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Economic Conditions During Ten Months of 1942

A majority of the factors indicating the trend of economic conditions recorded a considerably higher level in the first ten months of the present year than in the same period of 1941. The index of business operations rose more than 24 p.c. to a new high position in Canada's industrial history. While an upward trend has been shown since the early part of 1933, the advance was greatly hastened by war demands since the outbreak of hostilities in September, 1939.

The index of the physical volume of business averaged 199.1 in the first ten months of the year against 160.2 in 1941, a gain of 24.3 p.c. Manufacturing production, influenced by war demands recorded the greatest advance in this comparison. The index was 238.4 against 169.6 in the same period of last year.

The construction industry operated at a lower level than in 1941 when the maximum of the war period was reached. Contracts awarded were practically \$250 million in 1942 against \$352 million in the same period one year ago. The decline in contracts awarded and in building permits was 29 p.c. and 25.7 p.c., respectively. Electric power production was at capacity levels amounting to 30,681 million kilowatt hours against 27,041 million, a gain of 13.5 p.c. Despite measures to conserve electric power and to increase the capacity of developments, a shortage has arisen leading to the necessity of allocation.

Railway traffic was at a higher level in the first ten months of this year than in the same period of 1941. The increase was 6.3 p.c., the total having been 2,824,000 cars loaded. The statistics of tons carried and especially of tons carried one mile indicate a much greater expansion in the movement of railway freight. The gross revenue of the Canadian National Railway in the first nine months was \$238 million against \$188.8 million in the same period of last year, a gain of 26.5 p.c. The revenue of the Canadian Pacific Railway rose from \$158.5 million to \$188.2 million, a gain of 18.8 p.c.

The index of mineral production rose from 202.3 to 222.7, a gain of more than 10 p.c. A decline of 7.9 p.c. was shown in gold receipts at the Mint, while coal production recorded a gain of 7.3 p.c., the total in the first ten months of 1942 having been 15,365,000 tons.

Internal trade was at a higher level than in 1941 but the disparity over the position of last year has not been as great in recent months as in the first quarter. An index of wholesale sales rose from 138.6 to 154.9, a gain of 11.8 p.c. The index of retail sales at 144.4 was 15.1 p.c. greater than in the same period of 1941.

Grain marketings during the first ten months of 1942 were at a lower position than in the same period of the preceding year. The index recorded a decline of 29.3 p.c., the standing in the present year having been 102.4. Owing to the lateness of the crop, marketings in September were at a particularly low position, but heavier deliveries were made in October.

The national income was \$6,185 million in the first ten months of the present year against \$5,384 million, a gain of nearly 15 p.c. The results are tentative pending the receipt of further information.

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Canadian Shorn Wool Production

Production of shorn wool in Canada in 1942 at 12,867,000 pounds was 10.6 per cent higher than that of 1941. A substantial increase in the number of sheep shorn was mainly responsible for the increased output although the average weight per fleece was also fractionally higher. Increased wool production occurred in all provinces except New Brunswick and was particularly marked in the three Prairie Provinces. Correspondents reported that 67 per cent of the 1942 clip had been sold or consigned for sale up to the end of June. The amount intended for use on farms was reported to be 3.2 per cent of the total with the remainder to be sold later in the year.

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### Production of Butter and Cheese in 1941

The Canadian production of creamery butter during 1941 was the largest ever recorded by the industry, the total being 285,848,196 pounds as compared with 264,723,669 in 1940, an increase of eight per cent. The total value also marks a high record with a total of \$93,199,557, a gain of \$28,290,576 or 44 per cent. The average price per pound for the year was 32.6 cents compared with 24.5 in 1940.

Factory cheese production in 1941 amounted to 151,865,538 pounds, an increase over 1940 of 6,527,000 or four per cent. The value of cheese manufactured during the year was \$24,737,037, an increase over the previous year of \$4,825,832 or 24 per cent. The average price per pound has advanced from 13.7 cents in 1940 to 16.3 in 1941.

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### Visible Supply of Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on December 10 totalled 460,183,130 bushels as compared with 456,604,255 a week ago and 503,632,908 on the corresponding date last year. The amount of wheat in Canadian positions totalled 438,275,922 bushels, the balance of 21,907,208 being in United States positions.

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### Farmers' Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Deliveries of wheat from farms in western Canada during the week ending December 10 amounted to 6,025,768 bushels as compared with 6,518,752 in the previous week. Marketings of coarse grains during the week were as follows, figures for the previous week being in brackets: oats, 1,858,482 (2,118,564) bushels; barley, 1,089,863 (1,117,712); rye, 90,543 (54,008); flaxseed, 41,977 (77,096).

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### Production of Gypsum in 1941

The tonnage of gypsum produced in Canada in 1941 established a new all-time high record in the history of the Canadian industry, when the output amounted to 1,593,406 short tons valued at \$2,248,426 as compared with \$1,448,788 short tons at \$2,065,933 in 1940. The value, however, was exceeded annually during the years, 1925-1930, inclusive. Of the 1941 output, Nova Scotia properties contributed 1,395,172 short tons, Ontario 90,599, New Brunswick 56,172, Manitoba 27,601, and British Columbia 23,862.

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### Non-Ferrous Smelting and Refining Industry

The value added by the non-ferrous smelting and refining industry in the treatment of various ores and metals in 1941 aggregated \$119,736,294 compared with \$98,059,287 in 1940. This represents an all-time high record and reflects the magnificent effort of the Canadian miner and metallurgist in supplying the Allied Nations with essential war supplies. It is worthy of note that in 1941 primary metallic tin was produced commercially in Canada from domestic ores for the first time; magnesium powder was also a product of Canadian metallurgical plants during the year. Not included in the products credited to the non-ferrous smelting and refining industry was an important production of quick-silver in British Columbia.

Refined products included gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, aluminium, tin, magnesium, antimony, bismuth, cobalt, cadmium, selenium, tellurium, radium salts, uranium compounds and sulphur; other end products of individual plants or companies were copper-nickel matte, cobalt salts, nickel salts, nickel and cobalt oxides, arsenious oxide, sulphuric acid, platinum metals residues, zinc dust, zinc oxide, and blister and anode copper.

The cost of ores, concentrates and other material treated during 1941 was estimated at \$213,542,005 compared with \$174,274,655 in 1940; fuels and purchased electricity consumed totalled \$26,771,809 and the value of chemicals and various other process supplies used amounted to \$19,272,162.

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### Sales of Radio Receiving Sets

A sharp decline was recorded in the sale of radio receiving sets in Canada during the third quarter of 1942, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Sales by the manufacturers during July, August and September this year totalled 35,320 units as compared with 120,573 in the corresponding period of 1941.

Sales figures this year, when compared with those of a year ago, reveal decreases in all provinces. In the Maritimes the number of sets sold dropped from 12,137 to 3,213, in Quebec from 22,256 to 6,604, in Ontario from 54,302 to 15,858, in Manitoba from 10,198 to 2,277, in Saskatchewan from 5,616 to 1,353, in Alberta from 6,254 to 2,434 and in British Columbia from 9,810 to 3,781.

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### Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways

Freight revenues of Canadian railways for September amounted to \$44,469,218 as compared with \$43,298,908 in the previous month and \$37,000,607 in the corresponding month last year. Total operating revenues amounted to \$58,590,233 as compared with \$58,881,183 for August and \$47,215,433 a year ago. Operating expenses were heavier than in 1941 by \$6,808,915 or 19 per cent, and the operating income increased from \$8,973,459 to \$11,802,849.

Freight traffic measured in revenue ton miles was only 2.3 per cent heavier than in 1941. Passenger traffic increased by 56.8 per cent. The pay roll increased from \$21,387,262 to \$24,029,387 or by 12.4 per cent for an increase in the number of employees of 4.7 per cent or from 148,620 to 155,550. Average freight revenue per train mile increased from \$5.91 in 1941 to \$7.26 and passenger train revenues from \$2.32 to \$3.10.

For the nine months ended September, gross revenues increased from \$383,824,946 in 1941 to \$474,203,320. Operating expenses increased from \$290,379,018 to \$349,326,694 and operating income from \$70,520,832 to \$90,517,745.

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### International Bridge, Tunnel and Ferry Companies

The number of passenger automobiles crossing the Canada-United States border by bridge, ferry and tunnel increased from 5,273,246 in 1940 to 5,273,246 in 1940 to 5,450,993 in 1941 or by 3.4 per cent. Commercial vehicles also showed an increase and the total for all motor vehicles increased from 5,688,887 to 5,848,812 or by 2.8 per cent. Pedestrians and passengers, other than drivers, however, decreased from 12,879,818 in 1940 to 12,235,127.

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### Canadian Rubber Industry in 1940

The rubber industry of Canada is of considerable importance in the industrial life of the country. Canada now ranks among the leading countries of the world as a manufacturer of rubber goods. Normally Canada is the sixth largest importer of raw rubber in the world, ranking after the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, Germany and France.

The gross value of production in 1941 was considerably higher than in the previous year, amounting to \$119,137,776 as compared with \$83,020,721. Of the three main classes of products manufactured by the industry in 1941, rubber tires and tubes accounted for \$64,030,626 or almost 54 per cent of the total, rubber footwear for \$21,844,601 or over 18 per cent and other rubber goods, including rubber heels and soles, rubber belting, hose, etc., for the balance of \$33,262,549.

Compared with the previous year the output of rubber tires and tubes increased \$22,396,405 or 53 per cent, rubber footwear \$2,316,015 or almost 12 per cent and other rubber goods by \$11,404,635 or over 52 per cent.

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## Dominion-Provincial Conference on Education

An important three-day Dominion-Provincial Conference was opened in Ottawa on Monday morning December 14 at 10 o'clock on the question of Dominion-wide statistics of education.

Some twenty-two years ago a conference was held in Ottawa between the representatives of the Provincial Departments of Education and the Education Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and a considerable measure of agreement was reached regarding the most essential statistics to be compiled on a comparable basis for the nine educational systems of Canada. In the intervening years adjustments have been made from time to time, notably after a conference following the meeting of the Canadian Education Association in 1936.

The opinion has persisted, however, among educationists and others - in particular, persons interested in the problems of school finance in its relation to public finance generally - that a further concerted effort should be made to improve the completeness and comparability of the existing statistical data, particularly the financial data on the schools. Three years ago the Canadian Council for Educational Research voted \$1,000 for a thorough-going study of the records currently obtained by the Department of Education, with a view to greater uniformity of statistical practice. The study was carried out in collaboration with officials of the Departments and with the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the resulting memoranda was examined in detail at the present Conference looking to the goal of comparable nation-wide statistics on all phases of education.

The opening address was delivered by the Hon. James A. Mackinnon, followed by an address by S. A. Cudmore, the Dominion Statistician. A report by Dr. R. W. B. Jackson and supplementary memoranda was then introduced and discussed. The problem of co-ordinating records of schools and municipal finance was presented by J. H. Lowther of the Finance Branch of the Bureau.

Delegates representing the provinces included the following: Prince Edward Island, P. S. Bradley, Secretary of Education; Nova Scotia, H. P. Moffatt, Assistant Superintendent of Education; New Brunswick, A. S. McFarlane, Chief Superintendent of Education; Quebec, B. O. Filteau, Deputy Minister of Education and S. Gascon, Director of Quebec Bureau of Statistics; Ontario, A. M. Campbell, Statistics Service, Department of Education; Manitoba, G. K. Rogers, Acting Superintendent of Education; Saskatchewan, Hon. H. Staines, Minister of Education; Alberta, H. C. Newland, Supervisor of Schools; British Columbia, H. B. King, Chief Inspector of Schools.

The representatives of the Dominion included: Hon. James A. Mackinnon, Minister of Trade and Commerce; S. A. Cudmore, Dominion Statistician; J. E. Robbins, Education Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics; J. H. Lowther, Finance Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The following technical advisers were in attendance: Dr. R. W. B. Jackson, Department of Educational Research, Ontario College of Education; H. W. Jamieson, Superintendent of Training, Department of Pensions and National Health; G. P. Hillmer, Stamford Collegiate Institute, Niagara Falls.

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## Oiled and Waterproofed Clothing Industry

Due to the heavy demands created by the war, the oiled and waterproofed clothing industry expanded its productive capacity considerably during 1941. The gross value of products turned out by the industry totalled \$4,500,958, an increase of no less than 111 per cent over the production in the previous year. The greater part of the increased output was due to the ever-increasing needs of the armed forces for oiled and waterproofed clothing and equipment.

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## Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries

Sales of electric storage batteries and parts by Canadian producers were valued at \$1,664,348 during the third quarter of this year compared with \$1,380,480 in the previous quarter and \$1,565,996 in the corresponding period last year.

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### Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages in October

Births registered in October in Canadian cities, towns and villages having a population of 10,000 and over numbered 10,492, deaths 4,623 and marriages 6,049 as compared with 8,932 births, 4,400 deaths and 6,100 marriages in October last year, showing increases of 17 per cent in births, five per cent in deaths and a decrease of 0.8 per cent in marriages.

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### Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries in September

Net sales of securities by Canada to other countries were maintained at a high level in September, the total being \$6,800,000 as compared with \$5,800,000 in August and \$6,800,000 in July. While sales of Canadian bonds again made up most of the trade, net sales of United States securities of \$1,800,000 were higher than in the preceding month.

The largest part of the net sales of \$6,100,000 to the United States was the balance of sales of \$2,900,000 Dominion guaranteed issues. Of the remainder, sales of provincials accounted for \$1,500,000, sales of Dominions \$800,000, other corporation bonds \$400,000, and Canadian stocks \$200,000. Net repurchases of unguaranteed railway issues amounted to \$600,000.

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### Languages Spoken in Manitoba

A report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics shows that of Manitoba's total population in 1941, 647,010 persons could speak English only, 6,059 French only, 54,636 English and French, while 22,029 could speak neither language. In 1931, 600,139 spoke English only, 9,280 French only, 43,397 both English and French and 47,323 neither tongue. The total population of the province in 1941 was 729,744 as compared with 700,139 in 1931.

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### Reports Issued during the week.

1. Manitoba - Language and Mother Tongue, 1941 (10 cents).
  2. The Gypsum Industry, 1941 (25 cents).
  3. The Oiled and Waterproofed Clothing Industry, 1941 (15 cents).
  4. The Biscuit, Confectionery, Cocoa and Chocolate Industries, 1941 (25 cents).
  5. Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages, October (10 cents).
  6. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, Third Quarter, 1942 (10 cents).
  7. Sales and Purchases of Securities, September (10 cents).
  8. Monthly Review of Business Statistics, November (10 cents).
  9. The Non-Ferrous Smelting and Refining Industry, 1941 (10 cents).
  10. The Cooperage Industry, 1941 (10 cents).
  11. The Inks Industry, 1941 (15 cents).
  12. The Coal Tar Distillation Industry, 1941 (10 cents).
  13. Operating Revenues, Expenses & Statistics of Railways, September (10 cents).
  14. Production and Sale of Radio Receiving Sets, Third Quarter, 1942 (25 cents).
  15. Sales of Manufactured and Natural Gas, October (10 cents).
  16. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
  17. Prices and Price Indexes, November (10 cents).
  18. The Rubber Industry in Canada, 1941 (25 cents).
  19. Statistics of Steam Railways, 1941 (10 cents).
  20. International Bridge, Tunnel and Ferry Companies, 1941 (15 cents).
  21. Manitoba - School Attendance and Years of Schooling, 1941 (10 cents).
  22. Production of Dairy Factories, Canada, 1941 (10 cents).
  23. Canadian Shorn Wool Production, 1942 (10 cents).
  24. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
  25. Economic Conditions in Canada, Ten Months of 1942 (10 cents).
  26. First Estimate of the Value of Field Crops, (10 cents).
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