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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
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COMMERCIAL FAILURES

in

CANADA

in

THE CALENDAR YEAR 1937



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General Statistics Branch

OTTAWA

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COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN THE CALENDAR YEAR 1937.

The cumulative total number of commercial failures in Canada for 1937, as reported to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics under the provisions of the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts, was lower at 1,126 as compared with 1,198, 1,314 and 1,532 for 1936, 1935 and 1934 respectively. The defaulted liabilities for 1937 were \$14,303,362 as compared with \$15,144,945, \$17,567,002 and \$23,598,260 for 1936, 1935 and 1934 respectively. Thus defaulted liabilities showed a decrease of nearly \$1,000,000 as compared with 1936. The Maritime Provinces, Ontario and the Prairie Provinces showed a decrease in number and the numbers for Quebec and British Columbia showed slight increases.

COMMERCIAL FAILURES BY AREAS FOR 1937

COMPARED WITH 1936 and 1935.

Maritime Provinces.- In the year under review, there were 46 assignments in the Maritime Provinces, as compared with 50 in 1936 and 69 in 1935, a reduction being noted in both comparisons. The liabilities in the year 1937 were decidedly lower at \$337,000 as compared with \$352,000 in 1936 and \$512,000 in 1935.

Quebec.- Commercial failures in the Province of Quebec during 1937, numbered 623, as compared with 589 in 1936 and 632 in 1934. A decrease is noted in both comparisons. The liabilities aggregated \$7,008,000, and may be compared with \$6,952,000 in 1936 and \$8,253,000 for 1935.

Ontario.- In Ontario, the failures numbered 335 as compared with 384 in 1936 and 390 in 1935. The liabilities were about \$5,126,000. When compared with \$6,244,000 in 1936 and \$6,053,000 in 1935, a sharp decrease is noted in both comparisons.

Prairie Provinces. - In the three Prairie Provinces, the failures in 1937 totalled 82 and may be compared with 138 in 1936 and 195 in 1935. A striking decrease is noted in both comparisons. The liabilities of the assignors in 1937 were approximately \$1,018,000 and may be compared with \$1,126,000 in 1936 and \$1,694,000 in 1935.

British Columbia.- In British Columbia, commercial failures in 1937 numbered 40, as against 37 in 1936 and 28 in 1935. The liabilities in 1937 aggregated \$815,000, and may be compared with \$471,000 in 1936 and \$1,055,000 in 1935.

FAILURES BY BRANCHES OF BUSINESS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR, 1937,

COMPARED WITH PRECEDING YEARS

Commercial failures of trading establishments in 1937 numbered 584 as compared with 536 in 1936, and 594 in 1935. In manufactures, there were 182 failures in 1937 as compared with 191 failures in 1936 and 180 in 1935. Failures of agriculturists numbered 104 and may be compared with 123 in 1936 and 173 in 1935. A striking decrease is noted in these comparisons. More detailed information regarding the classes of business in which failures occurred in 1937 is given in Table 3. A summary of commercial failures in each year from 1924 to 1937 inclusive, is given by branches of business in Table 2.

TABLE 1. COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES AND MONTHS, 1933 - 1937,
WITH ANNUAL TOTALS FOR 1922 - 1937.

	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Total
Total 1922 -	15	121	131	1,589	1,058	284	272	299	156	3,925
Total 1923 -	16	155	67	1,181	970	258	280	323	158	3,408
Total 1924 -	3	69	67	907	835	100	131	150	57	2,319
Total 1925 -	4	71	67	758	721	85	77	139	74	1,996
Total 1926 -	4	63	74	654	655	84	68	113	58	1,773
Total 1927 -	4	66	74	658	681	97	54	135	72	1,841
Total 1928 -	4	90	56	767	750	103	63	126	70	2,037
Total 1929 -	1	71	61	927	762	91	84	101	69	2,167
Total 1930 -	3	61	45	1,011	776	113	146	152	95	2,402
Total 1931 -	7	51	74	795	793	109	152	131	104	2,216
Total 1932 -	9	62	80	968	889	86	91	131	104	2,420
Total 1933 -	10	55	42	935	730	67	59	88	58	2,044
Total 1934 -	8	42	38	779	474	56	80	42	57	1,532
1 9 3 5										
January	-	2	1	59	24	9	5	6	1	107
February	1	3	4	65	30	9	5	12	1	130
March	1	4	2	60	44	2	6	5	-	124
April	-	3	4	40	35	6	2	10	7	107
May	1	1	2	52	30	-	8	4	3	101
June	-	2	4	50	32	4	7	8	2	109
July	-	1	4	54	38	2	5	4	2	110
August	-	3	5	41	30	4	6	3	2	94
September	-	1	3	50	33	2	4	2	3	98
October	-	4	6	48	37	4	5	9	2	115
November	1	2	1	57	28	2	6	8	2	107
December	-	2	1	50	29	2	7	12	3	112
Total 1935	4	28	37	632	390	46	66	63	28	1,314
1 9 3 6										
January	-	4	2	42	38	2	6	7	3	104
February	-	-	1	77	32	4	4	10	3	131
March	1	3	1	50	35	-	7	2	4	103
April	2	1	-	55	22	1	8	9	2	100
May	-	2	1	45	31	5	5	1	1	91
June	1	4	3	37	35	3	4	8	5	100
July	1	6	2	45	35	3	2	3	7	104
August	-	2	2	45	28	2	6	1	1	87
September	-	1	-	38	35	6	5	2	1	88
October	-	6	1	43	24	7	7	2	4	94
November	1	-	-	56	30	-	2	2	3	94
December	-	-	2	56	39	-	1	1	3	102
Total 1936	6	29	15	589	384	33	57	48	37	1,198
1 9 3 7										
January	-	1	2	47	27	-	2	2	1	82
February	-	-	1	60	26	1	1	2	1	92
March	-	-	1	45	32	2	1	3	1	85
April	-	-	-	50	25	2	1	1	4	83
May	-	-	1	43	38	4	3	3	3	95
June	-	4	-	58	27	1	3	2	6	101
July	-	2	3	56	22	2	2	1	3	91
August	-	2	3	53	27	2	4	2	3	96
September	-	4	4	56	24	1	5	3	5	102
October	-	4	2	58	27	2	6	2	4	105
November	-	3	4	44	30	3	4	2	4	94
December	-	3	2	53	30	3	2	2	5	100
Total 1937	-	23	23	623	335	23	34	25	40	1,126

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51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130
131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140
141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150
151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160
161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170
171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180
181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190
191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200
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211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220
221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230
231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240
241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250
251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260
261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270
271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280
281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290
291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300
301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310
311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320
321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330
331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340
341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350
351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360
361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370
371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380
381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390
391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400
401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410
411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420
421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430
431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440
441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450
451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460
461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470
471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480
481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490
491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500
501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510
511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520
521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530
531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540
541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550
551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560
561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570
571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580
581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590
591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600
601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610
611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620
621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630
631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640
641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650
651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660
661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670
671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680
681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690
691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700
701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710
711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720
721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730
731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740
741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750
751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760
761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770
771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780
781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790
791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800
801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810
811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820
821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830
831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840
841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850
851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860
861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870
871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880
881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890
891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900
901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910
911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920
921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930
931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940
941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950
951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960
961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970
971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980
981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990
991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000

TABLE 2. COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA BY BRANCHES OF BUSINESS AND MONTHS
1933-1937, WITH ANNUAL TOTALS FOR 1924 - 1937.

	Trade	Manu- fact- ures	Agri- cult- ure	Logg- ing Fish- ing Trap.	Min- ing	Con- struc- tion	Trans- port- ation	Fin- ance	Ser- vice	Not Class- ified	Total
Total 1924	1,317	329	204	14	22	44	36	8	129	216	2,319
Total 1925	1,026	403	158	14	15	50	21	5	220	84	1,996
Total 1926	805	390	135	27	20	52	34	1	225	84	1,773
Total 1927	818	430	116	30	26	63	36	-	243	79	1,841
Total 1928	884	505	108	31	23	70	45	5	263	103	2,037
Total 1929	1,101	443	125	4	11	61	21	5	239	157	2,167
Total 1930	1,204	488	115	12	9	55	48	29	283	159	2,402
Total 1931	1,102	464	125	5	7	61	42	21	255	134	2,216
Total 1932	1,171	468	190	9	6	83	43	7	290	153	2,420
Total 1933	1,089	357	92	1	5	57	26	12	246	159	2,044
Total 1934	799	217	82	3	2	59	20	16	217	117	1,532
<u>1 9 3 5</u>											
January	48	13	15	-	-	7	1	1	17	5	107
February	67	17	15	-	2	6	-	2	13	8	130
March	65	14	11	-	1	5	-	1	14	13	124
April	45	23	10	1	2	3	-	1	14	8	107
May	43	15	14	-	-	4	1	1	15	8	101
June	47	16	14	-	2	5	2	3	18	2	109
July	47	19	7	-	-	6	1	2	22	6	110
August	43	10	17	-	1	5	1	1	13	3	94
September	48	11	9	-	1	5	2	2	13	7	98
October	46	13	23	1	-	4	2	-	20	6	115
November	47	14	16	1	1	7	1	-	14	6	107
December	48	15	22	-	-	5	-	2	13	7	112
Total 1935	594	180	173	3	10	62	11	16	186	79	1,314
<u>1 9 3 6</u>											
January	45	19	10	-	2	5	-	-	15	8	104
February	62	24	12	-	-	5	3	-	18	7	131
March	45	20	11	-	2	6	2	2	15	-	103
April	45	11	13	-	-	4	1	3	15	8	100
May	41	13	7	-	1	5	-	1	17	6	91
June	46	11	12	-	3	5	-	-	17	6	100
July	43	18	6	1	2	4	2	2	17	9	104
August	43	16	10	-	-	2	-	1	11	4	87
September	41	12	8	-	1	6	2	-	14	4	88
October	39	12	20	-	-	3	-	-	15	5	94
November	44	12	8	1	-	4	-	1	16	8	94
December	42	23	6	-	1	4	-	1	19	6	102
Total 1936	536	191	123	2	12	53	10	11	189	71	1,198
<u>1 9 3 7</u>											
January	45	12	5	-	1	2	1	-	12	4	82
February	47	16	3	-	-	3	1	1	14	7	92
March	45	15	4	-	-	4	-	1	14	2	85
April	38	21	4	-	-	2	-	1	14	3	83
May	47	12	16	-	3	5	-	3	7	2	95
June	49	18	10	1	2	5	-	2	10	4	101
July	47	14	12	-	3	3	1	1	8	2	91
August	59	11	8	2	2	4	1	-	7	2	96
September	49	15	12	1	2	6	2	1	11	3	102
October	56	16	10	1	4	2	1	3	9	3	105
November	57	12	13	-	2	3	-	2	4	1	94
December	45	20	7	-	2	7	-	-	13	6	100
Total 1937	584	182	104	5	21	46	7	15	123	39	1,126

TABLE 3. COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES AND BRANCHES OF BUSINESS
IN 1937, WITH TOTALS FOR 1936.

	P.E.I. and N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Total Twelve months	
									1937	1936
TRADE										
General Store	1	3	48	13	2	5	3	2	77	82
Grocery	4	3	56	48	2	1	3	3	120	88
Confectionery	-	-	13	7	-	-	-	-	20	22
Drink and Tobacco	-	-	6	4	-	-	-	-	10	13
Fish and Meat	1	1	27	11	1	-	-	-	41	41
Boots and Shoes	1	1	10	9	2	-	-	-	23	24
Dry Goods	3	1	50	24	-	3	1	2	84	39
Clothing	-	2	26	8	-	2	1	2	41	64
Furniture	1	-	5	2	-	-	-	2	10	6
Books and Stationery	-	-	6	7	1	-	-	-	14	6
Automobile	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	8	9
Hardware	-	1	10	15	-	-	1	1	28	25
Electric Apparatus	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	-	8	4
Jewelry	-	-	11	5	-	-	-	1	17	17
Coal and Wood	-	1	6	6	1	-	-	-	13	16
Drugs and Chemicals	-	-	5	6	-	-	1	-	12	9
Miscellaneous	2	-	40	10	-	-	3	3	58	71
Total	13	13	328	181	9	11	13	16	584	536
MANUFACTURE										
Vegetable Foods	-	-	9	10	-	1	2	-	22	41
Drink and Tobacco	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
Animal Foods	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	4	3
Fur and Leather	1	-	5	4	-	-	-	-	10	19
Pulp and Paper	-	-	7	4	-	-	-	2	13	5
Textiles	-	-	8	4	-	-	-	-	12	11
Clothing	-	-	23	11	-	-	-	-	34	36
Lumber & Manufactures	1	2	12	1	1	-	1	5	23	25
Iron and Steel	-	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	7	12
Non-Ferrous Metals	-	-	4	7	-	-	-	1	12	1
Non-Metallic Minerals	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	1	8	9
Drugs and Chemicals	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	8	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	22	5	-	-	-	-	27	25
Total	2	3	110	53	1	1	3	9	182	191
SERVICE										
Garages	1	1	10	6	1	1	1	-	21	16
Other Customs & Repairs	-	1	14	14	-	-	-	1	30	48
Personal Service	1	2	18	4	-	-	1	1	27	59
Restaurants	-	-	16	6	1	-	-	2	25	22
Professional Service	-	-	7	2	-	-	-	1	10	19
Recreational Service	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	3	10
Business Service	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	7	15
Total	2	4	73	33	2	1	2	5	123	189
OTHER										
Agriculture	3	3	40	26	8	20	3	1	104	123
Mining	-	-	6	11	1	-	-	3	21	12
Logging, Fishing and Trapping	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	5	2
Construction	1	-	30	11	2	1	-	1	46	53
Transportation and Public Utilities	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	7	10
Finance	1	-	10	4	-	-	-	-	15	11
Total	5	3	93	57	11	21	3	5	198	211
Not Classified	1	-	19	11	-	-	4	4	39	71
GRAND TOTAL	23	23	623	335	23	34	25	40	1,126	1,198

TABLE 4. COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA, SHOWING ESTIMATED GRAND TOTAL ASSETS AND
GRAND TOTAL LIABILITIES, CALENDAR YEARS 1925-1937, WITH
TOTALS BY PROVINCES, 1934 - 1937.

(Prepared from the preliminary statement of affairs received from trustees.)

	No. of Bankruptcies	Estimated Grand Total Assets \$	Estimated Grand Total Liabilities \$
Total 1925	1,996	26,968,371	32,153,697
Total 1926	1,773	24,676,661	32,291,125
Total 1927	1,841	23,197,894	30,634,469
Total 1928	2,037	26,583,462	32,455,437
Total 1929	2,167	32,064,027	38,747,638
Total 1930	2,402	44,048,171	48,164,065
Total 1931	2,216	46,839,179	52,552,900
Total 1932	2,420	40,604,208	51,629,303
Total 1933	2,044	27,033,240	32,953,858
Total 1934	1,532	19,257,469	23,598,260
<u>1935</u>			
Prince Edward Island	4	39,439	38,310
Nova Scotia	28	121,341	177,121
New Brunswick	37	190,353	297,019
Quebec	632	5,739,433	8,252,783
Ontario	390	4,335,616	6,052,836
Manitoba	46	377,548	538,560
Saskatchewan	66	379,441	522,486
Alberta	83	412,943	633,382
British Columbia	28	578,287	1,054,505
Total 1935	1,314	12,174,401	17,567,002
<u>1936</u>			
Prince Edward Island	6	22,688	79,091
Nova Scotia	29	127,988	173,060
New Brunswick	15	45,234	99,723
Quebec	589	5,100,950	6,952,244
Ontario	384	4,442,351	6,244,198
Manitoba	33	128,275	229,276
Saskatchewan	57	290,626	448,659
Alberta	48	261,660	447,725
British Columbia	37	283,848	470,969
Total 1936	1,198	10,703,620	15,144,945
<u>1937</u>			
Prince Edward Island	-	-	-
Nova Scotia	23	92,754	220,702
New Brunswick	23	70,710	116,260
Quebec	623	4,986,892	7,007,563
Ontario	335	4,401,411	5,126,046
Manitoba	23	190,111	341,806
Saskatchewan	34	329,817	407,991
Alberta	25	131,761	267,898
British Columbia	40	500,623	815,096
Total 1937	1,126	10,704,079	14,303,362



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