SLIGHT INCREASE IN INDUSTRIAL FATALITIES IN CANADA LAST YEAR

Labour Department Records show Fatal Accidents that took place in Industries during 1918

TOTAL 1,222 DEATHS

According to the record of fatal industrial accidents occurring during 1918, compiled by the Department of Labour, 1,222 fatal accidents occurred during last year, as compared with 1,195 in 1917 and 950 in 1916. In 1918, as in 1917, the highest percentage of accidents were recorded in connection with the operation of steam railways, in the mining and lumbering industries, and in the metal and machinery trades. Of the 1,222 fatalities, as stated in the *Labour Gazette* for May, mining, smelting, and quarrying operations were responsible for 263 deaths, or 21·5 per cent of the total; the steam railway service accounted for 255 deaths, or 20·9 per cent; lumbering operations accounted for 155 deaths, or 12·7 per cent; while in the metals, machinery, and conveyances group there were 122 fatalities, this being 10 per cent of the total. These percentages vary but slightly from those recorded for the same groups in 1917, the percentage for 1918 being slightly higher in mining, and in steam railways slightly lower, than in the previous year.

The most accidents from any particular cause in any industry were 153 fatal accidents which happened through the victim being run over by or caught between steam railway cars. In mines, smelters, and quarries 104 fatalities were caused by explosions, 88 of these having taken place in the disaster at the Stellerton coal mines.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS DURING 1918 AS RECORDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.	Percentage of Total.
Agriculture	1	3	4	2	2	6	3	7	1	2	3	2	36	2·9
Fishing and Hunting	.	.	.	.	1	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	·4
Lumbering	16	11	8	17	23	10	20	13	5	14	1	17	155	12·7
Mines, Smelters and Quarries	99	18	15	14	14	11	12	14	28	9	12	17	263	21·5
Railway Canal and Harbour Construction	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	3	.	7	·6
Building and Construction	3	4	3	4	1	4	6	14	7	12	8	10	76	6·2
Metals, Machinery and Conveyances	9	2	10	7	11	18	14	11	11	8	7	14	122	10·0
Woodworking Trades	1	1	1	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	5	·4
Pulp and Paper Mills	2	2	5	2	5	3	1	1	.	2	.	2	25	2·0
Clothing	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	2	·2
Textile	.	1	.	.	2	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	·3
Food, Tobacco and Liquor	.	2	2	4	3	2	1	11	3	8	2	3	41	3·4
Chemicals and Explosives	4	4	3	5	5	4	5	3	5	3	6	5	52	4·3
Leather	1	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	·2
Steam Railway Service	37	21	17	19	12	19	15	16	19	24	25	31	255	20·9
Electric Railway Service	.	.	.	2	1	.	.	2	.	1	.	2	8	·6
Miscellaneous Transport	4	6	2	1	..	3	4	3	5	5	3	3	39	3·2
Navigation	.	.	1	1	.	3	.	1	.	.	1	.	7	·6
Public Utilities	.	2	2	4	3	2	1	2	6	3	2	2	29	2·4
Municipal Employment	1	1	.	.	5	2	3	.	1	.	.	.	13	1·1
Miscellaneous	5	9	6	3	1	3	5	12	5	7	13	6	75	6·1
	183	87	81	85	90	96	92	111	98	99	86	114	1222	100·0

"SUMMER CARE OF VEGETABLES" BULLETIN

Experimental Farms Note gives Advice to Farmer on Subject

The Experimental Farms Branch, Department of Agriculture, has issued the following bulletin on the "Summer Care of Vegetables": Root crops, such as beet, carrot, and parsnip, should be carefully weeded and thinned while the plants are still small. Parsnips should be thinned to about four inches apart; swede turnips six to eight inches. Carrots may be thinned to one inch apart and, when large enough to use, alternate roots pulled, leaving the remainder about two inches apart. Garden beets may be similarly handled, but the final distance in this case should be about four inches. As beet tops make a very delicious early green vegetable, thinning should be done so that these tops may grow to a useable size. The soil should be kept cultivated and never allowed to bake or harden. This is particularly true with peas and beans if a tender, succulent crop is desired. Beans, however, should not be cultivated when moist with either rain or dew, as the plants, if injured under these conditions, are particularly subject to bean rust (the spores of this disease developing in the injured tissues).

Corn that has been sown in hills should be thinned to three or four plants to a hill, if the hills are two to two and a half feet apart. Cabbage and cauliflower plants require eighteen to twenty inches of space to each plant in the row, and the rows should be two and a half feet apart. The soil should be kept well hoed to conserve the moisture and encourage rapid growth. Where space is limited, tomatoes may be grown in rows three feet apart and the plants eighteen inches apart in the rows and tied up to stakes. Corn, tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, pumpkins and melons all grow best on a light, warm soil. Five or six cumumber plants may be grown in a hill, the hills spaced about three feet apart; squash and pumpkin three or four plants in a hill and the hills six to eight feet apart. Where the soil is rich and warm and space limited, hills of cucumber, squash and pumpkin may be planted between alternate rows of corn.

Potatoes should be thoroughly cultivated to conserve all possible moisture; "ridging up" also supplies the tubers with loose soil in which to develop. However, in areas where there is a light summer rainfall, level cultivation will conserve the limited soil moisture more satisfactorily. Spraying should not be delayed until there are signs of injury from the well-known potato beetle, or from one or more of the many potato diseases. Paris green and arsenate of lead have been found very satisfactory poisons for the beetle, and can be applied at the rate of one ounce of Paris green to four gallons of water, adding an ounce of lime to neutralize any free arsenic present. Arsenate of lead adheres better to the foliage than Paris green, and may be applied at the rate of one ounce to a gallon of water if the paste form is used, or one ounce to two gallons if the powdered form is employed. Bordeaux mixture may be made up in small quantities in the following manner, employing wooden pails for mixing the spray: In each gallon of water dissolve two ounces of copper sulphate (bluestone), slake one pound and a half of quicklime (unslacked lima) in one gallon water, stir thoroughly, and then add one pint of the lime water for each gallon containing the two ounces of dissolved bluestone.

KINDS OF WOOD USED BY ONTARIO INDUSTRIES

A total of thirty-four different kinds of wood are reported as being used by the wood-using industries of Ontario, as stated in a bulletin issued by the Forestry Branch, Department of the Interior. Of the woods used, the greater part is grown in the province, particularly pine, spruce, maple, hemlock, and oak, which are used in greater quantity than any others. Elm, basswood, birch, beech, the group which comes next in quantity used, are also mostly purchased in Ontario. Ash, balsam fir, hickory, cypress, and gum, which stand next in quantity used, are mostly imported, with the exception of the first two named, while the next group, chestnut, poplar, ironwood, tulip, and Douglas fir, are nearly all home-grown except the last two. The other groups are walnut, Spanish cedar, butternut, apple and willow and sycamore, red cedar, ebony and sumac.

RESULTS IN STEER FEEDING EXPERIMENTS

Will Prove Profitable Side Line for Grain Farmers of Northwest

Steer-feeding experiments conducted on the Scott Experimental Station with a view to determining the possibilities of this side line on the grain farms of northwestern Canada indicate this to be a profitable line of work: (1) to increase the farm revenue; (2) to furnish winter employment for hired help; (3) to supply fertilizer for the land; and (4) to turn into profit products such as straw and screenings that are now wasted on many farms.

Since the equipment must be inexpensive, the buildings used in the experiments for housing the steers were a straw shed and a tight board corral roofed at one end, explained an Experimental Farms Note issued by the Department of Agriculture.

The grain feeds used were crushed oats and barley and wheat screenings. The roughage consisted of oat and wheat straw and prairie hay. A few oat sheaves were also fed when available.

The steers were purchased each year from a local dealer and put in the feed lot about December 1, and sold in the following May or June.

The ration at the commencement of the experiment consisted of about 2 pounds of grain per head per day, and this was increased until the animals were receiving 12 pounds each per day. Straw was fed during the early part of the winter, and later this was replaced by prairie hay.

The following experiments were conducted: First, a comparison of steers fed inside a straw shed with those fed in the open corral; second, a comparison of hornless steers with those dehorned just before putting in the feed lot; and, in addition, records were kept to show the profit of the venture. The conclusions reached indicate the advisability of giving steers on the open plains some protection, since the steers fed in the straw shed in the winter of 1916-17 made an average gain of 204 pounds each during the feeding period, while those feeding in the corral only made a gain of 159 pounds. The following winter the same difference in favour of the steers fed in the straw shed was noted.

The only apparent advantages the straw shed had were that the steers fed under cover and that the shed was less drafty than the roofed end of the corral. In the comparison of hornless steers with dehorned steers the former showed a gain of 119 pounds each in comparison with 64 pounds in the same period made by the dehorned steers.

In both year substantial profits were realized from steer feeding The average profit per steer over the cost of feed amounted to $22.68.

Notes made on the experiments show the importance of selecting for feeding good, beefy type, thick, mossy-coated steers.

That steers should be dehorned while they are calves.

That some shelter should be provided on the open plains to protect the steers from the winds.

That good straw makes good roughage during the early part of the feeding season.

That well-finished steers usually bring the most profit.

NOVA SCOTIA'S 1918 PRODUCTION OF APPLES

The final estimate of the production of apples in Nova Scotia last season is 825,000 barrels. This figure includes 300,000 barrels consumed within the province, of which 100,000 barrels were marketed. Of the remainder, 86,000 barrels were used by canning, cider and vinegar factories, 265,000 barrels exported to Great Britain, and 170,000 barrels shipped to points in Canada and Newfoundland, outside Nova Scotia, as stated in the June issue of the Fruit and Vegetable Report issued by the Fruit Commissioner's Branch, Department of Agriculture.

Fatal Accidents for First Quarter of Present Year.

The May issue of the *Labour Gazette* makes the following statement of fatal industrial accidents during the first quarter of 1919:—

"During the first quarter of 1919 the Department received reports of 212 fatal accidents (86 of which occurred in January, 72 in February, and 54 in March), as compared with 299 during the previous quarter. During the corresponding quarter of 1918 there were 350 fatal accidents reported (182 of which occurred in January, 87 in February, and 81 in March). The Department is unable to secure reports and information in regard to all fatal industrial accidents that may occur, but reports are received from all sources available."