

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

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PROPERTY OF THE
LIBRARYWeekly Review of Economic Statistics--Economic Index Last Week: ShowedDecline from the Previous Week

The economic index, maintained by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, was 94.4 in the week ended June 9, a gain of nearly 13 p.c. over 83.8, the standing for the corresponding week of last year. Five of the major factors from which the economic index was compiled recorded important gains in this connection. The only exception was speculative trading, which during the current period is at a much lower level than in the second quarter of 1933. It will be recalled that from April to July of last year a very rapid recovery was in evidence, an economic advance that was partly offset by the reaction during the latter part of the year. An upward trend has again been shown since the first of the year, but the advance has been of a more moderate character. While comparisons with the corresponding weeks of 1933 are not so favourable as during the first quarter, the gain in the economic index over the week of June 10 of last year was about 10.5 points.

Carloadings, the best weekly factor reflecting the trend of the volume of business, showed a gain in the 22nd week, the seasonally adjusted index moving up from 70.5 to 70.7. The index for the same week of 1933 was 61.6, the gain in this comparison being 14.7 p.c. The cumulative total since the first of the year was about 916,000 cars compared with 744,000, the gain over the first 22 weeks of 1933 being 172,000 cars or 23 p.c. Shipments of grain showed a decline of 639 cars, while the ten other commodity classifications recorded important increases.

Gross operating revenues of the Canadian National Railways were \$54,854,000 in the first five months of 1934 compared with \$45,538,000 in the same period of 1933, the gain being 20.5 p.c. The revenues of the Canadian Pacific Railway were \$47,265,000 compared with \$40,248,000, representing an increase of 17.4 p.c.

Operations in the meat-packing industry, as measured by inspected slaughterings, moved to a higher level in May. The index of slaughterings was 130.8 compared with 126.8 in April. Operations have been maintained since the first of the year at a considerably higher level than in the same period of either 1932 or 1933. Slaughterings of hogs in May were 266,500 head compared with 251,800 in the preceding month, the adjusted gain being about 7 p.c. A seasonally adjusted increase in cattle and calves was also recorded in May.

A new high point since 1929 was reached in newsprint production in May, the total being 242,539 tons. The seasonally adjusted gain over April was about 14 p.c., the output in that month being 206,507 tons. The increase over the 170,690 tons produced in May of last year was no less than 42 p.c. The production in the first five months of the present year at 1,031,996 tons showed a gain of 308,928 tons or 43 p.c. over the same period of 1933. With the exception of three months in 1929, production during May was greater than in any month in the history of the industry.

The weekly index of commodity prices was unchanged in the week ended June 8, grain prices reacting owing to the considerable rainfall in the Prairie Provinces.

Following declines in March and April, wholesale prices were maintained in May, the index remaining unchanged at 71.1. Four of the main groups, including crop products, wood and paper, iron, and chemicals, recorded gains, while the other four groups showed declines. The index of Canadian field products moved up from 48.7 to 51.1, partly reflecting crop damage due to lack of rain during the month under review.

Coffee prices advanced in the latter part of May. It was announced that the coming Brazilian crop lately estimated at about 15,500,000 bags, would be under strict control. Crude rubber prices averaged higher in May than in the preceding month. The sharp advance which followed the announcement that nine leading producers had signed a curtailment agreement came to an abrupt halt when it became known that quotas for the latter half of 1934 were unexpectedly liberal. Restricted demand in both domestic and foreign markets caused a downward revision in wool prices, offsetting a small part only of the sharp advance in 1933.

The cost of living after having reached in March a maximum since September 1932, showed recession in April and May. The index was 78.7 last month compared with 80.2 and 79.6 in March and April, respectively. The indexes of food, rent and sundries showed declines in May, while the cost of fuel recorded a slight gain.

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Further general declines in wholesale price index numbers of the principal countries occurred in April. Crop products, animal products and textiles were commonly lower than in the month preceding.

The increase of almost 1 p.c. in indexes for Norway and Sweden were of interest in view of the prevalence of lower prices in other countries. The Swedish index has moved steadily upward for the better part of a year and its gains in recent months offer a marked contrast to the declines apparent in other parts of Europe.

In relatively few cases are wholesale indexes now below those of a year ago. Price levels in most countries appear to have risen from 2 p.c. to 9 p.c. during the past twelve months.

Following the marked advance in Dominion Government bonds from the first of the year to the beginning of June, a decline was shown in the week ended June 9, the index dropping from 124.8 to 123.7. Bid quotations for the 1943 5 per cent Dominion government refunding bond averaged 108.7 in the week ended June 9 compared with 109.1 in the preceding week, and recessions were shown in other refunding bonds. During the last two or three weeks high-grade bonds have been at a new high point for the post-war period. The yield on Ontario government bonds averaged 4.06 p.c. in May, prices also reaching a new high point for the last 15 years.

Bank clearings were greater in the week ended June 7 than the \$352,200,000 of the preceding week. The gain over the same week of last year was 11.5 p.c. The cumulative total for the first five months of the present year was \$6,212,000,000, representing a gain of 23 p.c. over the same period of 1933.

The index of common stock prices was 93.1 for the week ended June 7 compared with 95.2 in the preceding week. Each of the groups of the official classification except milling and foods recorded declines in this comparison. The gain over the same week of 1933, when the index stood at 79.2, was 17.6 p.c.

Common stock prices reached lower levels in May than in the preceding month, the decline in the index of 130 stocks being from 90.7 to 88.6. Group gains of domestic companies were limited to pulp and paper and textiles, the index of the latter group rising from 76.8 to 79.1. A gain was also recorded in the stock of International Petroleum, operating in South America. The index of 24 preferred stocks rose from 68.5 to 68.7.

The economic index was 94.4 in the week ended June 9 compared with 96.1 in the preceding week, a decline of 1.8 p.c.

Large Increase in Canada's Domestic Exports in May

Domestic exports in May totalled in value \$57,899,000 which was an increase of \$12,323,000, or 27 per cent over May 1933 and an increase of \$17,423,000, or 43 per cent over May 1932. The following table sets out the export situation last month:

				P.C. Inc or Dec. 1934 compared with	
	1932 \$	1933 \$	1934 \$	1932	1933
January	38,367,000.	31,562,000	46,652,000	21.6	47.8
February	36,431,000	26,398,000	37,842,000	3.8	43.4
March	39,749,000	36,579,000	57,664,000	45.1	57.6
April	26,928,000	20,012,000	31,583,000	17.3	57.8
May	40,476,000	45,576,000	57,899,000	43.0	27.0
Total (5 mos.)	<u>181,951,000</u>	<u>160,127,000</u>	<u>231,639,000</u>	<u>27.3</u>	<u>44.7</u>

World Shipments of Wheat and Wheat Flour

World shipments of wheat and wheat flour for the week ending June 11 amounted to 10,528,000 bushels as compared with 1,779,000 for the previous week and 9,680,000 bushels for the corresponding week in 1932-33. North American and Australian shipments decreased slightly during the week while shipments from the Argentine showed an increase of 2,852,000 bushels.

Index Numbers of Security Prices

The investors index of industrial common stocks was 125.9 for the week ending June 7 compared with 128.5 for the previous week, domestic utility common 54.7 compared with 55.7, common of companies abroad 98.5 compared with 101.8 and for all three groups of common combined 93.1 compared with 95.2.

Drought Situation in United States on June 1

The United States Department of Agriculture has issued a statement setting forth the drought situation as on June 1, in which it says: "Crop prospects declined seriously during May and the country now faces an acute shortage of pasturage, hay and forage that will necessitate a sharp curtailment of livestock numbers. It is already evident that the condition of early crops is bad over a large part of the country and the continuation of the drought from week to week is causing uneasiness regarding corn and late forage crops which have been counted on to partially make up for the marked shortage of oats, barley and hay which cannot now be avoided. Although recent rains have relieved the situation somewhat in certain limited areas, even should good rains come immediately the shortage of pastures and feed will necessitate the reduction of livestock numbers in the worst of the drought areas.

"The drought, which centres in the Dakotas, has seriously hurt early crops not only in nearly the whole Corn Belt but in a larger area which extends eastward to northeastern counties of New York and to the Alleghany Mountains; southward into the northern portion of the Cotton Belt; and bending farther to the south, through the western counties of the Texas Panhandle and to the Rio Grande. Drought, accentuated by a shortage of about half of the normal supply of water for irrigation and by local shortage of water for stock, is affecting most of the West, south of a line drawn from North Central Montana to San Francisco.

"As the drought in many respects has broken all previous records, so the condition of pastures and some crops will set new low records for June 1 in a number of States. A few of the States most severely affected will show lower averages than any state has previously reported on June 1 during the 40 years for which comparable condition reports have been secured. The average conditions of pastures and of some early crops in the country as a whole are so much below any previous records for this early date that it is difficult to make comparisons or to forecast results."

The Printing Trades

The total production of the printing trades in 1932 is given at \$101,492,333. Periodicals account for \$46,999,239 of this amount, daily newspapers alone contributing \$36,312,989. Printed and bound books are valued at \$4,602,469, other printed advertising at \$17,607,000, bound blank books at \$3,484,728 and miscellaneous printed goods and printed stationery at \$18,407,132. Total finished printed matter amounts to \$91,100,568 and trade work is valued at \$10,391,765.

Employment was given to 32,584 men and women. Salaried employees numbered 11,411 and received \$19,330,645. Wage earners numbered 21,173 and were paid \$25,264,133. Of the 25,469 male employees, 8,586 received a salary and 16,883 were wage-earners. The female employees numbered 7,115 of which 4,290 were wage-earners.

Per Capita Consumption of Some Leading Foods

Canadian consume much more pork than beef. The per capita consumption of pork in 1933 was $74\frac{1}{2}$ pounds which incidentally was eleven pounds less than in 1932. Consumption of beef was 56 pounds and mutton and lamb a little over six pounds.

There is more chicken used than lamb, the per capita consumption in 1933 being over $7\frac{1}{2}$ pounds, turkey $1\frac{3}{4}$, duck less than half a pound and goose less than one pound.

The consumption of butter and cheese does not vary much, a little over thirty pounds to each person in the last few years and almost $3\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of cheese.

But the consumption of eggs has been declining a little each year for some time. In 1930 the per capita was almost 25 dozen, in 1931 slightly over $24\frac{3}{4}$ dozen, in 1932 there was a drop of $23\frac{3}{4}$ dozen and in 1933 a still further drop to less than $21\frac{1}{2}$ dozen.

Field Crop Area According to the Census

The total area of field crops in Canada increased from 49,680,918 acres in 1921 to 57,925,483 acres in 1931, an increase of 8,244,565 acres or 16.6 per cent. Every province contributed to this betterment in acreage under crops in 1931 over 1921 excepting Nova Scotia and Manitoba which registered a decrease of more than 72,000 acres or 11.1 per cent in the decade for the former and 15,000 acres for the latter. The crops showing the most serious decline in acreage in those provinces were wheat, oats, potatoes and fodder crops. The other provinces all showed an increased acreage under crops in 1931 over 1921 in the following proportions: Prince Edward Island 7.8 per cent, New Brunswick 6.8 per cent, Quebec 1.9 per cent, Ontario 2.1 per cent, Saskatchewan 24.1 per cent, Alberta 41.2 per cent and British Columbia 31 per cent.

Of the total acreage under crops for all Canada in 1931, wheat was responsible for 45 per cent as against 40 per cent ten years previously. It may also be noted that this increase was contributed altogether by Saskatchewan and Alberta and to a small extent by British Columbia. All other provinces showed serious decreases in the acreage sown to wheat. The decrease in acreage under oats from 1921 to 1931 was general in all provinces. This decrease may be attributed to a large extent to the displacement of the horse as a means of transportation particularly in the urban centres. Even on the farms of Canada there was a decrease in horses of nearly 340,000. Grains grown for summer feed and fodder crops generally showed an increased acreage from 1921 to 1931.

The acreage under tobacco increased in the ten years by 41,701 acres or more than 250 per cent. This gain was contributed altogether by a few counties in Quebec and Ontario. Of the total acreage under tobacco in 1931 these two provinces reported 58,118 acres out of a total of 58,329 acres. British Columbia entered this field for the first time in 1931 reporting 182 acres under this crop. The principal gain from 1921 to 1931 was in Ontario with more than 39,000 acres.

Cost of Living Index Lower in May--Rentals Declined

The general index of retail prices, rents, and costs of services moved down from 79.6 in April to 78.7 in May. Three groups were lower, one was higher, and one was unchanged. An index for retail prices alone fell from 74.6 to 73.4. When foods were removed from this index it remained unchanged at 77.9.

For 46 food items the index declined from 71.0 to 68.6, due mainly to seasonal decreases in the prices of butter and eggs. Creamery butter dropped from 32.9¢ to 27.8¢ per pound while dairy butter averaged 24.5¢ in May as compared with 29.3¢ for April. Fresh eggs moved down from 27.1¢ to 22.3¢ and grades B and C from 22.8¢ to 18.5¢ per dozen. Beef prices continued to advance, but increases were fractional. Mutton rose half a cent to 22.1¢ per pound. Veal, fresh and salt pork, bacon and cooked ham registered declines, varying from one cent for fresh pork to one-third of a cent each for bacon and cooked ham.

The rentals index fell from 80.4 to 79.7, continuing a decline first apparent in October, 1930. Workmen's dwellings declined only one-half of one per cent, while medium grade dwellings were down 1.4 per cent. The fuel and lighting index changed from 87.7 to 87.8. The advance was due to slightly higher prices for wood, sub-indexes for coal and coke being unchanged.

Cost of Living in World Countries

Cost of living indexes were predominantly lower in April, although a great many showed no change from March. Seasonal declines in fuel indexes were common, and foods and clothing in many instances were lower. Another two point decrease for foods was responsible for the fall in the United Kingdom series issued by the Ministry of Labour.

The National Industrial Conference Board index for the United States was carried lower by declines for foods, fuel and miscellaneous items. Shelter and clothing advanced slightly. The Paris index dropped nearly 3 p.c. due to reductions in foods, clothing and fuel. The German index was unchanged with an advance in the clothing group offsetting declines for foods, fuel, and miscellaneous items.

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 135.3 for the week ending June 7, as compared with 133.1 for the previous week. Nineteen gold stocks rose from 127.2 to 130.1, and four base metals stocks fell from 161.1 to 161.0.

Food in Cold Storage

Creamery butter in cold storage in Canada on June 1 amounted to 6,741,000 pounds which was about $1\frac{1}{4}$ million more than a year ago and slightly above the average of the last five years. Dairy butter amounted to 46,382 pounds or about one-third of the average. Cheese at 9,488,000 pounds was one million pounds more than a year ago and nearly 800,000 more than usual. Cold storage eggs at 9,920,000 dozen were over $1\frac{1}{2}$ million dozen less than a year ago and $1\frac{1}{4}$ less than average.

Pork at 28,686,000 pounds was a large reduction from the 40,189,000 of last year and 37,101,000 average. Beef at 7,743,000 pounds was 300,000 less than last year and $1\frac{1}{4}$ million less than average. Veal at 1,435,000 pounds was almost one-quarter million more than a year ago, almost one-quarter million less than average. Mutton and lamb at 914,000 pounds was 117,000 more than last year but about 870,000 less than usual. Poultry, with turkey leading, amounted to 4,101,000 pounds, was 860,000 more than last year but close to one-quarter million less than the average.

Fresh and frozen fish, amounting to 4,824,000 pounds, was one million pounds less than last year. This included 1,678,000 of sea herring and 1,301,000 of halibut. Cured fish at 2,873,000 pounds was $1\frac{1}{2}$ million less than last year.

Canadian Exports to Irish Free State

<u>Fiscal Years</u> <u>Ended March 31</u>	<u>Total Domestic</u> <u>Exports to Irish</u> <u>Free State</u>	<u>Exports of Grain and Farmaceous</u> <u>Products to Irish Free State</u>
1929	\$4,144,743	\$3,759,692 or 90.7 per cent of total
1930	\$2,711,544	\$1,893,188 or 69.8 " " " "
1931	\$2,764,489	\$1,689,409 or 61.1 " " " "
1932	\$2,661,421	\$1,647,701 or 61.9 " " " "
1933	\$2,247,162	\$1,518,813 or 67.5 " " " "
1934	\$3,514,785	\$2,787,495 or 79.3 " " " "

Other exports in 1934, with the 1933 figures in brackets, were: Hops, 138,111 pounds (nil) valued at \$49,250 (nil); rubber manufactures, \$21,773 (\$15,029); binder twine, 6,847 cwt. (5,666) at \$28,851 (\$27,726); planks and boards, 7,144 M ft. (2,593) at \$125,079 (\$43,391); paper board, \$55,814 (\$47,906); newspring paper, 152,187 cwt. (120,030) at \$182,468 (\$175,501); electric vacuum cleaners and parts 432 in number (nil) at \$16,155 (nil); electrical heating and cooking apparatus, domestic \$114,654 (\$14,787); toilet soap, 247,533 pounds (102,061), at \$15,706 (\$7,562); and films \$29,947 (\$50,062).

Canadian Exports to Hawaii

	<u>Fiscal Years Ended March 31</u>					
<u>Commodities Exported</u>	<u>1929</u>	<u>1930</u>	<u>1931</u>	<u>1932</u>	<u>1933</u>	<u>1934</u>
Total Domestic Exports	\$ 37,262	37,576	92,248	201,083	434,540	620,675
Meats.....	\$ 26,263	27,492	33,275	27,704	17,915	13,833
Newsprint.....cwt	-	-	16,121	49,653	42,759	38,866
	\$ -	-	48,469	145,114	112,946	79,898
Ammonium						
Sulphate.....cwt	-	-	-	12,450	350,974	529,502
	\$ -	-	-	18,962	289,665	480,823
Cyanamid.....cwt	-	-	-	-	1,010	400
	\$ -	-	-	-	1,537	528
Fertilizers, mfd.,						
n.o.p.cwt	-	-	-	-	2,000	20,000
	\$ -	-	-	-	2,052	25,791
All other articles	\$ 11,009	10,084	10,504	9,303	10,425	19,802

Nickel Production in April was Highest
Monthly on Record Since November 1929

Canada's nickel production in April was the highest monthly output on record since November 1929. Output totalled 12,924,418 pounds; in March 10,436,852 were produced and in April 1933 the total was 2,135,850. During the first four months of 1934 the Canadian output amounted to 39,898,099 pounds as compared with 9,186,081 pounds, a year ago.

The International Nickel Company brought a fourth furnace into operation at their Coniston smelter, thus bringing this plant to capacity. Corresponding with this increase, ore production at the Frood mine has been stepped-up to between 140,000 and 150,000 tons a month.

New High Record for
Production of Copper

Copper production in Canada during April advanced 2.9 per cent above the high monthly record set up in March. The production reached a total of 31,739,138 pounds as compared with 30,832,982 in March and 19,776,008 in April 1933. Output during the first four months of 1934 totalled 113,602,165 pounds; in the corresponding period of 1933 the production was 81,600,744. The Canadian output of blister copper in April amounted to 28,475,000 pounds or 4.7 per cent above the preceding month's total of 27,191,633.

On the London market electrolytic copper averaged 8.28166 cents per pound in Canadian funds; valued at this price the Canadian output in April was worth \$2,628,527. The March average price was 8.09569 and the computed value of the Canadian production was \$2,496,143.

World Production of Copper

The estimated world production of copper in April was 95,000 tons; in the preceding month 104,500 were produced. World stocks of refined copper declined 25,500 during April to 567,500 tons. Stocks in North and South America amounted to 476,000 on April 30, a decrease of 20,000 tons during the month.

Stocks of copper in the British Metal Exchange official warehouses at the end of April consisted of 26,646 tons of refined and 8,350 tons of rough as compared with 27,349 tons of refined and 7,866 tons of rough on hand on March 31.

New Use for Copper

An interesting reference to a new use for copper is contained in a technical press item to the effect that copper strips are being used as joints in a new type of concrete highways. Approximately 400 tons of copper were used for this purpose in the State of Illinois in 1933.

Ontario Fisheries in 1933

The marketed value of the product of the Ontario fisheries in 1933 was \$2,089,842, compared with \$2,147,990 in 1932. Trout and whitefish are the principal kinds of fish, the former with a total value in 1933 of \$493,291, and the latter with a value of \$458,607. Other kinds with a value of \$100,000 or over, in 1933, are blue pickerel, tullibee, perch, pickerel or dore, and herring. There are no fish canning or curing establishments in Ontario, the whole of the catch being marketed for consumption fresh.

The total quantity of fish of all kinds caught during the year was 292,012 cwt., with a value at the point of landing of \$1,677,031, compared with a catch of 308,627 cwt., and a caught and landed value of \$1,708,157 in 1932.

The value of boats and gear, piers and wharves and ice houses used in connection with the fisheries of Ontario in 1933 was \$2,877,909, a decrease from the preceding year of \$42,509. The men employed in catching and landing the fish numbered 3,984, compared with 3,816 in 1932.

Relative to the Egyptian Cigarette

Tobacco is not grown in Egypt, this being prohibited by law. There is, however, a considerable cigarette industry, catering to both the local and foreign demand. Raw tobacco is imported chiefly from Turkey, Greece, Japan, China, Bulgaria and Russia. The value of the exports last year was £236,856, of which Holland took 56 per cent.

Fisheries of the Prairie Provinces and the Yukon

The marketed value of the output of the fisheries of the Prairie Provinces and the Yukon territory combined in 1933 was \$1,424,171, divided by provinces as follows: Manitoba, \$1,076,136; Saskatchewan, \$186,417; Alberta, \$144,518; and the Yukon Territory, \$17,100. Alberta shows a slight increase over 1932, but decreases are recorded for the other provinces. Whitefish is the principal kind of fish taken, the marketed value of this kind (including the value of the small quantity taken in the Yukon Territory), totalling \$645,243, or 45 per cent of the total fisheries output of these waters. Other important commercial fishes are pickerel (\$441,986); saugers (\$115,635); tullibee (\$55,288); and trout (\$29,930).

The quantity of fish of all kinds caught in the provinces and territory was 271,552 cwt., valued at the point of landing at \$932,268, compared with a catch of 248,487 cwt., and a caught and landed value of \$1,093,877 in 1932. Each province shows an increase over 1932 in the quantity of fish caught, but a decrease in the amount received by the fishermen. There are no fish canning or curing establishments in these provinces, nearly all of the fish being marketed for consumption fresh. There are, however, small quantities of smoked goldeyes, tullibee and whitefish produced in Manitoba by fish merchants.

The vessels, boats, nets, piers and wharves, etc., used in the fisheries of the Prairie Provinces and Yukon Territory in 1933 were valued at \$1,135,224, compared with \$1,135,610 in 1932. The number of fishermen employed was about the same in both years - 4,268 in 1932 and 4,213 in 1933.

About Canada's Trade with Japan

Apart from Asiatic countries, imports into Japan from Canada in 1933 were only exceeded in value by Great Britain, Germany and Australia. The largest imports from Canada were lead, wheat, lumber, newsprint and pulp. Japan's largest exports to Canada were pottery, rice and paddy, tea, torp and raw silk. Canada was her fourth largest customer for potteries and her best customer for rice. United States and Canada were her largest customers for tea.

Wheat Stocks and Movement

Canadian wheat in store on June 8 amounted to 200,006,058 bushels compared with 200,336,042 the week before and 193,060,217 in the same week last year. Canadian wheat in store in the United States amounted to 6,613,977 of which 4,923,888 were at Buffalo, 125,984 at New York and 1,540,000 at Erie. This compares with 4,284,757 bushels in store on the same date last year, of which 1,912,143 were at Buffalo, 635,595 at New York and 1,667,000 at Erie. In transit wheat on the lakes amounted to 3,713,718 compared with 2,883,926 the week before and 3,949,852 for the same week last year.

Wheat marketings in the Prairie Provinces for the week ending June 1 amounted to 3,426,654 bushels compared with 1,818,476 the week before and 5,274,680 last year. By provinces the receipts for the week were as follows with last year's figures within brackets: Manitoba 402,249 (399,677) bushels; Saskatchewan 1,762,302 (1,419,806); Alberta 1,262,103 (1,876,995). For the forty-four weeks of the crop year marketings were: Manitoba 26,313,102 (35,042,211); Saskatchewan 101,138,941 (173,411,138); Alberta 77,586,857 (133,437,011); Total 205,038,900 (341,890,360).

Export clearances during the week ended June 8 amounted to 2,309,768 bushels compared with 2,721,933 the week previous and 4,655,415 in the corresponding week last year. By ports the clearances were as follows: Montreal 759,945 (1,811,565); Vancouver-New Westminster 689,823 (1,121,415); United States ports 293,000 (395,000); Sorel 284,000 (222,586); Quebec 283,000 (806,182); Prince Rupert nil (298,667).

For the forty-five weeks of the crop year clearances were: Vancouver-New Westminster 41,864,304 (86,477,692); Montreal 39,396,587 (57,445,984); United States ports 23,517,000 (24,467,000); Quebec 11,105,493 (4,560,941); Sorel 7,401,245 (15,456,798); Saint John 5,601,996 (6,864,873); Churchill 2,707,891 (2,736,030); Halifax 1,942,691 (1,655,901); Victoria nil (1,847,752); Prince Rupert nil (976,480); Total 133,537,207 (202,489,451).

Output of Crude Petroleum

The output of crude petroleum in Canada during April amounted to 118,890 barrels as compared with 130,046 in the preceding month and 84,974 in April 1933. Production during the first four months of 1934 totalled 489,907 barrels; in the corresponding period of 1933 the output was 328,057.

Alberta wells produced 106,443 barrels in April, a decrease of 10.3 per cent from the total for the preceding month. The April production included 102,091 of crude naphtha and 1,765 of light crude oil from the Turner Valley field, 2,080 of light crude oil from the Red Coulee and Keho fields and 507 of heavy crude oil from the Wainwright field. Provincial government records show that handling losses on the Turner Valley product were about 2.4 per cent. Stocks on hand in the Turner Valley field on April 30 totalled 18,589 barrels.

Weekly Index of Wholesale Prices Unchanged

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices on the base 1926=100, remained unchanged at 71.7 for the week ended June 8.

Vegetable Products reacted from last week's high point for the year, dropping from 66.9 to 66.5. Lower prices for grains and flour overbalanced advances for oatmeal, timothy hay and rubber. Animals and Their Products advanced from 65.6 to 66.5. Live-stock quotations were lower but appreciable increases were registered for fresh meats. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products mounted fractionally from 74.4 to 74.5, because of firmer prices for raw cotton. Wood, Wood Products and Paper were unchanged at 66.1, and Iron and Its Products likewise remained the same at 87.5. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products were carried down from 64.4 to 64.3 by reductions for copper and antimony. Non-Metallic Minerals at 85.5 and Chemicals and Allied Products at 82.1 were unchanged.

Influenced largely by lower prices for grains and livestock the Canadian Farm Products index fell from 59.6 to 59.1.

Regarding the Weekly Index of Wholesale Prices

For some weeks the Dominion Bureau of Statistics has been publishing a weekly series of wholesale price index numbers. The same 567 items and weighting system employed in constructing the Bureau's monthly indexes have been used in calculating weekly figures. The week to which these indexes apply ends on Friday.

It is believed that the publication of a weekly index of wholesale prices gives a more accurate picture of price movements than the monthly index, which does not always show clearly the extent and duration of "short run" fluctuations. The weekly series performs the additional service of making available a close range view of price movements since it is issued within four or five days after the close of the week to which latest calculations apply.

Four of the eight group indexes, i.e., those for Wood and Its Products, Iron and Its Products, Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products, and Chemicals and Allied Products, are composed largely of items which do not fluctuate a great deal. For these groups, weekly indexes may seem unnecessary. They have been treated exactly in the same fashion as other groups, however, in order to make the weekly index as accurate as possible. The remaining four groups composed largely of commodities whose prices are active, i.e., Vegetable Products, Animals and Their Products, Textiles and Textile Products, and Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products, have a combined weight of 61 as compared with 39 for the four less active groups.

Crop Outlook Materially Improved

During the past two weeks the agricultural situation in Canada has been materially improved by much-needed rains which were received in parts of the Maritime Provinces, Quebec, Ontario and the Prairie Provinces. As a result of timely precipitation, the outlook for production has been materially improved and the general deterioration of crops which was prevalent in the month of May has been definitely halted. The early season drought has, however, left its mark upon growing crops in many sections of Canada.

In Prince Edward Island weather has been favourable for seeding. Cereals have germinated rapidly and a vigorous growth is reported.

In Nova Scotia grain seeding is nearly completed and about one-half the potato and root crops are now planted. Helpful rains were reported during the past week. Fruit prospects are satisfactory at the present time.

The month of May was cool and dry in New Brunswick and seeding proceeded rapidly. The season is generally earlier than last year. Good rains were reported in some areas on June 6 and June 9, but further moisture would be helpful to growing crops and pastures.

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Seeding is practically completed in Quebec but growth was generally retarded by a cool, dry spring. Reports of damaging effects of drought are prevalent but the situation was partially relieved by showers received during June 9 and 10.

In Ontario the prolonged drought was broken during the past week by showers that were received in many districts. Spring crops suffered from the drought particularly in south-western portions of the province. Hay crops are generally light.

In the Prairie Provinces generous rains have been received during the past two weeks, especially over the southern areas. While considerable irreparable damage resulted from drought, soil-drifting and grasshoppers during the month of May, the crop outlook has been materially improved. Grasshoppers have been inactive during the cool, wet weather of the past ten days but still remain a serious factor in the cereal situation.

Crops are progressing favourably in British Columbia.

Compendium of Basic Information
Obtained at the Census of 1931

Volume 11 of the Census of 1931, issued this week is the first of a series of Census volumes of which the tabular matter was compiled by the aid of machines invented and constructed in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This volume alone probably contains more information about the Canadian population than was ever possible to give in the combined volumes of any previous census and at a smaller cost.

As the first in the series its fundamental idea is the regional distribution of the population under the subjects of age, conjugal condition, birthplace, racial origin, religion, year of immigration, school attendance etc. Thus it tells us the number and the age of the population in small localities as well as in provinces and the whole country, but it does not tell us the age of any particular set of people, nor does it attempt any cross-classification, except sex, this being reserved for later volumes.

It has the advantage of being a compendium in one volume of basic information which is usually scattered over several volumes, this basic information being given not in summary, but in great detail. Thus an enquirer in any county or census **division** will know how many people were in his county at the age of twenty, how many of a certain race, of a certain religion etc. etc., but if he wishes to know how many Canadians were born in Scotland he will not be able to find this in his county as this is a matter of general, not local interest. He can find it out for his province in a later volume.

The volume is almost entirely tabular matter as will be in the case of the subsequent volumes of the series; since a general summary of all the volumes with text matter analyzing the material will be found in volume 1 which obviously cannot be issued until all the census tables have been compiled.

Increase in May Exports
of Wheat to the United Kingdom

Wheat exports to the United Kingdom in May amounted to 14,568,391 bushels valued at \$10,341,835 compared 13,086,521 bushels at \$7,894,456 in May last year, an increase in both volume and value.

Exports of Flour in May to the United Kingdom

Wheat flour amounting to 255,828 barrels valued at \$832,750 were exported to the United Kingdom during May. This is in comparison with 214,729 barrels at \$683,728 in May last year.

Coarse Grains Exported to the
United Kingdom during May

Barley to the amount of 73,999 bushels was exported to the United Kingdom during May, compared with 121,998 in May last year, a considerable decrease. The export of oats to the United Kingdom also decreased, from 750,313 last year to 738,333; and rye from 25,714 bushels last year to 17,142.

Very Large Increase in the May
Imports over Those of Last Year

Imports in May were valued at \$52,887,000, which was an increase of \$19,960,000 or 60 per cent, over May 1933 and an increase of \$8,526,000, or 19 per cent over May 1932. The following are the import valuations in 1934 to date with the comparative figures for the two previous years added:

				P.C. Inc. or Dec. 1934 compared with	
	<u>1932</u>	<u>1933</u>	<u>1934</u>	<u>1932</u>	<u>1933</u>
	\$	\$	\$		
January	34,115,000	24,441,000	32,391,000	- 5.1	/32.5
February	35,586,000	23,514,000	33,592,000	- 5.6	/42.9
March	57,448,000	32,963,000	47,497,000	-17.3	/44.1
April	29,794,000	20,457,000	34,815,000	/16.9	/70.2
May	44,361,000	32,927,000	52,887,000	/19.2	/60.6
Total (5 mos)	201,304,000	134,302,000	201,182,000	- 0.1	/49.8

Canada's Total Trade in May Showed a
Considerable Advance over Two Previous Years

Canada's total trade in May amounted to \$111,430,000, which was a sharp advance over the same month in the two previous years, 40 per cent over 1933 and 30 per cent over 1932. The following table gives the comparative figures:

				P.C. Inc. or Dec. 1934 compared with	
	<u>1932</u>	<u>1933</u>	<u>1934</u>	<u>1932</u>	<u>1933</u>
	\$	\$	\$		
January	73,179,000	56,442,000	79,509,000	/ 8.7	/40.9
February	72,605,000	50,328,000	71,956,000	- 0.9	/43.0
March	98,466,000	70,124,000	105,887,000	/ 7.5	/51.0
April	57,202,000	40,769,000	66,862,000	/16.9	/64.0
May	85,645,000	79,035,000	111,430,000	/30.1	/40.9
Total (5 mos.)	387,097,000	296,698,000	435,644,000	/12.5	/46.8

Duty Collected on Imports in May was a
Substantial Advance over Two Previous Years

The duty collected on imports in May, amounting to \$9,464,000, was an increase of \$3,368,000, or 55 per cent, over May 1933, and an increase of \$1,450,000, or 16 per cent, over May 1932. The comparative figures are as follows:

				P. C. Inc. or Dec. 1934 compared with	
	<u>1932</u>	<u>1933</u>	<u>1934</u>	<u>1932</u>	<u>1933</u>
	\$	\$	\$		
January	6,523,000	4,723,000	5,771,000	-11.5	/22.2
February	7,192,000	5,150,000	5,831,000	-18.9	/13.2
March	12,480,000	7,021,000	8,561,000	-31.4	/21.9
April	6,082,000	3,923,000	6,381,000	/ 4.6	/62.1
May	8,014,000	6,096,000	9,464,000	/18.1	/55.2
Total (5 mos)	40,291,000	26,913,000	35,988,000	-10.7	/33.7

Balance of Trade

The May balance of trade was favorable to the extent of \$5,656,000 and for the five months of 1934 it was \$33,280,000 favorable. In the same period of 1933 it was \$28,095,000 favorable and in 1932 it was \$15,511,000 unfavorable.

Building Permits in May Higher

The value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during May was higher by 31 p.c. than in April 1934, and was higher by 42.4 p.c. than in May 1933. The authorizations amounted to \$2,942,096, as compared with \$2,246,317 in the preceding month, and \$2,065,372 in May 1933. In connection with these figures, it should be noted that though the improvement is not very large, there is an increase over the total for each of the first four months of this year and also over May 1933, while the aggregate for the first five months of 1934 exceeds by 16.7 p.c. that for the same period of 1933.

Carloadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings for the week ended June 9 amounted to 42,933 cars, or 1,681 cars less than for the previous week but 2,109 more than for the corresponding week last year. The index numbers have been declining for the past seven weeks and reached the low point for the year at 68.98. The big decrease has been in the western division where grain loading has been falling off instead of increasing as in past years. Total loading of coal was 856 cars below the previous week's, miscellaneous freight decreased by 554, merchandise by 349, ore by 344 and pulp and paper by 158. Compared with last year's loadings, grain was down by 4,781 and live stock by 1, but all other commodities were heavier, coal increasing by 2,560, miscellaneous freight by 1,951, pulpwood by 753, ore by 488 cars, lumber by 490 and pulp and paper by 335.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Investors' Index Numbers of Security Prices.
2. Area of Field Crops by Counties or Census Divisions, 1931.
3. Printing Trades in Canada, 1932.
4. Estimated Consumption of Meats, Poultry, Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Canada, 1930-1933.
5. Cold Storage Holdings (Preliminary).
6. Weighted Index Numbers of 23 Mining Stocks.
7. Prices and Price Indexes in May.
8. Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada.
9. Cold Storage Holdings on June 1, Final.
10. Copper and Nickel Production in Canada, April 1934.
11. Fisheries of Ontario, the Prairie Provinces and Yukon Territory, 1933.
12. Weekly Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices, 1934.
13. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production in Canada, April 1934, and Gasoline Sales in Canada, March 1934.
14. Summary of Exports of Canadian Grains and Flour in May.
15. Manufacturing Industries of the Maritime Provinces in 1932.
16. Census Volume No. 2.
17. Building Permits for May, 1934.
18. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways.
19. Weekly Grain Statistics.

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