

Canadian Official Record

Published Weekly by the Director of Public Information, to Record the Activities of Various Departments of the Government, Commissions and Committees organized for War Purposes and Reconstruction under Authority of Order in Council.

Vol. 1.

Ottawa, Tuesday, January 28, 1919.

No. 18.

ROUGH WEATHER BUT CATCHES OF FISHERMEN GOOD

Total Value of Sea Fish Caught on Atlantic and Pacific in December Was Over \$1,000,000.

LARGER THAN IN 1917

On the Atlantic coast, to the eastward of Halifax, weather conditions during the month were favourable, and fishing results were better than for December last year; but to the westward of Halifax, however, occasional rough weather interfered with operations, and results were not so good, states a report from the Department of Naval Service.

The total catch of cod, haddock, hake and pollock all over was greater, however, and amounted to 84,900 cwts., against 82,000 cwts., December of 1917.

The smelt fishery along the Gulf shores yielded 2,000 cwts. more than in December last year, notwithstanding that the rivers and bays were insufficiently frozen over to permit of easy and successful fishing operations.

Lobster fishing has been in progress since the 15th of November in the counties of Charlotte and St. John, New Brunswick, and the total quantity landed up to the end of December was 2,689 cwts., against 2,335 cwts. during the same period last year. The whole catch was consumed fresh.

From the scallop beds in Chester Bay, N.S., were taken 3,435 barrels of scallops, against 500 barrels last year. The greatly increased catch of this year was, no doubt, due to more favourable weather conditions.

On the Pacific coast, stormy weather prevailed during most of the month. This seems to have affected the offshore halibut fishery only, which returned 2,000 cwts. less. Fishing in the sheltered waters resulted in increased catches. The total quantity of herring landed was 123,000 cwts. against 68,000; of salmon, 15,300 cwts. against 6,900 cwts. of black cod, 6,500 cwts. against 6,300 cwts.; and of flatfish 900 cwts. against 430 cwts. in December last year.

The value of the total catch of sea fish on both coasts for the month, amounted to \$1,173,648, at the point of landing. For the same month last year, the value was \$1,023,553.

SWEEPING WITHDRAWAL OF WAR BOARD AND FOOD BOARD RESTRICTIONS MADE

Some Foodstuffs Still Require Export Permits but in Most Cases Licenses can be Obtained from Commissioner of Customs.

MANY REGULATIONS AFFECTING RESTAURANTS CANCELLED

To enable Canadian foreign trade to return to normal channels as readily as possible, a sweeping withdrawal of restrictions has been made through the War Trade Board and the Canada Food Board. Henceforth the Commissioner of Customs will issue a general license to shippers and importers covering all commodities except the foodstuffs detailed below and gold and silver, in place of the specific permit for each shipment which was in force until now. The foodstuffs which still require export permits from the Food Board are: Wheat flour, Farina, fresh milk and cream, butter, cheese, condensed, evaporated and powdered milk, bran, shorts, middlings, pollard, gluten-meal, brewers' and distillers' grains, cottonseed cake, meal and oil, calfmeal, patent and proprietary cattle foods, eggs, sugars, syrups and molasses, sugar beets, clover seed, mill screenings, and screenings of grain, and canned salmon.

Export and Import permits for wheat and oats must still be obtained from the Board of Grain Supervisors, Winnipeg. Foodstuffs which still require import permits from the Food Board are: Macaroni, vermicelli, spaghetti, wheat flour, candy and confectionery, cocoa and chocolate, prepared or manufactured, and sugars.

General License System Adopted.

For foodstuffs if destined for any of the American countries, any part of the British Empire, the European Allies, the far East or Africa, the general license system is adopted. Exports of food to Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Russia, Rumania, Switzerland and Spain will still require special permits, and, of course, no trade at all with enemy countries or enemy traders is yet allowed.

With the withdrawal of these restrictions, the War Trade Board practically ceases active work, and its members pay a high tribute to the loyal spirit of co-operation given by all classes of trade and industry in carrying out Canadian trade restrictions during war.

RELIEF TO MILLERS.

If the mills of Canada are compelled by temporary interruption to their export shipments to reduce the output of flour, the output of bran and shorts will also, of course, be affected. A proportion of bran and shorts is being released for export to any country on the basis of 65 pounds to the barrel of flour exported to the West Indies, Central and South America, and Newfoundland. Bran and shorts from flour sold in Canada will, of course, continue to be available at the fixed prices already established. The effect of the new regulation will simply be to afford relief to the flour millers without detriment to Canadian farmers, as the bran and shorts allowed to be exported would not be manufactured unless an export market was found for the flour.

By the sale of their by-products in the higher-priced markets of the

INTERCESSION DAY FOR CONFERENCE SET FOR FEB. 16.

By an Order in Council passed on January 23, a Day of Intercession for the Peace Conference has been set apart.

The Committee of the Privy Council, on the recommendation of the Secretary of State, advise that Sunday, the 16th day of February, 1919, be set apart for a Day of Intercession for the Peace Conference, that its deliberations may result in the establishment of a world-wide peace on a just and permanent foundation.

RODOLPHE BOUDREAU,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

ESTIMATE VALUE OF FIELD CROPS IN DOMINION

Total Yield of Wheat is Returned as 189,301,350 Bushels with Average of 11 Bushels per Acre.

BETTER PRICES GENERAL

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued to-day the definitive estimate of the yield and value of the principal field crops of Canada for the season of 1918, as compared with 1917. For the year 1918 the agricultural statistics of Canada for all the provinces have been collected in co-operation with the Provincial Governments, and the reports of both the Dominion and Provincial Governments on the yield of crops in 1918 will therefore record identical results. The figures now issued are subject to slight revision upon completion of final adjustments with the Provincial Governments.

YIELD OF FIELD CROPS.

The total yield of wheat for Canada in 1918 is returned as 189,301,350 bushels from 17,353,902 sown acres, an average yield per acre of 11 bush-

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FURTHER RELAXATION ON WIRELESS MESSAGES

Further relaxation of censorship restrictions have been made, and the radiotelegraph stations at Camperdown (Halifax, N.S.) and Sable Island are now permitted to handle plain language messages to and from the public in addition to plain language messages on ships' business already authorized.

CONTRACT FOR HOSPITAL BUILDING AT TORONTO

The following contract is awarded by Order in Council at Toronto: Construction of a Recreation Building and an Officers' Hospital in connection with the Military Orthopedic Hospital. To accept tender of Dickie Construction Co., Ltd., of Toronto, at \$28,931 and \$58,112.75, respectively. Order in Council dated January 6, 1919.

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