

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

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Weekly Indexes

There are six indexes available on a weekly basis in Canada that reflect the general economic trend. These cover respectively:

Business - carloadings and wholesale prices,
Finance - bank clearings and bond yields, and
Speculation - common stock prices and shares traded.

Notes on the indexes follow:

The railway traffic movement was slightly heavier in the latest week, the index of carloadings rising from 92.4 to 93.3. Recession was shown in the eastern division while the index for the west rose from 91.0 to 98.3. The expansion in the west was due to a commencement in the movement of new grain.

The wholesale price level was maintained in the week of August 16, the official index remaining unchanged at 82.3. Advances were recorded in five of the nine main groups. Sensitive food prices advanced in the latest week, the index on the base of August, 1939, rising from 125.3 to 126.1. The wholesale price level has remained relatively steady since the first of the year despite considerable fluctuation in particular commodities. The increase over the same week of 1939, occasioned by the advance of the last four months of last year was 14.5 per cent.

High-grade bonds were slightly stronger during the week ended August 15. The 3's of 1950-55 rose from 96.7-8 on August 15, to 97 on the 22nd, while several other important issues maintained the advance of the preceding week. Bank clearings at \$306.3 million showed a contra-seasonal gain over the \$274.5 million of the preceding week. The adjusted index consequently rose from 84.3 to 91.8.

Common stock prices showed recession during the second week of August, the index receding 1 point to 74.5. The decline from the same week of 1939 was 23.3 per cent. Speculative trading was on an even lower basis than in the preceding week.

The general index computed by eliminating the long-term trend and weighting inversely the six indexes on the basis of their tendency to fluctuation was 104.4 against 103.1 in the preceding week, a gain of 1.2 per cent. The increase over the same week of 1939, when the standing was 103.9 amounted to 0.4 per cent.

A Weekly Index with the Six Components
1926-100

Week Ended	Car load-ings	Whole-sale Prices	Capitalized Bond Yields 1	Bank Clear-ings 2	Prices of Common Stocks	Shares Traded	Weekly Index 3
August 19, 1939	80.4	71.9	148.8	91.6	97.1	53.1	103.894
August 10, 1940	92.4	82.2	138.1	84.3	75.5	35.9	103.092
August 17, 1940	93.3	82.3	138.5	91.8	74.5	16.3	104.355

1. Present value of a fixed net income in perpetuity from Dominion long-term bonds.
2. 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.
3. 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 the year 1926.

Business Office of the President

Department of State

Washington, D.C.

January 1, 1912

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

The authorities have not yet rendered a decision upon the matter, but I am sure that they will do so in due season.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signature]

Very truly yours,
[Signature]

Enclosed for you are two copies of the report of the Commission on the subject of the proposed amendment to the Constitution.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signature]

Very truly yours,
[Signature]

Name	Rank	Grade	Pay	Service	Remarks
John Doe	Major	1st	\$4,000	10 years	
Jane Smith	Major	1st	\$4,000	10 years	
Robert Brown	Major	1st	\$4,000	10 years	
Mary White	Major	1st	\$4,000	10 years	
James Black	Major	1st	\$4,000	10 years	
Elizabeth Green	Major	1st	\$4,000	10 years	
William Hall	Major	1st	\$4,000	10 years	
Anna King	Major	1st	\$4,000	10 years	
Charles Lee	Major	1st	\$4,000	10 years	
Frances Miller	Major	1st	\$4,000	10 years	

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signature]

Electrical Output In July

The output of central electric stations in July amounted to 2,615,232,000 kilowatt hours compared with 2,578,883,000 in June and 2,205,844,000 in July last year. The index number adjusted for the uneven number of days in the months and other seasonal factors rose to a new high at 279.28.

Exports to the United States amounted to 203,058,000 kilowatt hours compared with 190,704,000 kilowatt hours in June and 162,973,000 kilowatt hours in July, 1939, and was the highest daily average exported to date.

Iron, Steel, Natural Gas and Petroleum Production in July

Production of pig iron in July amounted to 95,924 long tons compared with 88,656 in June and 59,587 in July last year. Canadian iron blast furnaces operated at 93 per cent of capacity on July 31. Output of ferro-alloys totalled 9,257 tons compared with 10,128 in June, and 6,475 in July, 1939. Steel ingots and direct steel castings totalled 169,577 tons against 166,213 in June and 111,149 in July last year.

The output of crude petroleum and natural gasoline in June amounted to 657,098 barrels, compared with 676,486 in May and 821,308 in June, 1939. During the six months ending June production was 3,681,029 barrels against 3,371,238 a year ago.

Natural gas production in June was 1,677,608,000 cubic feet against 2,227,939,000 in May and 2,106,482,000 in June 1939. An increase of 4 per cent was shown in Canadian production during the first six months of the current year.

Gasoline Sales in May

Gasoline sales in Canada in May as reported were as follows in thousands of gallons the figures in brackets being those for May, 1939: Prince Edward Island, 791 (802); Nova Scotia 10,470 (9,182); New Brunswick (a)(5,747); Quebec 41,569(38,236); Ontario 124,323 (113,574); Manitoba 14,972(11,081); Saskatchewan 29,134(20,896); Alberta 25,677(23,698); British Columbia 23,375(21,057). Total (a)(244,273).
(a) -- Information not available.

Carloadings

Carloadings for the week ended August 17 increased to 57,121 from 52,317 cars for the previous week and the index number rose to 93.3 from 92.4. Compared with loadings a year ago of 49,230 cars, the increase was 7,891 cars or 16 per cent. Grain was heavier than for the previous week by 1,784 cars but lighter than in 1939 by 1,430 cars. Forest products also showed a decline of 153 cars but all other groups showed a substantial increase over last year's loadings, miscellaneous being up by 3,092 cars or 26 per cent and lumber by 2,027 cars or 88 per cent.

Canal Traffic in July

Total traffic using the Welland Ship Canal in July amounted to 1,832,326 tons compared with 1,659,282 a year ago. Corn increased by 2,686,607 bushels, petroleum and oil by 156,648 tons and bituminous coal by 93,456 tons. Wheat, barley and oats dropped. Freight through the Sault Ste. Marie amounted to 13,842,224 tons compared with 9,597,596 in 1939. Iron ore increased from 6,344,474 tons to 10,775,121. Traffic on the St. Lawrence canals increased from 1,119,143 tons to 1,122,961.

Tobacco Stocks and Consumption

Stocks of Canadian tobacco on hand at March 31 amounted to 102,923,801 lb. During the second quarter ending June the amount acquired was 34,786,569, exported 13,197,185, sold to domestic manufacturers 27,174,846, taken for manufacture 11,123,476, otherwise disposed of 135,880. Total on hand at June 30 86,078,983, as well as imported tobacco of 5,686,089 pounds, making a grand total on hand of 91,765,072.

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Hog Production

Hog production in Canada in 1940 will be the greatest recorded. The 1940 spring pig crop was 39 per cent greater than that of 1939 and farmers also reported an increase of 27 per cent in the number of sows expected to farrow in the fall of 1940. The increase in the spring pig crop resulted in a gain of 57 per cent in the number of hogs on farms at June 1, 1940. The total number of hogs on farms at that date is estimated at 5,882,000 which is the highest on record.

The increase in 1940 is a continuance of the upward trend in hog production which commenced in the spring of 1939. Two years of relatively favourable prices for hogs and an abundance of low priced feed have stimulated hog raising.

As a result of the increase in the pig crop, marketings will reach new highs during the remainder of this year and the early months of 1941. An increase of over 40 per cent is expected.

Wheat and Its Movement

Wheat in store on August 16 amounted to 284,567,724 bushels compared with 281,950,758 the week before and 95,579,413 on the corresponding date a year ago. The amount in transit on the lakes was 2,993,034 and by rail 11,611,342 compared with 3,698,853 on the lakes and 3,333,063 in transit by rail a year ago.

Canadian wheat in the United States amounted to 30,621,286 bushels compared with 28,736,098 the week before, and 6,582,000 last year.

Export clearances overseas of wheat during the week ending August 16 amounted to 1,153,630 bushels, compared with 2,973,100 bushels for the corresponding period last year.

Wheat receipts in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending August 16 amounted to 3,569,196 bushels, a gain of 1,161,471 over the previous week, but a decrease from the 5,693,928 bushels marketed during the corresponding week last year. In the three Prairie Provinces, wheat receipts for August 16 were as follows, with 1939 figures in brackets: Manitoba 1,278,557(3,558,474); Saskatchewan 1,280,223(1,197,013); Alberta 1,010,416(938,441) bushels.

Stocks of United States wheat in Canada on August 16 amounted to 63,955 bushels compared with 493,874 a year ago. The following were the stocks of other grains with the amounts of a year ago in brackets: United States rye 23,768(23,610) bushels; United States soya beans 18,452(42,759); Argentine flax seed 10,420(154,744); United States corn 5,198,141(3,916,708); Argentine corn 817,154(3,742); South African corn 368,670(700,096); Australian corn nil(17,774).

July Exports of Rubber

Pneumatic tire casings exported in July were valued at \$313,437 compared with \$548,480 a year ago. These went to 50 countries, the leading destinations being: United States \$86,634, Colombia \$42,687, Venezuela \$38,230, New Zealand \$24,985, Peru \$15,332, Chile \$10,244, Belgian Congo \$8,941, Jamaica \$8,380, Portugal \$8,165, Bolivia \$7,383, British South Africa, \$5,319, Persia \$4,430, Trinidad \$4,219, Panama \$4,210.

The chief purchaser of canvas shoes with rubber soles was British South Africa, the amount being 7,850 pairs at \$6,114. The month's export was valued at \$34,256 compared with \$130,954 last year. Rubber heels to the number of 324,491^{PS} went to the United Kingdom as well as 533,467 pairs of rubber boots and shoes.

July Exports of Paints

July export of paints was valued at \$118,557 of which 74,117 went to the United Kingdom alone. The next purchaser was China at \$8,129. The export of acetylene black was \$66,257 of which \$28,036 went to the United Kingdom, \$27,962 to the United States and \$9,201 to Australia.

Export of Newsprint for July

Export of newsprint paper in July amounted to \$15,221,529 compared with \$8,586,411 a year ago. The leading purchaser was the United States at \$12,407,615 followed by Australia at \$803,524 and the United Kingdom at \$620,300.

Export of Lumber in July

Douglas Fir planks and boards exported in July were at a value of \$2,288,787, almost double that of a year ago. The largest purchasers were: United Kingdom \$1,743,867 United States \$182,582, British South Africa \$175,486, Portuguese Africa \$85,327, Jamaica \$40,423, British Sudan \$31,773, Aden \$7,707, Australia \$4,468. Spruce planks and boards reached \$2,540,063 going mainly to United Kingdom \$1,652,634, United States \$691,769, Ireland \$167,453. The hemlock exports at \$222,417 went mainly to the United Kingdom and British South Africa. The United Kingdom was also the heaviest importer of birch, the total export being \$303,751. The export of pine was \$748,674, \$414,976 to the United Kingdom, \$308,709 to the United States, \$8,883 to Barbados and \$5,566 to Iceland. Incidentally, spruce to the value of \$17,567 also went to Iceland where some Canadian troops are now located. The United Kingdom imported Douglas fir square timber to the value of \$135,791, shooks at \$259,542 and veneers and plywood at \$249,582. As usual the United States was a heavy importer of red cedar shingles at \$608,264.

Farm Implements and Machinery Exports in July

No fewer than 735 harvesters and binders valued at \$158,787 went to the United Kingdom in July. While 425 mowing machines and reapers at \$40,940 went to the United States. New Zealand purchased 24 harvesters and binders at \$2,331 and South Africa 521 cultivators at \$2,983. There were 676 dozen spades and shovels sent to British South Africa, 618 dozen to Argentina and 498 to Portuguese Africa. Flows and parts were exported to British South Africa to the value of \$159,478, \$76,247 to the United Kingdom, \$55,695 to the United States, \$15,266 to Southern Rhodesia and \$12,813 to Portuguese Africa.

Building Permits Issued in July

The total value of permits reported as issued in the month of July is \$10,497,006. Revised values for the month of June include returns from 190 municipalities and aggregate \$9,769,503. Reports were received from 50 of the original 58 municipalities and show a value of \$7,874,638 for the last month. The corresponding revised value for June includes 56 returns and is \$7,355,671, while the June 1939 value was \$6,584,125.

The total value of permits issued by all municipalities during the seven elapsed months of the current year is \$57,798,471. The value for the 58 municipalities for the same period is \$42,247,633, while their corresponding value in 1939 was \$33,647,625.

The Mica Industry, 1939.

Production (Producers' Sales) of mica in Canada during 1939, including sales from stock, totalled 2,135,356 pounds valued at \$147,321 compared with 1,037,026 pounds valued at \$80,989 in 1938; comprising the 1939 output were 1,792,091 pounds of scrap and ground mica valued at \$18,419; 92,333 pounds of knife trimmed at \$38,370; 176,051 pounds of splittings at \$83,633; 68,181 pounds of thumb trimmed at \$6,832 and 6,700 pounds of rough cobbled worth \$67. Of the 1939 shipments, mines in the Province of Quebec contributed 867,396 pounds valued at \$122,243, Ontario 1,127,960 pounds at \$22,978 and British Columbia an output valued at \$2,100.

In 1939 phlogopite mica was shipped from properties chiefly located in the Hull-Buckingham district of Quebec and in Eastern Ontario from deposits occurring in the Kingston-Perth area. The production of sheet mica in Canada is almost wholly of the phlogopite or amber mica variety. It is derived almost entirely from adjacent sections of Ontario and Quebec, within an area extending roughly from Kingston, Ontario, north-eastward into Jull and Papineau counties, Quebec; a few scattered amber mica occurrences are also known in the Province of Quebec as far east as Quebec City, but very little mining has been conducted on them.

Production of muscovite, or white mica, in Canada has been negligible, small amounts have been recovered occasionally as a by-product from feldspar mining in general, the proportion of sound, merchantable sheet mica in Canadian pegmatites has proved too low for profitable mining for this mineral alone. In 1939 a small production of this class of mica came from a deposit in Boyd township, Ontario, while in Quebec during 1939 muscovite was mined or shipped from deposits located at Lac Duclair, Bergeronnes township Saguenay county; Lacost township, Charlevoix county; Baie des Bacons and the townships of Begin and Harvey, Chicoutimi county; shipments of ruby muscovite were reported from Grand Lac Ste. Agnes de Charlevoix.

Business Operations in July

According to preliminary computation, business operations in Canada were at a slightly lower level in July than in the preceding month. The advance over the same month of 1939 was of marked proportions.

Factors indicating the trend of mineral production were mainly reactionary in July. An exception was the exports of asbestos which showed a considerable increase, the index moving up from 110 to 153. The manufacture of foodstuffs was in considerably greater volume during July, the advance in the index having been about five points to 118. The meat-packing industry showed marked acceleration, the index having been 182 compared with 154. Hog slaughterings increased from 320,000 to 336,000. Dairy production was well maintained, the output of factory cheese increasing from 23.7 million pounds to 24.4 million.

The consumption of raw cotton was 15.1 million pounds against 15.4 million in the preceding month. The forestry index advanced from 160 to 163, increases having been shown in newsprint production and exports of planks and boards. Automobile production showed a recession less than normal for the season. Contracts awarded amounted to \$29.3 million against \$39.1 million. The railway traffic movement recorded a contra-seasonal increase, the index consequently advancing from 88 to 97. Banks debits showed an increase after seasonal adjustment, the total having been \$2,623 million against \$2,682 million. The advance in the index was about four points to 112.9.

While business operations recorded a slight decline from the preceding month, minor advances were recorded in prices of different categories. Common stock prices averaged slightly higher following the decline of the two preceding months. Moderate advances were also shown in wholesale prices and in high-grade bonds.

Economic Factors in July compared with the preceding month and July 1939.

		July 1940	July 1939	June 1940
Physical Volume of Business	..... 1926=100	(x)	120.5	141.3
Capitalized Bond Yields	..... 1926=100	137.4	149.7	137.0
Bank deposits	..... 1926=100	128.0	125.6	130.2
Asbestos Exports	..... tons	16,223	14,450	14,450
Sugar manufactured	..... lbss	95,553,443	85,837,830	107,509,859
Cheese, factory production	..... lbs.	24,353,817	22,521,963	23,688,820
Butter, creamery production	... lbs.	39,405,283	38,008,402	40,327,158
Newsprint production	..... tons	332,689	227,630	315,343
Planks and boards exported	.... M ft.	243,617	185,096	246,477
Shingles exported	..... squares	243,181	303,741	254,126
Carloadings	..... No.	247,555	196,392	239,582
Cotton consumption	..... lbs.	15,131,408	10,188,533	15,378,128
Contracts awarded	..... \$	29,305,600	22,129,700	39,097,000
Bank debits	..... \$ 000	2,622,547	2,376,528	2,681,585

(x) According to preliminary computation, the index of the physical volume of business was slightly lower in July than June but greatly higher than the same month of last year.

Automobile Production in July

Production of automobiles in July totalled 14,468 units against 17,930 made in the previous month and 9,241 in July of last year. This month's output included 3,397 passenger cars and 11,071 commercial vehicles. During the first seven months of this year, 125,380 motor vehicles were produced in Canada compared with corresponding totals for other years as follows: 103,000 in 1939, 111,165 in 1938 and 146,512 in 1937.

Note: Publication of data on the import and export of automobiles has been discontinued for the duration of the war.

Gold Production in June

Gold production in June amounted to 451,277 ounces compared with 442,521 in the preceding month and 436,538 in June, 1939. Production during the first six months of the current year aggregated 2,572,042 ounces or 3.3 per cent above the output a year ago. Production by provinces was as follows, with the May figures in brackets: Ontario, 274,693 (271,020) ounces; Quebec 81,369 (83,037); British Columbia 56,807 (53,309); Manitoba and Saskatchewan 21,340 (22,272); Yukon 9,955 (8,185); Northwest Territories 4,078 (3,990); Nova Scotia 3,015 (1,837). In addition the Royal Canadian Mint received jewellery and scrap containing 1,013 ounces of gold.

Gold Production in June (concluded)

Gold production in South Africa in June was 1,158,000 ounces compared with 1,186,000 in May: United States and Philippines 424,626 ounces.

Canada's Exports in July

Canada's exports in July, excluding gold were of the value of \$100,782,000 compared with \$75,753,000 in July last year. The amount of British Empire countries was \$55,254,000 compared with \$39,552,000 and to other countries \$45,528,000 as against \$36,201,000. Exports to the United Kingdom were valued at \$41,637,000 or \$10,272,000 more than a year ago, while the exports to the United States totalled \$41,701,000 which was \$14,804,000 in excess of July last year.

Following were the exports to other leading Empire countries with the 1939 figures in brackets: British South Africa \$5,785,000(\$1,653,000); Australia \$2,805,000(\$2,357,000); British West Indies \$1,402,000(\$810,000); Newfoundland \$1,368,000(\$675,000); British India \$373,000(\$592,000); Southern Rhodesia \$242,000(\$95,000); British Guiana \$192,000(\$107,000); Ireland \$222,000(\$372,000).

Exports to other foreign countries were: Japan \$746,000(\$2,304,000); Argentina \$462,000(\$417,000); Mexico \$305,000(\$236,000); Portuguese Africa \$225,000(\$98,000); Brazil \$334,000(\$223,000); Sweden nil (\$419,000); France nil (\$399,000); Switzerland, nil (\$21,000); Portugal \$32,000(\$14,000); French Possessions \$39,000(\$45,000).

Crop Report

Good progress was made in harvesting on the Prairies during the past week. Although threshing was delayed in Manitoba by heavy rains, during the midweek ideal weather speeded cutting and combining operations in Saskatchewan and Alberta. In Manitoba cutting and swathing is nearing completion except for a few late areas. The early threshed grain is grading well and the yields are slightly higher than anticipated. In Saskatchewan, about 35 per cent of the wheat is cut, and threshing was general toward the end of this week in the southern portions. Grasshoppers are still doing damage in some sections.

In Alberta harvesting is well underway in the southern sections and cutting and combining will be general by the end of this week. The yields reported from the early threshed fields are very good and the grain is grading No. 1.

Cutting is well started in the Peace River district and expected to be general by the end of the week. Northern Alberta reports some frost in various localities, and slight damage was done to fields and gardens.

Reports Issued This Week

1. Stocks and Consumption of unmanufactured tobacco during Quarter ending June 30, (5 cents).
2. Summary of Canal Traffic, July (5 cents).
3. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, June (10 cents).
4. Production of Iron and Steel, July (10 cents).
5. Output of Central Electric Stations.
6. Carloadings
7. Exports of Pulpwood, Wood Pulp and Paper, July (10 cents).
8. Exports of Farm Implements and Machinery, July (10 cents).
9. Exports of Lumber, July (10 cents).
10. Exports of Paints and Varnishes, July (10 cents).
11. Exports of Rubber and Insulated Wire and Cable, July (10 cents).
12. Building Permits Issued in Canada, July (10 cents).
13. Mica Industry in Canada, 1939 (25 cents).
14. Export Clearances and Primary Movement of wheat.
15. Automobile Production, July (10 cents).
16. Gold Production, June (10 cents).
17. Domestic Exports Excluding Gold, July (10 cents).
18. Natural Gas Industry, 1938 (25 cents).
19. Crop Report
20. Canadian Grain Statistics (20 cents).
21. Prices and Price Indexes (25 cents).
22. Live Stock Survey, June (10 cents).
23. Asphalt Roofing Industry, June. (10 cents).
24. Sales and Purchases of Securities between Canada and Other Countries, June (10 cents).



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