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OTTAWA

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PRELIMINARY REPORT

ON

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

1931

For the first time the registrations of motor vehicles in Canada showed a decrease, the total for all classes being 1,206,836 as against 1,239,888 for 1930. This was a decrease of 33,052 vehicles, or 2.7 per cent. The passenger automobile registrations decreased from 1,047,494 cars in 1930 to 1,024,385, or by 23,109 cars, or 2.2 per cent. The most significant feature of this decrease is that the decrease in new registrations was very heavy and the renewal of registrations showed increases in every province that segregated the registrations between new and renewals. This means that old cars, which normally would be scrapped, were retained in service, the increase in renewals in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia being 30,489 as against a decrease in new passenger cars in these provinces of 29,027. The relative decrease in new cars was probably still greater in the Prairie Provinces where the total decreases in passenger cars were: Manitoba, 3,610 cars, or 5.3 per cent; Saskatchewan, 16,315 cars, or 15.1 per cent; and Alberta, 5,842 cars, or 6.9 per cent. This was a total decrease in passenger car registrations in these three provinces of 25,767, or 9.9 per cent.

Canada, however, with a total registration of 1,206,836 motor vehicles and an average population of 8.6 persons per motor vehicle had a greater total registration of motor vehicles than any other country except the United States with 26,523,779, the United Kingdom with 1,524,339 and France with 1,459,650 in 1930, and also a smaller average population per registered motor vehicle than any other country except the United States with 4.6 persons per vehicle and New Zealand and Hawaii with 7 persons per vehicle each.

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Table 1

REGISTRATIONS, 1931

Province	Estimated	Passenger Cars			Total Motor Vehicles		
	Population	Total	Number of		Total	No. of Persons	
	1931	Number	Persons per Car		Number	Per Motor Vehicle	
			1931	x 1930		1931	x 1930
P.E. Island	88,038	6,917	12.7	13.3	7,744	11.4	11.9
Nova Scotia	512,846	36,431	14.1	14.2	43,735	11.7	11.9
New Brunswick	408,219	29,233	14.0	13.4	33,730	12.1	11.7
Quebec	2,874,255	146,266	19.7	19.1	179,572	16.0	15.8
Ontario	3,431,683	489,713	7.0	6.9	563,824	6.1	6.0
Manitoba	700,139	64,940	10.8	10.1	75,564	9.3	8.7
Saskatchewan	921,785	91,846	10.0	8.3	108,563	8.5	7.0
Alberta	731,605	79,225	9.2	8.3	95,686	7.6	6.9
British Columbia .	694,263	79,699	8.7	8.4	98,220	7.1	6.8
Yukon Territory...	4,230	125	33.8	29.9	198	21.4	19.1
N.W. Territory ...	7,133	.....	....	....	.....	....	....
CANADA	10,374,196	1,024,385	10.1	9.7	1,206,836	8.6	8.2

x - Corrected for revised population estimate.

Total taxes collected through registration fees, mileage tax on buses, etc. amounted to \$19,684,908, which was \$481,375 less than was collected in 1930. Ontario showed an increase of \$229,108, Quebec an increase of \$192,395 and Nova Scotia an increase of \$137,132, but Alberta showed a decrease of \$555,266, Saskatchewan a decrease of \$340,570, British Columbia a decrease of \$75,044 and Manitoba a decrease of \$59,335.

The gasoline tax was 5 cents a gallon throughout the year in all provinces except Prince Edward Island where it was increased to 6 cents for June, July and August, and Quebec where it was increased to 6 cents on December 17, 1931. In Alberta the refund on gasoline used for other purposes than for motor vehicles on the public highways was only 4 cents per gallon; thus there was a tax of one cent per gallon on all gasoline used for such purposes. The total gasoline tax collected amounted to \$22,546,119 as against \$22,655,225 for 1930.

The total revenue from these two sources was \$42,231,027, which was \$590,481 less than for 1930, the increases in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia being more than offset by decreases in the other provinces.

Table 2

MOTOR VEHICLE REVENUES

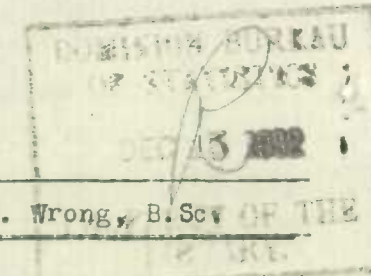
1931

Province	Revenues from Registrations, etc.				Gasolene Tax				Total			
	1931	1930	Increase		1931	1930	Increase		1931	1930	Increase	
			Amount	Per Cent			Amount	Per Cent			Amount	Per Cent
	\$	\$	\$		\$	\$	\$		\$	\$	\$	
P. E. Island	135,698	145,994	- 10,296	- 7.05	112,867	128,366	- 15,499	-12.07	248,565	274,360	- 25,795	- 9.40
Nova Scotia	1,189,612	1,052,480	137,132	13.03	878,082	851,725	26,357	3.09	2,067,694	1,904,205	163,489	8.59
New Brunswick	877,554	876,987	567	0.65	596,481	659,797	36,684	5.56	1,574,035	1,536,784	37,251	2.42
Quebec	5,490,612	5,298,217	192,395	3.63	4,405,160	4,075,368	329,792	8.09	9,895,772	9,373,585	522,187	5.57
Ontario	5,795,308	5,566,200	229,108	4.12	10,810,914	10,756,836	54,078	0.50	16,606,222	16,323,036	283,186	1.73
Manitoba	1,020,559	1,079,894	- 59,335	- 5.49	1,094,700	1,099,778	- 5,078	- 0.46	2,115,259	2,179,672	- 64,413	- 2.96
Saskatchewan	1,613,979	1,954,549	-340,570	-17.42	1,310,147	1,538,556	- 228,409	-14.85	2,924,126	3,493,105	- 568,979	-16.29
Alberta	1,459,661	2,014,927	-555,266	-27.56	1,472,068	1,939,048	- 466,980	-24.08	2,931,729	3,953,975	-1022,246	-25.85
British Columbia ..	2,099,553	2,174,597	- 75,044	- 3.45	1,765,700	1,605,751	159,949	9.96	3,865,253	3,780,348	84,905	2.25
Yukon Territory ...	2,372	2,438	- 66	- 2.71	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,372	2,438	- 66	- 2.71
CANADA	19,684,908	20,166,283	-481,375	- 2.38	22,546,119	22,655,225	- 109,106	- 0.48	42,231,027	42,821,508	- 590,481	- 1.38

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PRELIMINARY REPORT ON MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

1932

Preliminary statistics of motor vehicle registrations up to October 1, 1932, show a decrease compared with the same period in 1931 of 7.8 per cent. Data for Manitoba and Alberta were not available for the nine months in 1931 and the twelve months' figures were used, which, to a small degree, increases the differences for those provinces. Quebec could not segregate the registrations of passenger and commercial cars and New Brunswick did not have the data available for either 1931 or 1932. Although incomplete, the data indicate the trend and even a 10 per cent decrease for New Brunswick would change the total decrease less than one-tenth of one per cent. The gross sales of gasoline for the eight months, January to August, show a decrease of almost 10 per cent, indicating a smaller average consumption per car than in 1931. The increase in the gasoline tax rates from 5 cents to 6 and 7 cents will, however, produce higher revenues to the provinces.

Complete data for 1932 will not be available until several weeks after the end of the year, but the registrations in the last four months of the year are right and the total will not be increased materially.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS FOR JANUARY - SEPTEMBER, 1931 and 1932

Province	1931						1932			Decrease from 1931						Gross Sales of Gasolene for January-August	
	Motor Vehicles						Motor Vehicles			Motor Vehicles						1931	1932
	Passenger		Commercial		Total		Passenger	Commercial	Total	Passenger		Commercial		Total			
	No.	% of Year ^x	No.	% of Year ^x	No.	% of Year ^x				No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
																Thousand Gallons	
P.E. Island	6,887	99.6	774	96.5	7,661	99.2	6,139	740	6,879	748	10.9	34	4.4	782	10.2	1,924	1,636
Nova Scotia	35,811	98.3	6,729	99.5	42,540	98.5	33,291	6,446	39,737	2,520	7.0	283	4.2	2,803	6.6	13,371	12,179
New Brunswick	NOT AVAILABLE																
Quebec					175,189	98.7			162,917					12,272	7.0	63,212	59,576
Ontario	484,527	99.0	62,309	91.0	546,836	98.0	457,613	59,563	517,176	26,914	5.6	2,746	4.4	29,660	5.4	159,629	155,860
Manitoba	664,940	100.0	9,730	100.0	74,670	100.0	55,700	9,100	64,800	9,240	14.2	630	6.5	9,870	13.2	19,742	17,080
Saskatchewan	89,883	97.9	14,843	93.8	104,726	97.3	73,786	14,479	88,265	16,097	17.9	364	2.5	16,461	15.7	33,489	19,347
Alberta	678,782	100.0	15,034	100.0	93,816	100.0	69,789	13,144	82,933	8,993	11.4	1,890	12.6	10,883	11.6	29,552	25,069
British Columbia	78,836	99.2	16,399	96.2	95,235	98.7	72,966	15,663	88,629	5,870	7.4	736	4.5	6,606	6.9	30,629	26,781
TOTALS	839,666	99.0	125,818	94.1	1,140,673	98.6	769,284	119,135	1,051,336	70,382	8.4	6,683	5.3	89,337	7.8	360,908	326,269

a - Includes motor cycles. b - For 12 months of 1931 and 9 months of 1932. c - New Brunswick and Quebec excluded.
d - New Brunswick excluded. x - Per cent of total registration for year.

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