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MONTHLY REVIEW OF DAIRY PRODUCTION IN CANADA, AUGUST, 1939.

(Issued Friday, September 8, 1939)

CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION in August decreased approximately 4 per cent as compared with the August make of 1938 and decreased 11 per cent, as compared with the output for the preceding month. During the month of August 33.8 million pounds of butter were produced and during the eight months ending August, the output reached a total of 185.9 million pounds. The decrease in the August make occurred in all provinces.

CHEESE PRODUCTION increased approximately 2 per cent in August as compared with August 1938, and decreased 9 per cent as compared with the output for the preceding month. The August make was approximately 20.2 million pounds and the total during the period January to August amounted to 82.7 million pounds. The increase in the August make occurred in all provinces except Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

The production of CONCENTRATED MILK PRODUCTS for the month of July registered an increase of approximately 7 per cent as compared with the same month last year and a decrease of 13 per cent as compared with the preceding month. During July 15.3 million pounds of Concentrated Whole Milk Products were manufactured in Canada and 3.9 million pounds of Concentrated Milk By Products. During the seven months January to July 73.7 million pounds of the former and 21.2 million pounds of the latter were produced in condenseries and creameries in the Dominion, making a total of 19.2 million pounds for July and 94.9 million pounds for the seven months ending July.

CREAMERY BUTTER PRICES at Montreal, as quoted daily by the Canadian Commodity Exchange for the first grade product, averaged 21 1/2 cents a pound, compared with 23 1/2 cents in August, 1938. Ontario coloured cheese at Montreal based on daily quotations averaged 11 1/8 cents in August compared with 14 3/8 cents in August, 1938.

The combined output of creamery butter and factory cheese during the month of August represented the equivalent of 1 billion pounds of milk, registering a decrease of approximately 27.8 million pounds as compared with the combined make in terms of milk for the same month a year ago. Creamery butter represented 77.8 per cent and cheese represented 22.2 per cent of the total.

Exports of Butter in August amounted to 1,014,700 pounds as compared with 1,644,800 pounds last month and 159,400 pounds in August, 1938.

Exports of Cheese in August reached a total of 12,763,300 pounds as against 12,750,200 pounds last month and 10,569,500 pounds in August a year ago.

The domestic disappearance of butter in the month of July amounted to 22.6 million pounds, representing an increase of 4.8 per cent as compared with the same month last year and an increase of 1.7 per cent in comparison with the preceding month. This estimate is based on storage and transit stocks amounting to 46.6 million pounds at August 1, 1939, and exports and imports amounting to 1,644,800 pounds and 97 pounds respectively.

I - PRODUCTION OF CREAMERY BUTTER IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES, AUGUST, 1938 AND 1939.

Province	JULY			AUGUST		
	1938	1939x	More (+) Less (-)	1938	1939/	More (+) Less (-)
	Lb.	Lb.	%	Lb.	Lb.	%
CANADA .....	38,782,003	38,189,238	(-) 1.5	35,180,766	33,828,360	(-) 3.8
Prince Edward Island	404,713	391,420	(-) 3.3	362,251	275,128	(-) 24.1
Nova Scotia .....	881,777	842,333	(-) 4.5	732,953	644,648	(-) 12.1
New Brunswick .....	847,538	850,095	(+) 0.3	722,752	660,115	(-) 8.7
Quebec .....	12,167,468	12,542,467	(+) 3.1	11,419,473	11,232,489	(-) 1.6
Ontario .....	10,511,448	10,036,796	(-) 4.5	9,778,541	9,489,776	(-) 3.0
Manitoba .....	4,039,118	3,829,443	(-) 5.2	3,486,828	3,268,549	(-) 6.3
Saskatchewan .....	4,520,895	4,406,435	(-) 2.5	3,823,965	3,694,410	(-) 3.4
Alberta .....	4,875,959	4,711,798	(-) 3.4	4,366,178	4,134,203	(-) 5.3
British Columbia ...	533,087	578,451	(+) 8.5	487,825	429,042	(-) 12.1

x Revised. / Preliminary.

II - PRODUCTION OF FACTORY CHEESE IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES, AUGUST, 1938 AND 1939.

Province	JULY			AUGUST		
	1938	1939x	More (+) Less (-)	1938	1939/	More (+) Less (-)
	Lb.	Lb.	%	Lb.	Lb.	%
CANADA .....	21,200,573	22,215,571	(+) 4.8	19,818,162	20,160,672	(+) 1.7
Prince Edward Island	99,666	128,635	(+) 29.1	93,041	108,549	(+) 16.7
New Brunswick .....	113,173	136,956	(+) 21.0	95,722	128,539	(+) 34.3
Quebec .....	5,331,924	6,238,601	(+) 17.0	5,031,208	5,130,060	(+) 2.0
Ontario .....	14,739,047	14,824,858	(+) 0.6	13,748,397	14,043,008	(+) 2.1
Manitoba .....	450,925	443,304	(-) 1.7	427,470	379,955	(-) 11.1
Saskatchewan .....	92,089	78,933	(-) 14.3	83,308	64,610	(-) 22.4
Alberta .....	332,888	260,412	(-) 21.8	299,558	215,232	(-) 28.2
British Columbia ...	40,861	103,872	(+) 154.2	39,458	90,719	(+) 129.9

x Revised. / Preliminary.



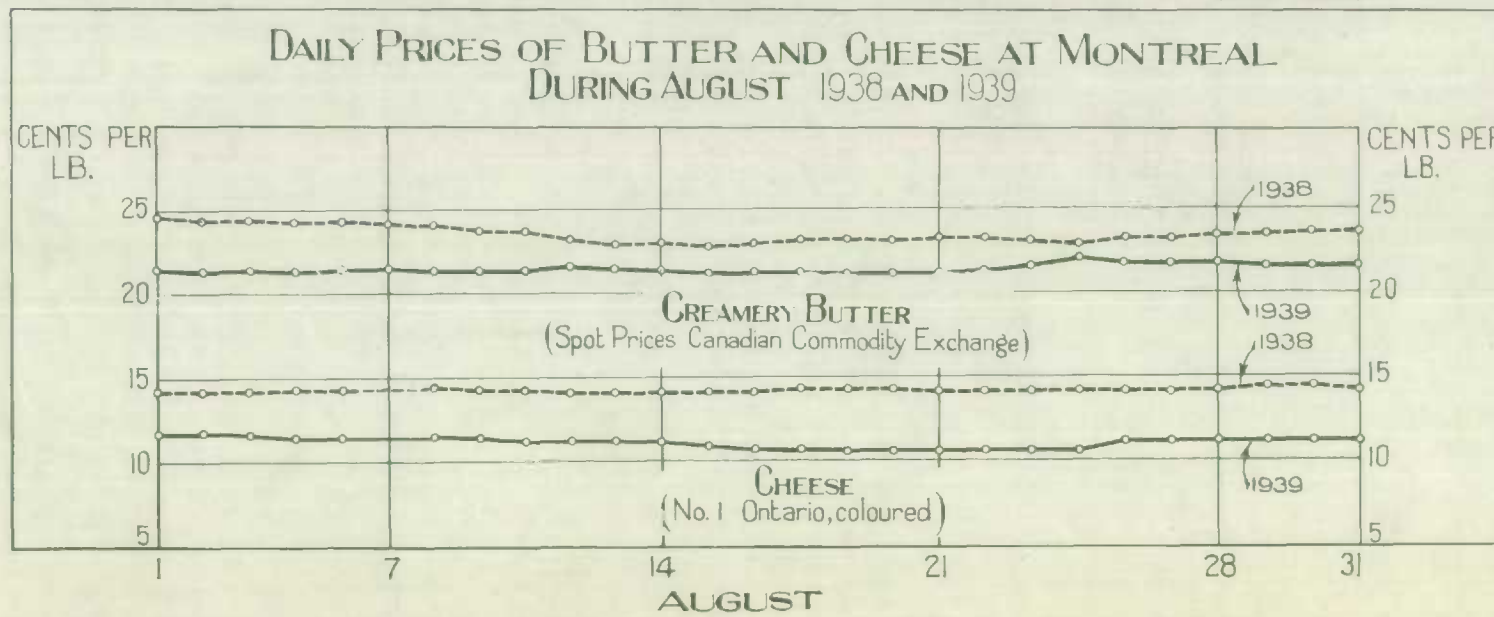
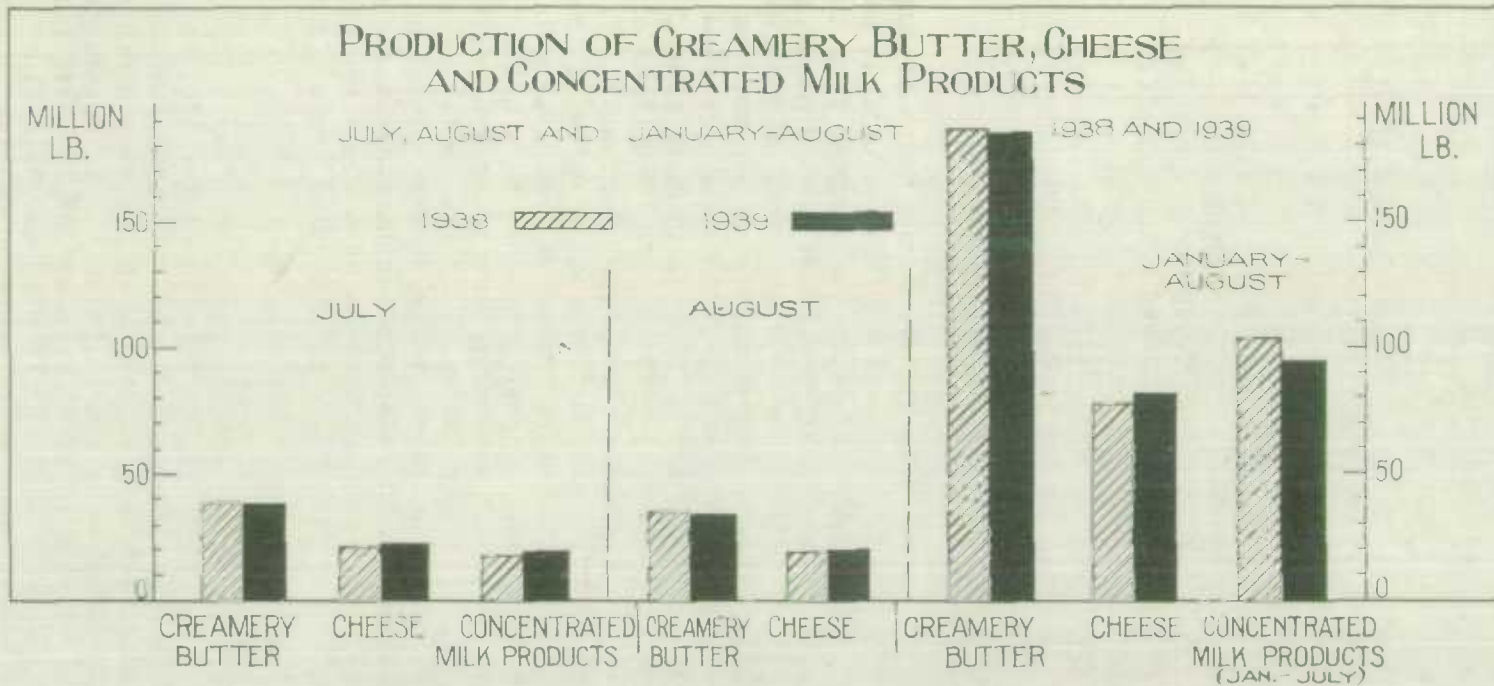
III - CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION OF CREAMERY BUTTER AND FACTORY CHEESE IN CANADA,  
BY PROVINCES, JANUARY TO AUGUST, 1938 AND 1939.

Province	JANUARY TO AUGUST					
	BUTTER			CHEESE		
	1938	1939	More (+) Less (-)	1938	1939	More (+) Less (-)
	Lb.	Lb.	%	Lb.	Lb.	%
CANADA .....	187,263,961	185,924,378	(-) 0.7	78,389,844	82,650,330	(+) 5.4
Prince Edward Island	1,677,872	1,380,657	(-) 17.7	260,108	309,949	(+) 19.2
Nova Scotia .....	4,653,732	4,087,244	(-) 12.2			
New Brunswick .....	3,264,471	3,007,159	(-) 7.9	380,683	474,347	(+) 24.6
Quebec .....	52,584,278	51,893,802	(-) 1.3	17,447,374	18,416,247	(+) 5.6
Ontario .....	61,735,106	61,455,369	(-) 0.5	55,713,687	58,219,731	(+) 4.5
Manitoba .....	19,176,529	19,123,678	(-) 0.3	2,336,581	2,498,335	(+) 6.9
Saskatchewan .....	17,589,588	18,496,160	(+) 5.2	290,266	261,877	(-) 9.8
Alberta .....	22,678,019	22,052,927	(-) 2.8	1,574,746	1,709,229	(+) 8.5
British Columbia ...	3,904,366	4,427,382	(+) 13.4	386,399	760,615	(+) 96.8

REVIEW OF PRODUCTION SITUATION

A continuation of warm weather and scanty rainfall throughout the month of August produced a marked deterioration in pasture conditions throughout Canada. A fair hay crop, showing reduced yields but better quality than last year, is reported from the Maritime Provinces. Heavy rainfall early in the month arrested a serious drought situation in that section of the Dominion, but subsequent hot weather dried up the grass in many areas and has materially reduced the value of the aftermath on hay meadows. Grain crops have threshed out fairly well but pastures are poor and root crops are badly in need of rain. There is reported to be a lack of clover in pasture grass, a factor that may have had some effect on dairy production. These same conditions also apply to Ontario and Quebec though rainfall in some areas was somewhat greater. The hay crop was gathered in good condition except the late cuttings which suffered from heavy rains before it was placed in barns. In the Western provinces the devastating heat wave of July and August caused widespread damage. Feed crops are much below the average and pastures have suffered severely from hot weather. Conditions are variable. The best crops are along the Assiniboine and Red River Valleys, and the central and Riding Mountain slopes of Manitoba, north eastern and west central Saskatchewan and northern Alberta. British Columbia has also suffered from warm weather, but the conditions are much improved as compared with last year. For Canada as a whole pastures at the end of August were rated the same as last month, but 7 points below the estimate made at the same date in 1938.

There appears to be very little reduction in cow numbers from last year. The percentage of milking cows to total cows fell from 85.2 per cent in July, 1938, to 83.9 per cent in July, 1939, but it is significant that milk production per cow stood at 20 pounds per day in July, 1939, as compared with 18.8 pounds in the same month a year ago. A number of shipments of cows has been made from Nova Scotia to Ontario and United States points, and farmers are said to have received good prices for both pure bred and grades. Hot weather combined with short pastures reduced the milk flow during August and owing to low prices the factories received a somewhat smaller proportion of the farm supply. The depreciation of the pound sterling has tended to retard the export movement of dairy products. Butter and cheese prices have been dominated, however, by threatened hostilities in Europe, and with the actual declaration of war speculative tendencies have caused a general increase in prices on Canadian markets. This improvement is not likely to be reflected, however, in the September milk products.



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