

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

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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 capitalized bond yields

Speculation - common stock prices and shares traded.

The six indexes and the composite are shown here on the base of 1926 despite the fact that the index of carloadings is reported elsewhere on the new base of 1935-1939. Notes on the indexes follow:

The railway traffic was slightly heavier in the second week of October, the seasonally adjusted index on the base of 1926 advancing from 90.3 to 90.6. The total traffic during the first forty-one weeks of the year was 2,472,000 cars. The Canadian National Railway gross earnings since the beginning of the year were \$232.7 million, an increase of \$44.4 million, or 23.5 per cent over the same period of 1940. Newsprint production was 298,000 tons in September against 293,000 in the preceding month. As the gain was contra-seasonal, the index advanced from 114 to 122. The manufacture of sugar was 99.2 million pounds in September against 91.5 million in August.

The wholesale price index advanced to 93.7 in the week under review compared with 93.3 in the preceding week and 83.1 in the same week last year. Three main groups, - animal products, iron and steel and chemicals, were above the levels of the base year of 1926. The general index was higher than at any time since January, 1930. Rapid increase has been shown since August, 1939, the advance having been accelerated since the beginning of the year.

High-grade bond prices were steady in the week under review, present levels being considerably higher than in the same period of 1940. The last offering of Dominion of Canada Treasury Bills due January 16, 1942, was sold at a discount price of \$99.86, an average yield of .542 per cent. Industrial bonds recorded recession on October 16 as compared with the same day of the preceding week.

An adjusted index of bank clearings was 102.3 against 106.4 in the preceding week. The gain over the same week of 1940, however, was 8.7 per cent. Common stock prices reacted in the week of October 10, the index on the base of 1926 having been 76.0 against 77.9 in the preceding week. An index of twenty industrials traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange showed a reaction from 95.83 to 92.67 during the week ended October 16. The reaction in twenty industrials on the Montreal Stock Exchange in the same period was from 61.9 to 61.4. Speculative trading was at a lower level than in the preceding week, but showed considerable gain over the same week of 1940.

The weekly index reflecting the fluctuation in the six above mentioned factors was 111.0 in the week of October 11 against 111.7 in the preceding week, a decline of 0.6 per cent. The standing one year ago was 104.9, an increase of 5.9 per cent having been indicated. The index of common stock prices was the only factor recording decline from the same week of last year.

A Weekly Index with Six Components on the base 1926=100

Week Ending	Car load-ings	Whole-sale Prices	Capitalized Bond Yields 1	Bank Clear-ings 2	Prices of Common Stocks	Shares Traded	Weekly Index 3
October 11, 1941	90.6	93.7	145.3	102.3	76.0	32.7	111.0
October 4, 1941	90.3	93.3	145.3	106.4	77.9	35.8	111.7
October 12, 1940	85.9	83.1	140.8	94.1	82.7	25.6	104.9

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 trend. 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 the half-yearly data in the inter-war period has been eliminated from the composite and the resulting index expressed as a percentage of the average during the year 1926.

Canada's Domestic Exports in September

Canada's domestic exports in September were valued at \$139,970,168 as compared with \$101,439,603 in September, 1940, a gain of \$38,530,565. The total for the first nine months of this year aggregated \$1,169,960,929 compared with \$860,908,914 in the like period of 1940, an increase of \$309,052,015. Foreign exports in September amounted to \$2,921,007 compared with \$1,338,593 a year ago, with the total for the nine months of this year at \$14,640,664 compared with \$8,403,057. These figures do not include gold.

Principal items of export in September were as follows with 1940 totals in brackets: wheat, \$9,163,299(\$8,197,601); wheat flour, \$2,756,106(\$1,934,206); fish, \$5,278,679 (\$4,443,377); furs, \$1,570,955(\$793,716); meats, \$4,428,060(\$6,284,551); cheese, \$1,213,947 (\$2,476,085); planks and boards, \$9,378,690(\$7,981,098); wood pulp, \$8,423,975(\$5,626,357); newsprint, \$13,919,047(\$14,368,002); automobiles and parts, \$12,246,607(\$4,504,262).

Leading exports during the nine months ending September were as follows: wheat, \$120,547,327(\$88,606,103); wheat flour, \$36,885,569(\$20,202,898); fish, \$25,930,541 (\$23,145,172); furs, \$14,057,554(\$12,038,588); meats, \$58,396,611(\$46,289,067); cheese, \$8,640,438(\$11,675,441); planks and boards, \$54,067,503(\$48,172,957); wood pulp, \$62,237,819(\$44,497,275); newsprint, \$110,729,322(\$112,489,730); automobiles and parts, \$114,787,366(\$34,139,184).

Visible Supply of Wheat

The visible supply of Canadian wheat on October 10 totalled 478,909,333 bushels compared with 476,842,312 on October 3 and 421,598,618 on the corresponding date last year. The amount in store in elevators was 454,174,555 bushels, the balance of 24,734,778 being in storage in the United States.

Overseas Export Clearances of Wheat

During the week ending October 10 the export clearances overseas of Canadian wheat amounted to 2,679,898 bushels compared with 1,062,178 in the corresponding week last year. During the ten weeks ended October 10 the clearances aggregated 25,983,614 bushels compared with 16,565,470 in the corresponding period of the previous crop year.

Primary Movement of Wheat

Wheat receipts in the Prairie Provinces during the week ended October 10 amounted to 6,760,346 bushels compared with 6,100,344 in the previous week and 12,868,452 in the corresponding week a year ago. Totals follow by provinces with 1940 figures in brackets: Manitoba, 1,024,304(1,286,606) bushels; Saskatchewan, 4,498,455(7,400,564); Alberta, 1,237,587(4,201,262).

Marketings for the ten weeks ended October 10 aggregated 59,870,304 bushels compared with 167,409,685 in the corresponding period of the previous crop year. Figures follow by provinces, with those for 1940 in brackets: Manitoba, 10,815,909(26,713,493) bushels; Saskatchewan, 36,628,442(99,435,377); Alberta, 12,725,953(41,260,815).

Exports of Wheat and Wheat Flour

Domestic exports of wheat in September advanced to 11,341,041 bushels valued at \$9,163,299 from last year's corresponding total of 9,499,854 bushels valued at \$8,197,601. Shipments during the first nine months of this year aggregated 144,429,658 bushels valued at \$120,547,327 compared with 100,470,813 valued at \$88,606,103 in the same period of 1940.

Wheat flour exports in September rose to 661,014 barrels valued at \$2,756,106 from 550,754 barrels valued at \$1,934,206 in September, 1940. Shipments during the first nine months of this year totalled 9,481,375 barrels valued at \$36,885,569 compared with 5,192,380 valued at \$20,202,898 in the corresponding period last year.

August Employment Situation

Reaching a new all-time high point in Canadian industrial employment 12,577 establishments reported a working force of 1,605,580 persons at the beginning of August, a gain of two per cent over the number reported at the first of July. The unadjusted index number advanced from 157.4 in the preceding month to 160.6. The latter figure was 25.6 per cent above that of 1940 and 36.2 per cent above that of August 1939, the last peacetime month.

There was a particularly large advance of a contra-seasonal character in employment in the production of heavy goods, largely associated with the war effort. The index for this division at August 1, 1941 was 194.9 compared with 130.4 in 1940 and 99.2 in 1939. Thus in the last two years there has been an increase of 96.5 per cent in the number of persons employed in the durable goods group. This percentage gain substantially exceeds that of 32.4 per cent recorded in the non-durable goods class, although the latter gain also is above average.

The statistics for August 1 also show further expansion in manufacturing, a continuation of the upward movement shown in 22 of the last 24 months; this has resulted in the establishment of successive new all-time highs in the last six months. The latest index at 176.9, was 31.6 per cent higher than that of 134.4 indicated at August 1, 1940, until now, the midsummer maximum. Very general improvement was shown, that in iron and steel, food, lumber and chemical plants being most extensive.

Among the non-manufacturing industries, mining, communications, transportation, construction and maintenance and services reported increased activity. The gains in construction were greatest. Seasonal declines were recorded in trade and logging; these slightly exceeded the average losses at August 1 in the years since 1920.

The 12,577 establishments furnishing statistics reported that their employees numbering 1,605,580 at August 1 were paid \$41,330,624 for services rendered in the last week of July. This was an increase of \$1,220,828 or three per cent over the sum of \$40,109,796 earned by the 1,573,490 persons employed at July 1 by the same firms.

Consumption of Meats in 1940

Consumption of meats in Canada during 1940 is estimated at 122.8 pounds per capita, an increase of almost four pounds over consumption in 1939. The increase was due largely to the gain in purchasing power of consumers. Pork consumption at 56.4 pounds per capita was 4.4 pounds greater than in the preceding year and the highest recorded since 1929. The total sales and farm slaughter of hogs was the greatest in history and provided sufficient pork for sharply increased exports as well as the substantial increase in domestic consumption.

The consumption of beef was slightly higher than in 1939 at 50.4 pounds. A reduction in the exports of live animals and beef as well as a reduction in stocks on hand at the end of the year permitted an increase in domestic consumption despite a small decline in total slaughterings. The consumption of veal was reduced by 1.2 pounds per capita in 1940 as compared with 1939. Reduced sales of calves made less veal available.

The consumption of mutton and lamb was also somewhat below that of 1939 as a result of reduced slaughterings. The greater slaughter of hogs in 1940 combined with a reduction in the export of lard left a larger supply in Canada and consequently lard consumption was increased during 1940.

Preliminary Announcement of Population

In the third of the series of bulletins based on the results of the eighth census of Canada the Dominion Bureau of Statistics announces the preliminary counts of populations of a further list of cities, towns and incorporated villages. Among the larger centres for which compilations have been completed the population of the city of Hull is found to have increased to 32,474 in 1941 from 29,433 in 1931, Shawinigan Falls to 20,237 from 15,345, Chicoutimi to 15,974 from 11,877, Jonquiere to 13,763 from 9,448, while the population of Westmount declined slightly to 24,123 from 24,235.

Railway Revenues in July

Canadian railways earned \$45,441,936 in July as against \$38,397,543 in July 1940. Freight revenues were up by \$6,263,992 or 21.8 per cent, and passenger revenues increased by \$1,599,089 or 39.7 per cent. Operating expenses increased from \$30,401,862 to \$35,248,142 and the operating income was increased from \$6,042,015 to \$7,261,660. For the seven months ended July gross revenues totalled \$290,085,868 in 1941 and \$230,498,356 in 1940 and the operating income increased from \$32,514,995 to \$54,154,209.

Gross revenues of the Canadian lines of the Canadian National Railways increased from \$19,864,737 in July last year to \$22,005,664 or by 10.8 per cent. Operating expenses were increased by \$2,194,451 or 13.7 per cent and the operating income was increased from \$3,417,850 to \$3,374,609. During the seven months ending July gross revenues amounted to \$167,370,930 compared with \$136,076,583 and the operating income to \$30,998,676 compared with \$15,324,003.

Gross revenues of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company increased from \$15,382,989 in July 1940 to \$19,382,782 or by 26 per cent. Operating expenses were increased by \$2,245,028 or 18.7 per cent and the operating income from \$2,404,831 to \$3,195,419. During the seven months ending July gross revenues increased from \$91,024,742 in 1940 to \$119,726,043 and the operating income from \$15,040,839 to \$23,115,113.

Production of Gold in July

Canada's output of gold in July totalled 456,650 fine ounces compared with 453,987 in the previous month and 457,330 in July, 1940. During the first seven months of this year the output aggregated 3,092,896 fine ounces as compared with 3,033,310 in the corresponding period of 1940.

Ontario produced 270,464 ounces in July, consisting of 116,672 from the Porcupine camp, 90,122 from the Kirkland Lake field and 63,670 from other sources. In July last year the production was 279,973 ounces, made up of 122,153 from the Porcupine Camp, 89,331 from the Kirkland Lake area and 68,489 from other sources.

A 13.4 p.c. gain was recorded in Quebec's production in July compared with 1940, the totals being 91,440 and 80,646 ounces, respectively. British Columbia produced 52,177 ounces as against 58,475, and Manitoba and Saskatchewan 22,908 ounces compared with 21,630

Production in the Northwest Territories during July totalled 6,869 ounces or 51.5 p.c. above the output a year ago. Yukon produced 11,104 ounces of alluvial gold compared with 9,932, while shipments from Nova Scotia mines to the Royal Canadian Mint contained 1,662 ounces of gold compared with 2,111.

Production of Leather Footwear in August

The Canadian production of Leather footwear was the highest yet recorded for any single month, totalling 2,965,637 pairs compared with 2,883,741 in July and 2,382,680 in August, 1940. Output during the first eight months of this year aggregated 20,806,300 pairs compared with 16,969,649 in the corresponding period of 1940.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Weekly Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices (10 cents).
2. The Grain Situation in Argentina (10 cents).
3. Third Preliminary Announcement of Population, 1941 Census (10 cents).
4. Monthly Review of Business Statistics, September (10 cents).
5. Estimates of the Output and Slaughter of Meat Animals and Consumption of Meats in Canada, 1940 (10 cents).
6. Gold Production, July (10 cents).
7. Sales of Fertilizers, year ended June 30, 1941 (25 cents).
8. Production of Leather Footwear, August (10 cents).
9. The Employment Situation, August (10 cents).
10. Carloadings (10 cents).
11. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, July (10 cents).
12. Stocks of Canadian Fruit and Vegetables, October 1 (10 cents).
13. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, October 1 (10 cents).
14. Cold Storage Holdings of Meat and Lard, October 1 (10 cents).
15. First Estimate of Production of Root, Fodder and Late-Sown Crops, Canada (10 cents).
16. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
17. Stocks of Evaporated Milk (10 cents).
18. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, October 1 (10 cents).



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