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CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

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# COMMERCIAL FAILURES

in

CANADA

for

SEPTEMBER 1931

and for the first nine months, 1931

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OTTAWA

1931

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
Dominion Bureau of Statistics  
General Statistics Branch  
OTTAWA

Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S. (Hon.), F.R.S.C.  
Chief, General Statistics Branch: S. A. Cudmore, M.A., F.S.S.

COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA IN SEPTEMBER, 1931.

A decrease in the number of assignments under the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts, as reported to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, was experienced in September, 1931, as compared with September, 1930, while the liabilities of the assignors showed an increase. Commercial failures numbered 165 as compared with 192 in the same month of the previous year, and 155 in August, 1931. The liabilities of the assignors, amounting to \$5,166,575, as compared with \$2,081,447 in September, 1930, showed an increase. When compared with \$2,350,994 in August, 1931, an increase is also noted.

COMMERCIAL FAILURES BY AREAS

Maritime Provinces.- In the month under review, there 9 assignments in the Maritime Provinces, as compared with 9 in August, 1931, and 5 in September, 1930. The liabilities in September, 1931, were about \$51,000.

Quebec.- Commercial failures in the Province of Quebec during September, 1931, numbered 67, as against 53 in August, 1931, and 86 in September, 1930. The liabilities were approximately \$2,065,000. Of these 67 failures, 28 with liabilities of about \$1,263,000 took place in the city of Montreal.

Ontario.- In Ontario, the failures numbered 58 as against 60 in August, 1931, and 68 in September, 1930. Liabilities aggregated about \$1,783,000. In the city of Toronto, there were 18 failures with liabilities of about \$498,000.

Prairie Provinces.- In the three Prairie Provinces, failures decreased from 27 in August, 1931, to 24 in September, 1931, and may be compared with 26 in September, 1930. The liabilities were approximately \$1,100,000, principally in Manitoba. There were 4 failures in the city of Winnipeg with liabilities of about \$610,000.

British Columbia.- In British Columbia, commercial failures numbered 7 as compared with 6 in August, 1931, and 7 in September, 1930. The liabilities were approximately \$167,000. Of these failures, 5 with liabilities of about \$124,000 were in the city of Vancouver.

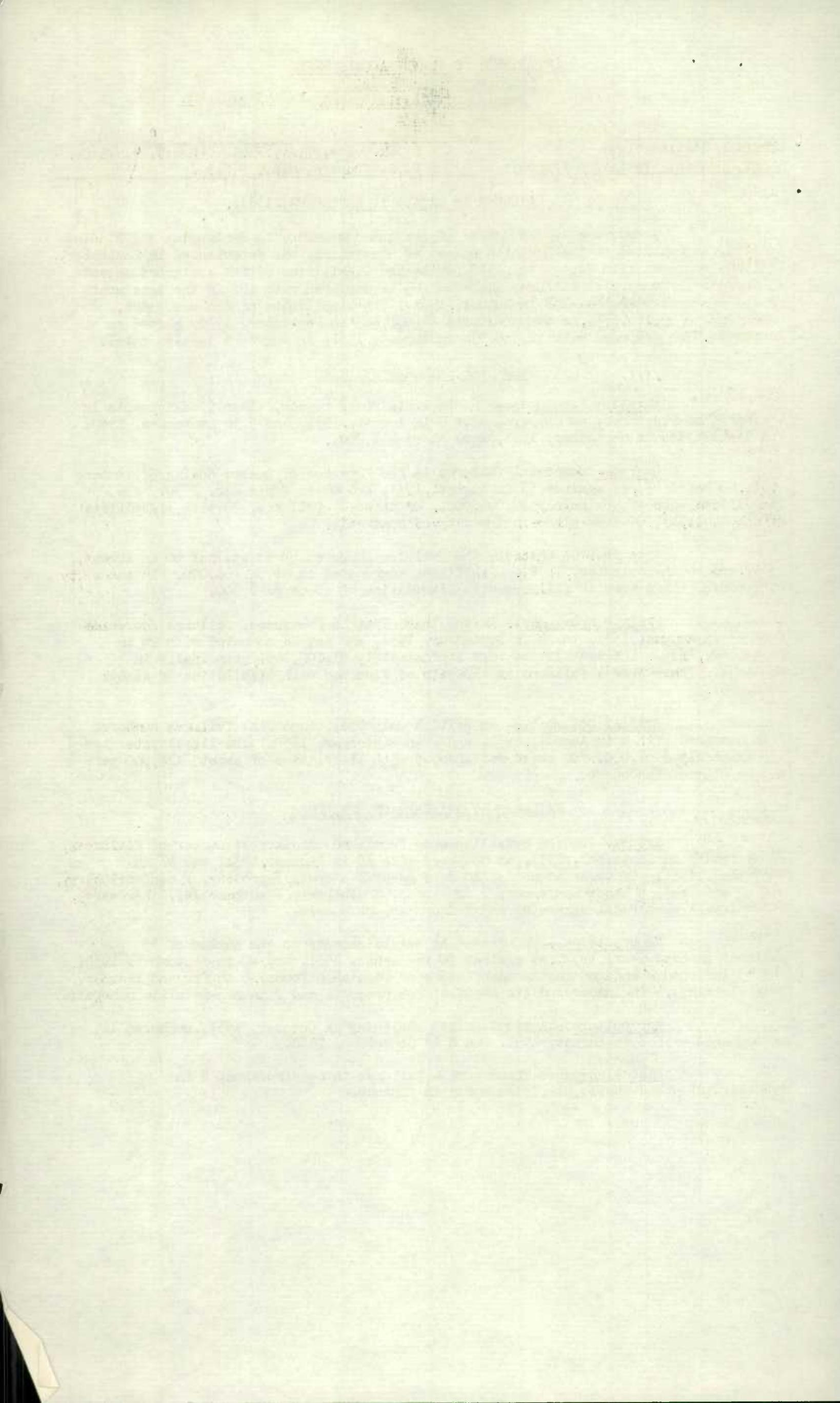
FAILURES BY BRANCHES OF BUSINESS

Trade.- Trading establishments furnished the largest number of failures, 77 assigning in September, 1931, as compared with 78 in August, 1931, and 97 in September, 1930. Of these concerns, 10 were general stores, 7 grocery, 7 confectionery, 5 fish and meat, 5 boots and shoes, 6 dry goods, 8 clothing, 7 automobile, 2 hardware, 2 jewelry, 1 electrical apparatus and 3 drugs and chemicals.

Manufactures.- Manufacturing establishments to the number of 33 assigned in September, 1931, as against 34 in August, 1931, and 40 in September, 1930. The 33 included 4 engaged in the manufacture of vegetable foods, 5 in fur and leather, 9 in clothing, 4 in lumber and its manufactured products and 2 in non-metallic minerals.

Agriculture.- Agriculturists assigning in October, 1931, numbered 14, as compared with 8 in August, 1931, and 8 in September, 1930.

Miscellaneous.- There were 4 failures in construction, 5 in transportation and public utilities and 3 in finance.



CUMULATIVE NINE MONTHS' TOTAL OF FAILURES AND LIABILITIES

The cumulative total of commercial failures for the first nine months of 1931 was 1,581, as compared with 1,725, 1,589 and 1,414 for the same periods of 1930, 1929 and 1928 respectively. The total failures in trade in the first nine months of 1931 were 790 as compared with 870,791 and 601 for the same periods of 1930, 1929 and 1928. In manufactures, 343 failures in the elapsed period of 1931, may be compared with 351,346 and 352 in the same periods of the three preceding years. The defaulted liabilities for the first nine months of 1931 were \$32,881,623, as compared with \$36,648,418, \$26,618,648 and \$20,756,502 for the same periods of the three preceding years.

Cumulative Record of Commercial Failures in Canada, by Provinces,  
January to September, 1922-1931.

	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Total
<u>Comparative</u>										
<u>Totals for</u>										
<u>first nine</u>										
<u>months</u>										
1931	4	34	55	547	565	80	130	97	69	1,581
1930	2	47	34	734	578	69	95	103	63	1,725
1929	-	42	41	685	585	57	63	74	44	1,591
1928	3	63	44	515	513	68	51	98	59	1,414
1927	2	51	58	453	479	64	38	90	59	1,294
1926	4	45	51	452	469	68	48	77	43	1,257
1925	2	50	49	580	561	60	60	106	45	1,513
1924	2	50	52	655	618	74	103	121	42	1,717
1923	9	117	52	916	761	216	241	260	135	2,707
1922	10	72	114,1,310	748	202	182	223	119	2,980	

Commercial Failures in Canada, by Branches of Business  
January to September, 1924-1931.

	Manu-	Agri-	Logg-	Min-	Con-	Trans-					
Trade	fact-	cult-	ing,	ing	struc-	port-	Fin-	Ser-	Not	Total	
	ures	ture	Fish-		tion	& Pub.	ance	vice	class-	fied	
<u>Comparative</u>											
<u>Totals for</u>											
<u>first eight</u>											
<u>months</u>											
1931	790	343	80	6	4	43	31	11	180	93	1,581
1930	870	351	82	9	7	57	30	22	193	124	1,725
1929	791	346	88	4	6	47	14	5	177	113	1,591
1928	601	352	74	24	18	49	36	1	189	70	1,414
1927	571	298	87	20	14	47	26	-	173	58	1,294
1926	567	266	101	18	11	38	25	-	167	64	1,257
1925	805	289	122	11	10	40	14	3	162	57	1,513
1924	984	230	146	10	8	32	36	8	89	174	1,717

Statistical Tables.— The commercial failures in each month from January, 1928, are given by provinces in Table 1, while Table 2 furnishes statistics of commercial failures by branches of business by months from January, 1928, to September 1931. The detailed figures of failures during September, 1931 are shown by provinces and branches of business in Table 3, and the nine months' total of failures by provinces and branches of business is shown in Table 4. The assets and liabilities of those failing during September, 1931, are shown by provinces in Table 5.



Table 1.- COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA BY PROVINCES AND MONTHS, 1928-1931 WITH ANNUAL TOTALS FOR 1922-1930.

	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	68	758	720	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

1928

January	1	13	3	58	82	11	5	20	4	197
February	1	9	4	68	69	10	6	13	8	188
March	1	-	5	68	54	11	7	8	10	164
April	-	5	5	54	43	6	5	14	6	138
May	-	4	7	51	57	7	7	8	7	148
June	-	8	4	46	48	4	8	11	4	133
July	-	5	3	54	44	7	9	6	11	139
August	-	14	6	50	49	7	4	6	6	142
September	-	5	7	66	67	5	-	12	3	165
October	-	10	3	75	86	10	3	7	6	200
November	-	4	3	72	80	14	4	12	4	193
December	1	13	6	105	79	11	5	9	1	230
Total 1928	4	90	56	767	758	103	63	126	70	2,037

1929

January	-	8	12	114	108	6	8	9	4	269
February	-	5	4	80	75	9	11	7	6	197
March	-	6	2	74	69	5	8	10	6	180
April	-	7	6	87	55	4	5	7	3	174
May	-	4	7	82	70	4	4	10	4	185
June	-	2	4	58	55	10	7	7	5	148
July	-	3	2	76	49	3	6	7	3	149
August	-	4	2	48	47	11	7	11	8	138
September	-	3	2	66	57	5	7	6	5	151
October	-	9	4	82	54	10	6	7	4	176
November	-	8	9	68	49	12	10	8	12	176
December	1	12	7	92	74	12	5	12	9	224
Total 1929	1	71	61	927	762	91	84	101	69	2,167

1930

January	1	13	6	120	81	9	12	11	8	261
February	-	4	8	98	62	7	8	11	7	205
March	-	5	4	92	69	8	5	12	6	201
April	-	8	3	81	72	5	10	10	5	194
May	-	2	-	60	65	10	8	11	10	166
June	1	3	3	67	64	7	16	8	9	178
July	-	6	4	71	50	6	15	12	5	169
August	-	4	3	59	47	10	17	13	6	159
September	-	2	3	86	68	7	4	15	7	192
October	-	6	3	93	57	13	16	17	11	216
November	-	3	3	86	65	15	22	18	10	222
December	1	5	5	98	76	16	13	14	11	239
Total 1930	3	61	45	1,011	776	113	146	152	95	2,402

1931

January	1	3	12	80	87	10	22	14	11	240
February	-	3	5	71	59	15	18	10	7	188
March	-	2	6	64	60	9	15	13	9	178
April	-	4	6	53	67	9	19	12	5	175
May	-	4	3	56	64	6	15	6	9	163
June	2	6	6	53	55	10	14	10	9	165
July	1	7	4	50	55	11	8	10	6	152
August	-	1	8	53	60	4	11	12	6	155
September	-	4	5	67	58	6	8	10	7	165



Table 2. - COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA BY BRANCHES OF BUSINESS AND MONTHS,  
1928 - 1931

Trade	Manu-	Agri-	Logg-		Con-	Trans-	Fin-	Ser-	Not	Total	
			fact-	cul-	ing	Fish-	Min-	struc-	port	ance	class-
	ure	ture	ture	ing	ing	ing	ing	tion	ation	vice	fied
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

1928

January	83	45	13	4	3	8	5	-	29	7	197
February	76	47	8	4	3	7	4	-	25	14	188
March	67	43	10	3	3	7	3	-	22	6	164
April	67	33	9	-	2	3	3	-	17	4	138
May x	57	42	5	3	1	4	7	-	18	11	148
June	54	32	6	2	2	5	5	-	21	6	133
July	54	40	7	3	2	5	3	-	20	5	139
August	64	34	4	3	1	5	3	1	21	6	142
September	79	36	12	2	1	5	3	-	16	11	165
October	88	47	12	3	2	6	5	-	27	10	200
November	71	55	13	4	3	8	4	1	27	7	193
December	124	51	9	-	-	7	-	3	20	16	230
Total 1928	884	505	108	31	23	70	45	5	263	103	2,037

1929

January	140	71	6	-	1	10	1	1	22	17	269
February	88	57	11	1	1	4	4	1	24	6	197
March	79	38	16	1	1	7	4	-	21	13	180
April	83	40	11	-	-	6	3	-	19	11	174
May	101	33	17	-	-	6	-	-	12	16	185
June	79	29	8	-	-	3	1	2	14	12	148
July	83	26	5	1	-	1	-	-	19	14	149
August	66	27	6	1	3	3	1	-	22	9	138
September	72	25	8	-	-	7	-	-	24	15	151
October	93	21	19	-	1	3	1	-	19	19	176
November	93	33	8	-	3	7	3	-	16	13	176
December	124	43	10	-	1	4	3	-	27	12	224
Total 1929	1,101	443	125	4	11	61	21	5	239	157	2,167

1930

January	135	58	6	1	2	3	1	3	25	27	261
February	113	36	10	-	-	2	2	5	21	16	205
March	101	36	16	3	1	3	4	4	17	16	201
April	96	44	10	1	-	3	5	1	20	14	194
May	82	33	7	1	1	5	4	1	20	12	166
June	84	39	6	1	2	6	4	2	22	12	178
July	85	35	9	1	-	6	3	1	20	9	169
August	77	30	10	1	-	5	2	3	21	10	159
September	97	40	8	-	1	4	5	2	27	8	192
October	107	44	10	1	1	6	6	2	29	10	216
November	101	46	14	-	1	6	7	2	35	10	222
December	126	47	9	2	-	6	5	3	26	15	239
Total 1930	1,204	488	115	12	9	55	48	29	283	159	2,402

1931

January	121	48	5	2	1	7	3	3	32	18	240
February	91	36	13	1	1	7	6	-	22	11	188
March	92	40	9	-	-	4	3	-	20	10	178
April	89	40	8	-	-	5	3	-	18	12	175
May	81	35	9	1	-	3	3	-	20	11	163
June	92	39	6	1	-	5	2	4	18	8	165
July	79	38	8	-	2	4	4	1	10	6	152
August	78	34	8	1	-	4	2	-	22	6	155
September	77	33	14	-	-	4	5	3	18	11	165



Table 3.- COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES AND BRANCHES OF BUSINESS.  
SEPTEMBER, 1931.

	P.E.I. and N. S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Total for 1931	Total for 1930
<b>TRADE</b>										
General Stores	-	-	3	4	-	1	1	1	10	12
Grocery	-	-	3	3	-	-	1	1	7	10
Confectionery	1	1	2	2	-	-	1	-	7	5
Drink and Tobacco	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	3
Fish and Meat	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	5	6
Boots and Shoes	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	5	7
Dry Goods	-	-	2	4	-	-	-	-	6	9
Clothing	-	-	3	3	-	-	1	-	8	10
Furniture	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Books and Stationery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Automobile	-	-	1	2	2	1	1	1	7	3
Hardware	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Electric Apparatus	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	5
Jewelry	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	2
Coal and Wood	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	5
Drugs and Chemicals	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
Miscellaneous	-	1	3	4	-	1	-	-	9	11
Total .....	3	2	30	28	2	5	5	2	77	97
<b>MANUFACTURE</b>										
Vegetable Foods	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	4	6
Drink and Tobacco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Animal Foods	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Fur and Leather	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	5	7
Pulp and Paper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textiles	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Clothing	-	2	3	4	-	-	-	-	9	5
Lumber and Manufactures	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
Iron and Steel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-ferrous Metals	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Non-Metallic Minerals	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	2
Drugs and Chemicals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	3	4	-	-	-	-	7	8
Total .....	-	3	13	14	1	-	-	2	33	40
<b>SERVICE</b>										
Garages	1	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	5	10
Other Customs and Repairs	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	3	4
Personal Service	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	4	7
Professional Service	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-
Recreational Service	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	1
Business Service	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	5
Total .....	1	-	7	5	-	2	2	1	18	27
<b>OTHER</b>										
Agriculture	-	-	8	4	1	-	1	-	14	8
Mining	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Logging, Fishing and Trapping	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	4	4
Transportation and Public	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utilities	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	-	5	5
Finance	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	3	2
Total .....	-	-	12	7	2	-	3	2	26	20
Not Classified	-	-	5	4	1	1	-	-	11	8
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	4	5	67	58	6	8	10	7	165	192



Table 4.- COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES AND BRANCHES OF BUSINESS,  
JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER, 1931.

	P.E.I. and N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Total for 1931	Total for 1930
<u>TRADE</u>										
General Stores	7	7	30	31	12	15	15	3	120	107
Grocery	1	4	24	23	-	11	8	1	72	89
Confectionery	1	3	16	17	2	2	7	2	50	45
Drink and Tobacco	1	-	7	3	-	-	-	-	11	15
Fish and Meat	-	-	21	15	1	-	5	3	45	61
Boots and Shoes	1	-	16	18	-	2	2	-	39	52
Dry Goods	4	2	22	22	2	-	3	1	56	79
Clothing	4	5	28	27	4	8	6	4	86	101
Furniture	-	-	4	12	1	-	5	2	24	13
Books and Stationery	-	-	4	5	1	-	-	-	10	22
Automobile	-	2	8	10	3	6	4	1	34	38
Hardware	-	-	4	11	1	5	2	1	24	23
Elec. Apparatus	-	2	3	8	2	2	1	1	19	19
Jewelry	-	3	7	10	2	1	4	-	27	29
Coal and Wood	-	1	14	10	-	-	1	2	28	30
Drugs and Chemicals	1	1	8	10	-	4	-	1	25	40
Miscellaneous	6	7	37	35	10	15	6	4	120	107
Total .....	26	37	253	267	41	71	69	26	790	870
<u>MANUFACTURE</u>										
Vegetable Foods	-	1	21	23	3	5	2	4	59	42
Drink and Tobacco	-	-	5	4	-	-	-	-	9	10
Animal Foods	-	1	8	10	-	2	1	1	23	11
Fur and Leather	-	1	8	8	4	1	1	1	24	50
Pulp and Paper	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	8	3
Textiles	-	-	13	15	1	-	-	1	30	8
Clothing	2	2	17	21	2	4	3	1	52	83
Lumber and Man.	-	-	11	9	-	-	-	4	24	38
Iron and Steel	-	-	2	6	2	-	-	-	10	3
Non-Ferrous Metals	-	-	8	7	-	-	-	-	15	13
Non-Metallic Minerals	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	1	8	16
Drugs and Chemicals	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Miscellaneous	3	1	28	32	6	5	-	5	80	72
Total .....	5	6	128	144	18	17	7	18	343	351
<u>SERVICE</u>										
Garages	1	1	9	17	1	5	1	1	36	43
Other Custom and Repairs	-	-	15	11	1	2	-	2	31	29
Personal Service	-	3	14	11	3	7	5	4	47	71
Professional Service	1	1	6	1	-	-	1	2	12	10
Recreational Service	-	-	10	7	1	-	-	-	18	9
Business Service	-	1	10	12	3	3	4	3	36	31
Total .....	2	6	64	59	9	17	11	12	180	193
<u>OTHER</u>										
Agriculture	1	1	33	27	6	7	3	2	80	82
Mining	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	5	7
Logging, Fishing and Trapping	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	4	9
Construction	-	-	16	17	1	5	2	2	43	37
Trans. and Pub. Util.	1	-	12	14	-	2	1	2	32	30
Finance	-	-	-	6	1	2	1	2	12	22
Total .....	2	1	62	66	9	17	8	12	176	187
Not Classified.....	3	5	40	29	4	8	2	1	92	124
GRAND TOTAL	38	55	547	565	80	130	97	69	1,581	1,725



Table 5.- COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES, SHOWING ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR SEPTEMBER, 1931, AND FOR THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THE YEAR

(Prepared from the preliminary statements of affairs received from trustees)

	No. of Bankruptcies	Estimated Grand Total Assets	Estimated Grand Total Liabilities
	No.	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island	-	-	-
Nova Scotia	4	5,963	11,795
New Brunswick	5	11,582	39,669
Quebec	67	1,278,966	2,064,553
Ontario	58	1,064,273	1,783,264
Manitoba	6	102,305	653,379
Saskatchewan	8	278,665	341,036
Alberta	10	89,617	105,899
British Columbia	7	281,218	166,980
Total for September, 1931	165	3,112,589	5,166,575
Total for August, 1931	155	2,044,745	2,350,994
Total for September, 1930	192	1,716,412	2,081,447

Table 6.- COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES, SHOWING ESTIMATED ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1931, WITH TOTALS FOR THE SAME PERIOD OF PREVIOUS YEARS

	No. of Bankruptcies	Estimated Grand Total Assets	Estimated Grand Total Liabilities
	No.	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island	4	8,212	15,031
Nova Scotia	34	233,160	302,066
New Brunswick	55	260,175	417,481
Quebec	547	8,419,387	11,470,516
Ontario	565	9,458,575	12,001,318
Manitoba	80	1,362,549	2,338,791
Saskatchewan	130	1,483,037	1,843,082
Alberta	97	2,645,345	2,134,627
British Columbia	69	2,147,354	2,358,711
Cumulative Total for 9 months, 1931	1,581	26,017,794	32,881,623
Cumulative Total for 9 months, 1930	1,725	35,225,250	36,648,414
Cumulative Total for 9 months, 1929	1,589	20,775,244	26,618,648
Cumulative Total for 9 months, 1928	1,414	17,613,029	20,756,502
Cumulative Total for 9 months, 1927	1,294	16,422,455	20,865,970
Cumulative Total for 9 months, 1926	1,257	16,339,021	21,119,370
Cumulative Total for 9 months, 1925	1,513	19,437,076	21,783,182

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