at Hamilton, Ontario, resulting in 2 furnaces being active in Canada on March 31. These active furnaces had a capacity of 1,000 tons a day and represented 24 per cent of the total capacity of all the iron blast furnaces in Canada.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Leading Mineral Products, January.
2. Feldspar and Salt Production, January.
3. Asbestos Production, February.
4. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, February. Gasoline Sales, January.
5. Dyeing, Cleaning and Laundering Industry 1932.
6. Mortality in Canada according to Place of Residence in 1931.
7. Building Permits in March.
8. Cost of Education--Bulletin No. 3.
9. Index Numbers of 23 Mining Stocks.
10. Annual Statistics of Fruit and Floriculture in 1933.
11. Harness and Saddlery and Miscellaneous Leather Goods in 1932.
12. Rigid Insulating Board Industry in March.
13. Exports of Grains and Flour in March.
14. Production of Iron and Steel in March.
15. Ice Cream Production in 1932.
16. Cement, Clay Products and Lime Production in January.
17. Index Numbers of Security Prices.
18. Summary of Trade of Canada for February.
19. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production in January.
20. Production and Use of Electric Energy in Canada in 1933.
21. Production of Creamery Butter in March.
22. Registrations of Motor Vehicles in 1933. Preliminary Report.
23. Trade of Canada, Calendar Year 1933.
24. Weekly Grain Statistics.
25. Weekly Car Loadings.

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