

Economic Conditions During Nine Months of 1942

War production recorded a marked expansion during the first nine months of the present year. While some industries were handicapped by shortages of labour and manpower, the operations of industries in general were at a much higher level than in 1941. The revised index of the physical volume of business averaged 23.6 p.c. higher in the first nine months of 1942 than in the same period of last year. The index of industrial production showed an even greater increase, the standing in the elapsed portion of the present year having been 217.8 against 168.9, a gain of 29 p.c.

The index of the physical volume of business and its main components were revised for the purpose of giving full representation to war production. The factors were re-weighted according to the relative importance during the present year. A number of factors were dropped from the computation, while others were added. The indexes of volume were weighted according to conditions existing in the base period of 1935-39. While the weighting system was satisfactory for peacetime, the handicap placed upon industries engaged in war production rendered the index unsatisfactory for the present period. The net result was that the revised index was considerably above the standing of the one previously published.

Many other economic factors recorded advance in the first nine months of the present year. The index of wholesale prices on the base of 1926 averaged 95.3 against 88.5 last year, the gain being 7.7 p.c. The rise in the cost of living was somewhat more moderate the index on the base of 1935 advancing from 110.4 to 116.5, a gain of 5.5 p.c. High-grade bond prices were at a somewhat higher level in the present year, the index standing at 99.3 against 95.9.

The amount of cheques cashed in clearing centres, popularly known as bank debits, rose from \$28.5 billion in the first nine months of last year to \$32.3 billion in the period under review, a gain of 13.3 p.c. During the same period, the four classes of bank deposits rose from \$3,017 million to \$3,228 million, a gain of 7 p.c. Current loans averaged slightly less in the first nine months of the present year, the amount having been \$1,069 million against \$1,081 million in the same period of 1941.

Owing to the lower level of the grain crop of 1941, the index of grain marketings showed considerable decline. This position will be reversed as the heavy crop of the present year is marketed. The index of livestock marketings averaged 98.6 in the elapsed portion of 1942 against 104 last year. The index of cold storage holdings was 145.6 against 134.6, a gain of more than 8 p.c.

The revised index of mineral production averaged 225.7 in the first nine months of the present year against 191.5, a gain of nearly 18 p.c. Gold receipts at the Mint, however, at 3,548,000 fine ounces were 7.2 p.c., below the level of last year. Coal production showed a gain of 10.6 p.c. at 13.8 million tons. The index of manufacturing production on the revised basis averaged 228.9 against 167.1, a gain of no less than 37 p.c. The milling industry was slightly less active, the wheat flour production in the first eight months having been 13.1 million barrels, a decline of slightly more than 6 p.c. Hog slaughterings were 4,342,000 head against 4,199,000, a gain of 3.4 p.c. Some reduction was recorded in cattle slaughterings. A feature was the increased output of factory cheese. At 166.5 million pounds the production recorded a gain of 40.5 p.c. The release of cigarettes and cigars has shown further expansion. Cigarettes made available were 7,222 million against 6,263 million. The gain in the release of cigars was 8 p.c.

The national income was tentatively estimated at \$646.2 million in August, the total for the nine months having been \$5,515, million against \$4,803 million in the same period of 1941. War production was the main influence in increasing the national income during the present year.

### Food Situation in Canada

Rationing and restriction of some desirable foods may be the lot of the people of Canada, but not so the animal population which this year finds itself swamped with all the good things to eat. There is comfort in the fact, however, that the supplies of wheat, oats, barley, etc., crowding the feed boxes on almost every farm in the country will go into the production of more food for human beings, since cattle, hogs and poultry are but the machinery for converting feed and forage into human food.

A year ago there was a serious shortage of feed supplies for animals in many parts of Canada, and it became necessary for the Dominion Government to provide freight assistance in the movement of feed from one part of the country to another, in order that wartime programs might be maintained and Canada's commitments to the United Kingdom fulfilled. In this connection, wheat from western Canada played a very important role in filling the gaps in feed supplies in the five eastern provinces and in British Columbia.

The story in 1942 is different. It is a story of record yields in major crops, abundant supplies of root and fodder crops and greater quantities of high-protein feeds in the form of linseed and soybean oil cake and meal. The latter will result from larger crops of flaxseed and soybean, produced primarily for their oil content. Under these circumstances it appears certain that there will be greater competition between various feeds in filling the demand of live stock and poultry growers since the supply per animal unit greatly exceeds the long-time average, despite the substantial increase in animal population.

Using the September and October official estimates of field crops in Canada as the basis, the production picture for 1942 indicates roughly that the wheat crop is almost twice as large as in 1941, the oats crop more than double, the barley crop about two and a half times greater and rye crops more than double, while the hay and clover crop is about 25 per cent larger than that of last year. Of the other field crops, mixed grains are about one-third greater than a year ago and alfalfa about 50 per cent larger, while corn for husking and for feed show little change from 1941.

Add to this supply of grain and forage crops a substantial quantity of linseed and soybean meal, the output of bran, shorts and middlings from Canada's flour milling industry as well as a number of other feedstuffs, and the sum total is an enormous reservoir of animal food. Despite notable increases in all types of live stock and poultry in the past year there is much more than enough feed to go round and ample room for further heavy expansion of animal numbers from the standpoint of available feed supplies.

---

### September Employment Situation

A further rise in industrial activity was indicated at the beginning of September, according to the latest survey of employment and payrolls conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The 13,142 cooperating firms had an aggregate working force of 1,795,411 persons, 14,707 more than the number employed at August 1. This increase of 0.8 per cent was rather below average for the season; it was also smaller than that noted at September 1 in any immediately preceding year. The additions to the reported working forces during the summer have exceeded the normal seasonal gains, although they have not been equal to those indicated in the same period of the three preceding years. Thus as the organization of the industrial war effort proceeds, and the supply of available labour diminishes, the rate of expansion in employment has appreciably slackened. Nevertheless, industrial activity generally continues at an unprecedentedly high level.

Further and larger advances were reported in manufacturing, the cooperating establishments having added 16,843 men and women to their personnel since the beginning of August. Of this number, 8,600 were taken on in iron and steel plants and 4,050 in the vegetable food group. Smaller, but important increases were indicated in chemical, textile, electrical apparatus, non-ferrous metal, tobacco and pulp and paper factories. On the other hand, animal food and lumber mills were seasonally slacker; there was also a falling-off in clay, glass and stone works. Among the non-manufacturing classes, logging showed a seasonal gain. Little general change took place in communications, while the trend in mining, transportation, construction, services and trade was downward. The largest losses were in mining, notably of gold.

There was an increase of 2.7 per cent in the weekly salaries and wages disbursed at September 1 by all firms furnishing data. The payrolls aggregated \$52,361,441 as compared with \$50,970,885 at August 1. The per capita earnings averaged \$29.16 at the latest date as compared with \$28.62.

## Manufacturing Industries of Ontario

To meet the demands created by the present war, the output of the manufacturing industries of Ontario was greatly accelerated during 1940, the gross value of production totalling \$2,302,015,000 compared with \$1,745,675,000, an increase of no less than 31.9 per cent. Of this increase, 45 per cent was contributed by the iron and its products group, 14 per cent by the non-ferrous metal industries, 13 per cent by the textile industries, nine per cent by wood and paper products.

Ontario is the most important manufacturing province in the Dominion. This position is not of recent growth, but has been maintained over a long period of years. In spite of the rapid industrial development in recent years in other provinces, such as Quebec, British Columbia and Manitoba, Ontario is maintaining a manufacturing production equal to that of the remainder of the Dominion. Ontario has the greatest diversification of manufacturing production of any province.

Outstanding among the industries in which the province is pre-eminent is that of starch, agricultural implements, and automobile manufacture which is carried on practically in this province alone. Other important industries in which Ontario leads, with the percentage which the production of each bears to that of the Dominion total in 1940, are as follows: leather tanneries, 87.7 per cent; rubber goods, 80.8 per cent; electrical apparatus and supplies, 78.2 per cent; primary iron and steel, 66.6 per cent; fruit and vegetable preparations, 63.6 per cent; iron castings, 62.8 per cent; hosiery and knitted goods, 58.7 per cent; flour and feed mills, 57.3 per cent; and furniture, 56.1 per cent.

From the standpoint of gross value of production, the iron and its products group again headed the list with an output valued at \$623,197,243. Other groups in order of importance were: vegetable products, \$368,511,386; non-ferrous metal products, \$324,322,963; wood and paper products, \$275,533,548; textiles and textile products, \$233,497,596; animal products, \$227,794,394, etc.

---

### Visible Supply of Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on November 5 totalled 451,066,866 bushels compared with 445,085,137 on October 29 and 503,308,445 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks on the latest date included 431,975,254 bushels in Canadian positions and 19,091,612 in United States positions.

---

### Farmers' Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Farmers' marketings of wheat in western Canada during the week ending November 5 amounted to 10,258,159 bushels compared with 11,868,258 in the previous week. Among the coarse grains marketed during the week were the following, comparisons with the previous week being in brackets: oats, 3,350,828(4,637,454) bushels; barley, 2,130,870(2,573,997); rye, 123,081(178,499); flaxseed, 533,430(981,068).

---

### Production of Cheese and Butter

Production of Canadian cheddar cheese in October recorded an increase of 32.8 p.c. over the corresponding output in 1941, the total being 20,249,757 pounds as compared with 15,243,111. The total for the ten months ended October was 187,596,162 pounds compared with 135,146,096 in the like period of 1941, a gain of 38.8 per cent. Creamery butter production during October amounted to 25,098,306 pounds compared with 24,936,954 in October last year, an increase of 0.6 per cent. During the ten months ended October the production aggregated 252,470,517 pounds compared with 259,037,322 in the same period of 1941, a decline of 2.5 per cent.

---

### Car Loadings

Car loadings for the week ended October 31 dropped to 71,882 cars from 73,033 in the previous week, and 72,970 in the corresponding week last year. Declines in grain coal, pulp and paper and merchandise accounted for the drop. The decrease from the previous week was less than the normal seasonal decline and the index rose from 125.7 to 128.2.

---

Language and Mother Tongue of the  
Inhabitants of Nova Scotia, 1941

About eight persons out of every 100 of the population of the province of Nova Scotia could speak both English and French as compared with a total of seven persons of every 100 in 1931, according to a report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Of the total population in 1941, 577,962, those who could speak English only totalled 530,467, French only 6,800 and both English and French 40,253. In 1931 the inhabitants numbered 512,846, of whom 467,374 spoke English only, 9,516 French only and 34,153 both languages.

The mother tongues of the population were as follows, with figures for 1931 in brackets: English, 514,043(436,498); French, 41,350(39,018); Finnish, 43(62); German, 473(989); Italian, 1,012(1,320); Magyar, 421(521); Netherland, 211(65); Norwegian, 205(123); Polish, 1,473(1,370); Russian, 241(355); Slovak, 292(339); Swedish, 113(161); Ukrainian, 628(803); Yiddish, 1,155(1,635); Chinese, 325(320).

Estimate of the Civilian Population of  
Continental United States at May 1

According to an official released received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics the estimated civilian population of continental United States on May 1 this year was 131,315,393 compared with 131,323,136 on April 1, 1940, a decrease of 7,743. As the figures indicate practically no change was recorded, the excess of births over deaths and the net immigration of civilians being approximately cancelled by inductions into and enlistments in the armed forces.

Population of Alberta by Conjugal Condition

The population of the province of Alberta in 1941 was 796,169 as compared with 731,605 in 1931, a gain during the ten-year interval of 64,564. The population by conjugal condition was as follows with figures for 1931 in brackets: single, 429,881(422,503); married, 330,422(285,359); widowed, 28,557(22,041); divorced, 1,518(1,014); separated, 5,741(not available for 1931).

Production of Leather Footwear in September

The production of footwear in September totalled 2,807,754 pairs compared with 2,773,334 in the preceding month and 3,027,252 in the corresponding month last year. The cumulative total for the nine months ending September aggregated 24,672,220 pairs compared with 23,833,552 for the same period in 1941.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Live Stock Survey, June 1, 1942 (10 cents).
2. Nova Scotia - Language and Mother Tongue, 1941 Census (10 cents).
3. Monthly Dairy Review, October (10 cents).
4. Alberta - Conjugal Condition, 1941 Census (10 cents).
5. Canadian Coarse Grains, Quarterly Review (25 cents).
6. Stocks of Canadian Fruit and Vegetables, November 1 (10 cents).
7. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, November 1 (10 cents).
8. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, November 1 (10 cents).
9. Cold Storage Holdings of Meat and Lard, November 1 (10 cents).
10. Nova Scotia - School Attendance and Years of Schooling, 1941 Census (10 cents).
11. Changes in Single Track Mileage Operated by Steam Railways, 1941 (10 cents).
12. Manufacturing Industries of the Province of Ontario, 1940 (25 cents).
13. Production of Leather Footwear, September (10 cents).
14. Indexes of Retail Sales, September (10 cents).
15. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
16. Economic Conditions During First Nine Months of 1942 (10 cents).
17. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
18. Births, Deaths and Marriages, October (10 cents).
19. Leather Gloves and Mittens Industry, 1941 (25 cents).
20. September Employment Situation (10 cents).

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHEQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010729871