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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH

## COMMERCIAL FAILURES

in
CANADA
in
THE CALENDAR YEAR 1941 and in

## DECEMBER 1941

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## COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN THE CALENDAR YEAR 1941.

The total number of commercial failures in Canada for 1941 , as reported to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, under the provisions of the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts, were lower at 1,008 as compared with 1,173 and 1,392 for 1940 and 1939, respectively. The defaulted liabilities for 1941 were $\$ 9,133,657$, as compared with $\$ 10,663,326$ and $\$ 15,089,461$ for 1940 and 1939. respectively. Thus defaulted liabilities showed a considerable decrease when compared with 1940 , and a striking decrease when compared with 1939.

COMMERCIAL FAILURES BY AREAS FOR 1941

COMPARED WITH 1940 and 1939.

Maritime Provinces: - In the year under review, there were 28 assigmments in the Maritime Provinces, as compared with 41 assignments in 1940 and 86 assignments in 1939. Thus a drop of 31 per sent is ehown when compared with 1940 and 67 per cent when compared with 1939. The liabilities in 1941 were decidedly lower at $\$ 263,000$ as compared with $\$ 361_{\text {, }} 000$ in 1.940 and $\$ 942,000$ in 1939,

Quebec. .. Commercial failues in the Province of Quebec, during 1941 numbered 587 as compared with 622 in 1940 and 669 in 1939. A decided decrease is noted in both comparisons. The liabilities aggregated $\$ 5,0,99,851$ and may be compared with $\$ 4,971,000$ in 1940 and $\$ 6,673,000$ in 1939。

Ontario. - In Ontario, the failures numbered 279 as compared with 362 in 1940 and 403 in 1939 , a sharp drop being noted in both comparisons. The liabilities in 1941 were about $\$ 2,874,000$; when compared with $\$ 3,371,000$ in 1940 and $\$ 4,906,000$ in 1939 , substantial decreases are indicated in both comparisons.

Prairie Provinces. - In the three Prairie Provinces, the failures in 1941 totalled 93 and may be compared with 113 in 1940 and 178 in 1939. A very noticeable decrease is shown in both comparisons. The liabilities in 1941 aggregated $\$ 625,000$, and may be compared with $\$ 923,000$ in 1940 , and $\$ 1,620,000$ in 1939.

British Columbia. - In British Columbia commercial failures in 1941 numbered 21 as against 35 in 1940 and 56 in 1939 , unusual declines being shown in both comparisons. The liabilities of the assignors were approximately $\$ 273,000$, and may be compared with $\$ 1,038,000$ in 1940 and $\$ 957,000$ in 1939 .

## FAILURES BY BRANCHES OF BUSINESS FOR THE CALENDAR

YEAR. 1941: COMPANED WITH PRFCEDING YEARS

Commeroial failures of trading establishments in 1941 numbered 482 as compared with 591 in 1940 and 664 in 1939. Very decided decreases are noted in both comparisons. In manufactures, there were 132 failures in 1941 as compared with 167 failures in 1940 and 210 in 1939; a decrease of about 21 per cont is noted when compared with last year. More detailed information regarding the classes of business in which failures occurred in 1941 is given in Table $I$.

WITH TOTALS FOR 1940.

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { P.E.I. } \\ & \text { and } \\ & \text { N. S. } \end{aligned}$ |  | Que. | Ont. | Man. | Sask. | Alta. | B. C. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Total } \\ & 1941 \end{aligned}$ | $1940$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TRADE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| General Stores | 2 | 2 | 35 | 17 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 67 | 77 |
| Grocery | 7 | - | 40 | 21 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 78 | 94 |
| Confectionery | 1 | - | 7 | 5 | - | - | - | - | 13 | 22 |
| Drink and Tobacco | - | - | 12 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 13 | 27 |
| Fish and Meat | - | 1 | 28 | 13 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 45 | 54 |
| Boots and Shoes | - | - | 6 | 6 | - | - | - | - | 12 | 27 |
| Dry Goods | - | - | 28 | 10 | 1 | - | 1 | - | 40 | 43 |
| Clothing | - | 1 | 39 | 25 | 1 | 4 | 2 | - | 72 | 81 |
| Furniture | - | - | 5 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 7 | 10 |
| Books and Stationery | - | - | 9 | 3 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 14 | 13 |
| Automobile | - | - | 9 | 5 | - | - | - | - | 14 | 12 |
| Hardware | - | - | 6 | 7 | - | 2 | - | - | 15 | 17 |
| Electric Apparatus | - | - | 5 | 5 | - | - | - | - | 10 | 12 |
| Jewelry | - | - | 5 | 3 | - | - | - | - | 8 | 5 |
| Coal and Wood | - | - | 11 | 3 | - | - | - | 1 | 15 | 17 |
| Drugs and Chemicals | - | - | 6 | 6 | - | 1 | 2 | - | 15 | 24 |
| Miscellaneous | 3 | - | 20 | 11 | 4 | 1. | 2 | 3 | 44 | 56 |
| Total Trade | 13 | 4 | 271 | 142 | 12 | 17 | 13 | 10 | 482 | 591 |


| MANUFACTURE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Vegetable Foods | - | - | 16 | 5 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 23 | 42 |
| Drink and Tobacco | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7 |
| Animal Foods | - | - | 5 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 10 |  |
| Fur and Leather | - | - | 12 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 14 | 16 |
| Pulp and Paper | - | - | 3 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 5 | 3 |
| Textiles | - | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | 30 | 11 |
| Clothing | - | - | 24 | 6 | - | - | - | - | 19 | 12 |
| Lumber and Manufacture | 1 | - | 9 | 8 | - | - | 1 | - | 7 | 10 |
| Iron and Steel | 1 | - | 5 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 6 |
| Non-Ferrous Metals | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 8 | 10 |
| Non-Metallic Minerals | - | - | 4 | 4 | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | 4 |
| Drugs and Chemicals | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 12 | 16 |
| Miscellaneous | - | - | 8 | 3 | - | 1 | - | - | 12 |  |
| Total Manufactures | 2 | - | 91 | 34 | 1 | 3 | 1 | - | 132 | 167 |


| SERVICE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Garages | - | - | 18 | 9 | - | 3 | - | 1 | 31 | 35 |
| Other Customs and |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Repairs | - | - | 18 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 1 | - | 29 | 31 |
| Personal Service | - | - | 36 | 12 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 65 | 50 |
| Restaurants | - | - | 22 | 8 | 1. | 1 | 3 | - | 35 | 49 |
| Professional Service | - | - | 10 | 6 | - | - | - | - | 16 | 21 |
| Recreational | - | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 2 |
| Business Service | - | - | 7 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 9 | 13 |
| Total Service | - | - | 114 | 42 | 7 | 17 | 5 | 3 | 188 | 201 |
| OTHER |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agriculture | 2 | - | 16 | 11 | - | 5 | - | - | 34 | 67 |
| Mining | - | - | 3 | 6 | 1 | - | 1 | 3 | 14 | 15 |
| Logging, Fishing and Trapping | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| Construction | 1 | - | 40 | 18 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 64 | 53 |
| Transportation and |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Public Utilities <br> Finance | - | 1 | 4 | 2 | - | - | 1 | 1 | 13 8 | 13 |
| Finance Total Other | - | - | 4 | 4 | - | - | - | - | 8 | 11 |
| Total Other | 3 | 1 | 72 | 41 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 135 | 163 |
| Not Classified | 3 | 2 | 39 | 20 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 71 | 51 |
| GRaND TOTAL | 21 | 7 | 587 | 279 | 23 | 45 | 25 | 21 | 1,008 | 1,173 |

Table 2. COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA, SHONING ESTIMATED GRAND TOTAL ASSETS AND GRAND TOTAL LIABILITIES, CALENDAR YEARS 1931-1941, WITH
TOTALS BY PROVINCES, 1940 and 1941, AND BY MONTHS, 1941.
(Prepared from the preliminary statement of affairs received from trustees.)


TOTALS BY MONTHS, 1941.

|  | No. | \$ | \$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January ............................ | 102 | 687, 1.27 | 806,394 |
| February .............................. | 100 | 657,842 | 853,066 |
| March . ... | 92 | 953,550 | 843,930 |
| April | 94 | 801.430 | 1,161,334 |
| May . | 83 | :0,085 | 838,653 |
| June . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 84 | 953,883 | 739,784 |
| July | 72 | 578,448 | 716,437 |
| August | 78 | 560,257 | 675,002 |
| September | 67 | 368,651 | 541,173 |
| October .. | 71 | 352,439 | 548,892 |
| November | 86 | 425,585 | 585,562 |
| December | 79 | 416.441 | 823,430 |
| Total 1941 | 1,008 | 7,325,738 | 9,133,657 |

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Table 3. COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES AND BRANCHES OF BUSINESS
December, 1941.

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { P.E.I. } \\ & \text { and } \\ & \text { N.S. } \end{aligned}$ | N. B. | Que. | Ont. | Man. | Sask. | Alta. | B. C. | $\begin{gathered} \text { Total } \\ \text { Deces } \\ 1941 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { for } \\ & \text { mber } \\ & 1940 \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TRiDE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| General Stores | - | 1 | 3 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | 6 | 5 |
| Grocery | - | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 4 | 5 |
| Confectionery | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Drink and Tobacco | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Fish and Meat | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 4 |
| Boots and Shoes | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 5 |
| Dry Goods | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | 4 | 4 |
| Clothing | - | - | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 7 | 5 |
| Furniture | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Books and Stationery | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 3 | 1 |
| Automobile | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 |
| Hardware | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Electric Apparatus | - | - | - |  | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Jewelry | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | - |
| Coal and Wood | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Drugs and Chemicals | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 4 | 5 |
| Total | - | 1 | 20 | 12 | 3 | 1 | 2 | - | 39 | 41 |
| MANUFACTURE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vegetable Foods | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 5 |
| Drink and Tobacco | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Animal Foods | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Fur and Leather | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 3 |
| Pulp and Paper | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Textiles | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Clothing | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | , | - | 2 | 4 |
| Lumber and Manufacture | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| Iron and Steel | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Non-Ferrous Metals | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Non-Metallic Minerals | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 |
| Drugs and Chemicals | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Miscellaneous | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 3 |
| Total | - | - | 6 | 3 | - | - | 1 | - | 10 | 20 |
| SERVICE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Garage | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 6 |
| Other Customs \& Repairs | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | $\sim$ | - | 2 | 2 |
| Personal Service | - | - | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 7 | 4 |
| Restaurants | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 4 |
| Professional Service | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Recreational Service | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Business Service | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 3 |
| Total | - | - | 11 | 3 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 16 | 21 |
| OTHER |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agriculture | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 4 | 3 |
| Mining | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Logging, Fishing and Trapping | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Construction | - | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Transportation and |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Public Utilities | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Finance | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Total | - | - | 6 | 1 | - | 1 | - | 2 | 10 | 11 |
| Not Classified | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 4 | 4 |
| GRAND TOTAL | - | 1 | 45 | 21 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 79 | 97 |

2. COMNERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES, SHOWING ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR DECEMBER, 1941 WITH TKE TOTALS FOR NOVEMBER, 1941 AND DECEMBER, 1940.

| (Prepared from the p | İminary stat | affairs recei | trustees) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number of Bankruptcies | Estimated Grand Total Assets | Estimated Grand Total Liabilities |
|  | December | \$ | \$ |
| Prince Edward Island . | - | - | - |
| Nova Scotia ....... | - | - | - |
| New Brunswick | 1 | 43,603 | 61,845 |
| Quebec. | 45 | 326,527 | 501,235 |
| Ontario. | 21 | 103,249 | 189,117 |
| Manitoba | 4 | 18,412 | 27,194 |
| Saskatchewan | 3 | 5,037 | 9,725 |
| Alberta ....................... | 3 | 7,218 | 12,213 |
| British Columbia ............ | 2 | 12,395 | 22,101 |
| Total for December, 1941 | 79 |  | $823,430$ |
| Total for November, 1941 | 86 | 425,585 | 585,562 |
| Total for December, 1940 | 97 | 692,321 | 700,701 |

Table 3. COMMERCIAL FAILURES BY FROVINCES AND MONTHS, 1941.

|  | P.E.I. | N. S. | $\mathrm{N} . \mathrm{B}$. | Que. | Ont. | Man。 | 'Sask. | Alta. | B. C. | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Jaruary | - | 2 | 2 | 57 | 34 | 3 | 3 | - | 1 | 102 |
| February ........ | - | 2 | - | 56 | 35 | 3 | 2 | 2 | - | 100 |
| March | - | 3 | 1 | 55 | 23 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 92 |
| April | - | 3 | - | 57 | 21 | - | 4 | 2 | 7 | 94 |
| May . . . . ........ | - | 1 | - | 44 | 24 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 83 |
| June | 1 | 2 | 1 | 43 | 24 | - | 5 | 5 | 3 | 84 |
| July | - | 2 | - | 47 | 18 | - | 3 | - | 2 | 72 |
| August .......... | 1 | 2 | - | 47 | 20 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 78 |
| September ....... | 1 | - | - | 40 | 20 | 1 | 4 | 1 | - | 67 |
| October | 1 | = | 2 | 43 | 21 | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 71 |
| November | - | - | - | 53 | 18 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 86 |
| December ........ | - | - | 1 | 45 | 21 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 79 |
| Total, 1941 | 4 | 17 | 7 | 587 | 279 | 23 | 45 | 25 | 21 | 1,008 |

Table 4. COMNTRCIAL FAILURES, BY BRANCHES OF BUSINESS AND MONMHS, 1941.

|  | Trade | Nanu- <br> factures | Agri-culture | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Logg- } \\ & \text { ing } \\ & \text { Fish- } \\ & \text { ing, } \\ & \text { Irap. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Min- } \\ & \text { ing } \end{aligned}$ | Con-struction. | Trans-portation | Finance | Service | Not Classified | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January... | 48 | 1.3 | 3 | - | 2 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 18 | 8 | 102 |
| February.. | 56 | 16 | 1 | - | - | 8 | -- | 1 | 13 | 5 | 100 |
| March .... | 46 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 6 | - | 2 | 15 | 6 | 92 |
| April .... | 45 | 10 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | - | 18 | 8 | 94 |
| May ...... | 39 | 11 | 3 | - | - | 6 | - | 2 | 18 | 4 | 83 |
| June ..... | 46 | 7 | 3 | - | 2 | 5 | 1 | - | 16 | 4 | 84 |
| July so... | 37 | 8 | - | - | 2 | 5 | 1 | - | 11 | 8 | 72 |
| August ... | 29 | 16 | 1 | - | 1 | 4 | - | 1 | 17 | 9 | 78 |
| September. | 28 | 8 | 1 | - | 2 | 5 | 2 | - | 16 | 5 | 67 |
| October.. | 32 | 11 | 4 | - | - | 6 | 1 | - | 13 | 4 | 71 |
| November. | 38 | 1.4 | 3 | - | - | 6 | 1 | 1 | 17 | 6 | 86 |
| December . | 39 | 10 | 4 | - | - | 4 | 2 | - | 16 | 4 | 79 |
| Total, 1940 | 483 | 132 | 34 | 2 | 14 | 64 | 12 | 8 | 188 | 71 | 1,008 |

