

Economic Conditions During Nine Months of 1943

The main economic factors recorded advances in the first nine months of this year over the same period of 1942. An average of six major classifications was higher in the nine months than in any similar period in Canadian history. The index of the physical volume of business based on the period from 1935 to 1939 averaged 233.5 against 199 in the same period of last year. The increase of more than 17 per cent reflects the influence of the marked expansion in war production. While a tendency toward tapering off has been displayed in recent months, the level of productive activity has been greater during the present year than at any time in our industrial history.

The index of wholesale prices averaged 99.2 in the first nine months against 95.3 in the same period of last year, a gain of more than four per cent. The index of industrial production indicating the trend of mining, manufacturing, construction and electric power recorded a gain of 21 per cent to nearly 270 in the first nine months of 1943. The index of mineral production based on 15 factors including the use of bauxite in the production of aluminum was 284.6, a gain of 26 per cent over the first nine months of 1942.

The increase in the index of manufacturing production was nearly 23 per cent, the standing in the first nine months of this year having been nearly 290. The consumption of electric power indicating the trend in operations of the electric power industry rose about 10 per cent, the total having been 26.3 billion kilowatt hours against 23.9 billion in the same period of last year.

The gain in a number of manufacturing industries was indicated by advances in flour production, the output of creamery butter and the release of cigarettes. The output of wheat flour was nearly 61 million barrels in the first eight months, a gain of 21.8 per cent. Creamery butter production was 258.4 million pounds against 227.6 million, an increase of 13.6 per cent. The release of cigarettes was more than 17 per cent greater at 8,475 million. A minor gain was shown in cigar releases at 146 million. Declines were recorded in some industries affected by the shortage of manpower and raw materials. Raw cotton consumption was more than nine per cent less at 138.8 million pounds. Newsprint production receded from 2.4 million tons to 2.2 million, a decline of eight per cent. Minor recessions were shown in steel and iron production from the high levels of 1942.

The striking development in external trade was a gain of more than 26 per cent in exports. The total was \$2,137 million in the nine months of this year against \$1,692 million in the same period of 1942. As the imports recorded a gain of only three per cent at \$1,277 million, a marked increase was recorded in the active balance of trade. The trend rose from \$452 million to \$816 million during the present period, a gain of no less than 90 per cent.

Coincidental with the industrial expansion, employment was in greater volume during the first nine months. The index on the base of 1926 was 182.5 against 170.4, a gain of more than seven per cent. Gains were recorded in manufacturing and construction while recessions were shown in logging and mining. The index of employment exhibits a tendency toward levelling off in recent months, indicating that the phase of full employment has been practically reached.

The estimate of national income was \$745 million in September against \$732 million in the preceding month. The standing in September last year was \$646 million. The total for the first nine months was \$6,879 million against \$5,515 million in the same period of 1942. The increase in this comparison consequently was 19.3 per cent. The advance in the national income has continued sharply since the outbreak of hostilities. The increasing concentration upon war production was the main influence in the higher levels of the elapsed portion of the present year.

Employment Situation at Beginning of September

There was a further rise in general industrial employment in the Dominion at the beginning of September, but the increase was considerably smaller than at September 1 in any recent year. The slackening in the rate of expansion continues the levelling-off which has been indicated in current employment figures; this is partly due to shortages of labour, but in some cases results from changes in the type of production required in certain war industries.

The 13,934 establishments furnishing information to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported the employment of 1,870,836 men and women as compared with 1,868,542 at August 1. The gain of 2,294 workers, or 0.1 per cent, brought the index on the base 1926=100 to 186.2 as compared with 185.9 for August and 179.3 at September 1, 1942.

Manufacturing establishments showed considerably heightened activity at September 1 when they recorded a gain of 11,253 employees. Although this increase is significant, and greatly exceeds the average at the beginning of September in the 22 earlier years for which statistics are available, it is nevertheless considerably smaller than in any other September since that of 1936. The additions to the personnel on September 1 this year were fairly evenly divided between the durable and non-durable goods divisions, with those in iron and steel and vegetable foods being greatest. On the other hand, further reductions were shown in chemical plants.

Among the non-manufacturing industries, the trend were mixed, that in communications, transportation, services and trade being moderately upward, while the movement in logging, mining and construction was retrogressive. The declines in logging and mining were contraseasonal.

The co-operating firms reported the disbursement of weekly salaries and wages totalling \$58,516,943 at September 1 as compared with \$58,044,447 at the beginning of August. This increase of 0.8 per cent exceeded that of 0.8 per cent in the personnel, with the result that the per capita average advance from \$31.06 at August 1 to \$31.28 at the beginning of September. The latter was the highest on record, exceeding by 14 cents the previous maximum indicated at April 1. At September 1 last year, the average was \$29.29.

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#### October 1 Cost of Living Index

- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost of living index declined fractionally from 119.4 on September 1 to 119.3 on October 1, for a wartime increase of 18.4 per cent. The index now stands 1.4 points above the July 1942 figure upon which the last cost of living bonus adjustment was based.

Food prices which have contributed the greater part of the advance in recent months were also responsible for the October decline. The food index dropped from 133.5 in September to 132.9 in October. Sharply lower prices for potatoes and lesser decreases for lamb, beef, carrots and turnips were of greater importance than increase for eggs and butter.

There was also a slight reduction in the fuel and light index from 113.4 to 113.3. Two group indexes, advanced, rents from 111.5 to 111.9, and clothing from 120.6 to 121.1. Remaining group indexes were unchanged, home furnishings and services at 118.2, and miscellaneous items at 108.3.

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#### Wholesale Price Movements in October

Following a sharp advance in Canadian farm products in the opening week of October, price changes throughout the remainder of the month were relatively small. However, the net rise in this index amounted to 4.9 points, and its October closing level of 103.8 was the highest since December 1929. Inclusion of the 30 cents per cwt. additional bonus on fluid milk which became effective October 1, was mainly responsible for increasing the animal product price index 7.1 points to 124.8 between September 24 and October 1. The final October index of 125.3 indicated a net gain of 7.6 points and reflected higher prices for eggs and poultry. Field product prices moved up 3.4 points to 91.0 between September 24 and October 29 on higher quotations for wheat and rye coupled with smaller advances for potatoes, onions and hay.

The composite weekly index for 30 industrial materials on the base 1926=100 moved 0.3 points higher to 99.6 between September 24 and October 29. The food sectional index which rose 1.0 to 100.1, recorded the sharpest advance. It reflected higher quotations for wheat which offset fractional declines for steers and hogs. A gain of 0.7 to 119.8 in the stable commodity series was due to advances for eastern spruce and for bleached sulphite pulp. No net change occurred in the manufacturing sub-group of 13 items which, after dipping to 83.7 during the week of October 8, subsequently recovered to 83.9 by the 29th.

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### Stocks of Wheat in Store

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on October 28 totalled 362,834,964 bushels, including 350,682,525 bushels in Canadian position and 12,152,439 bushels in United States positions. On the corresponding date last year stocks totalled 445,085,137 bushels.

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### Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Farmers in western Canada delivered 3,393,115 bushels of wheat from the farms during the week ending October 28 as compared with 3,167,396 in the previous week. During the elapsed portion of the crop year - to October 28 - marketings totalled 50,381,677 bushels compared with 84,282,824 in the corresponding period of the previous crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from the farms, totals for the previous week being in brackets: oats, 1,394,296 (2,281,480) bushels, barley, 1,301,309 (2,276,390); rye, 15,455 (26,866); flaxseed, 296,420 (820,479).

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### Stocks of Butter, Cheese and Eggs

Stocks of butter, cheese and eggs in the nine principal cities of Canada as at the close of business on November 1 were as follows, according to the advanced preliminary statement issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics: creamery butter 48,247,031 pounds, a drop of 2,700,000 from last month, but an increase of 21,600,000 over last year; cheese stocks totalled 40,461,376 pounds, a very slight increase over last month, but an increase of 10,000,000 over last year; stocks of shell eggs totalled 896,065 dozen compared with 1,900,000 last month and more than 2,000,000 last year; frozen eggs were 11,139,175 pounds, a decrease of 2,700,000 from last year, and a decrease of almost 3,000,000 from last month.

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### Estimate of Leaf Tobacco Production

On the basis of conditions at the end of September, the total production of leaf tobacco in Canada was indicated at 62,844,700 pounds, which was 26,854,700 pounds or 30 per cent less than the 1942 crop of 89,699,400 pounds. Lower yields from smaller acreages were common to all types. Approximately 77 per cent of the drop in production was in flue-cured tobacco as frost damage reduced the Ontario flue-cured crop by 10.5 million pounds.

The area planted to all types of tobacco in 1943 was estimated at 71,600 acres, a reduction of 9.1 per cent from the 78,730 acres planted in 1942. Decreases were common to all types, that of flue-cured being down 5.7 per cent, burley 22 per cent, dark types 19.3 per cent, cigar leaf 14.7 per cent and 59.2 per cent in pipe types.

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### Fruit Crop Estimates

The estimates of the late fruit crops with the exception of grapes are, for the most part, somewhat improved since September. Apples are now estimated at 4,255,100 barrels, an increase of 4.5 per cent over the previous figure of 4,044,600 barrels. The improvement was due to the heavier packout in both Nova Scotia and Ontario. While some fruit was blown to the ground during the gale in mid-October in Nova Scotia, practically all of these apples will be salvaged.

The pear crop is also expected to be somewhat above the September prospects, being currently estimated at 557,700 bushels compared with 508,800 bushels. This increase results from exceptional sizing of fruit in Ontario. The estimate of the plum and prune crops in Ontario also show an increase over the September outlook to bring the total for Canada to 354,400 bushels compared with 331,500 bushels.

The peach harvest on the other hand remains unchanged at 571,100 bushels, a decline of 70 per cent from the 1,939,200 bushel harvest in 1942. The grape crop has been reduced to 53,881,600 pounds compared with 58,201,600 indicated a month ago. This was due to the somewhat smaller bunch size in blue varieties in western Ontario where the bulk of the crop is grown.

## Slaughtering and Meat Packing Industry

The output of the Canadian slaughtering and meat packing industry in 1942 marks a high record for value at \$369,047,175, an increase over the previous year of \$72,806,760 or 25 per cent. To the total value, the meat sold fresh contributed \$151,623,088 or 41 per cent; the cured meats, \$171,116,072 or 47 per cent; lard and shortening, \$22,563,246 or six per cent; hides and skins, \$9,932,841 or two per cent; and miscellaneous items including tallow, oils, grease, fertilizer, \$13,811,928 or four per cent.

The most important single item comprises bacon and sides, of which the total quantity was 379,408,058 pounds and the value \$81,053,371, an increase of six per cent in quantity and 20 per cent in value when compared with the previous year. Second and third respectively, are beef sold fresh valued at \$80,771,350 and pork sold fresh at \$38,607,179. Average prices were higher in 1942 for all items.

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## Stocks of Raw Hides and Skins

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by farmers, packers and dealers at the end of September amounted to 487,285 compared with 425,524 on the corresponding date last year. Calf and kip skins on hand totalled 584,799 compared with 881,132, goat and kid skins 254,804 compared with 65,884, horse hides 38,090 compared with 17,156, and sheep and lamb skins 68,415 (dozen) compared with 81,418 (dozen).

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## Production of Flour in September

Operating at 91.5 per cent of rated capacity Canadian mills produced 2,014,255 barrels of flour in September as compared with 1,737,472 in the corresponding month last year. The quantity of wheat ground during the month was 8,946,009 bushels compared with 7,804,651 a year ago. In the other grains, oats, corn and barley were ground in heavier volume, but buckwheat and mixed grains were lighter.

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## Stocks of United States Grain in Canada

Stocks of United States corn in Canada on October 28 were sharply lower than on the corresponding date last year, the total being 120,825 bushels compared with 3,510,170. United States wheat in Canada totalled 233,466 bushels compared with 85,772, rye 23,526 bushels compared with 23,548 and soybeans 29,777 bushels compared with nil.

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## Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries During August

Net sales of securities by Canada to other countries in August totalled \$13,200,000 compared with \$22,000,000 in July and \$27,900,000 in June. Although lower than in the two preceding months the level in August was still unusually high. Sales of Canadian bonds to the United States continued to be the major source of the inflow of capital.

Sales to all countries in August totalled \$20,500,000 as compared with \$31,700,000 in July and \$9,500,000 in the corresponding month last year. Purchases during the month amounted to \$7,300,000 compared with \$9,700,000 in July and \$3,700,000 last year. During the eight months ended August sales to all countries aggregated \$200,700,000, while purchases amounted to \$66,400,000.

Sales of Dominions, Provincials and Dominion guarantees constituted the principal part of the total net sales to the United States of \$14,000,000 in August. Net sales of Dominion issues to that country were \$6,900,000, net sales of Provincials \$3,000,000, and net sales of Dominion guarantees \$1,000,000. Net sales of United States securities of \$1,100,000 were principally concentrated in stocks. Net repurchases of Canadian stocks from the United Kingdom amounted to \$1,000,000, with net sales to other countries amounting to \$200,000.

In the eight months ended August net sales of securities to all countries were \$134,300,000 compared with \$70,400,000 in the corresponding months of 1941. Sales of Canadian securities were \$111,500,000, of which Canadian bonds constituted \$110,500,000. Net sales of United States securities were \$19,600,000. In the same period of 1942 sales of Canadian securities were \$64,500,000 and sales of United States securities \$5,200,000.

### Production of Iron and Steel in September

The Canadian production of pig iron in September amounted to 147,902 net tons compared with 155,900 in the corresponding month last year. In September this year output included 122,830 tons of basic iron, 16,048 tons of foundry iron and 9,024 tons of malleable iron. Production during the nine months ended September aggregated 1,331,966 tons compared with 1,464,631 in the corresponding period of last year.

Production of steel ingots and direct steel castings in September amounted to 241,255 net tons compared with 244,922 a year ago. Output during the latest month included 229,700 tons of ingots and 11,555 tons of castings. During the nine months ended September production aggregated 2,237,736 net tons compared with 2,309,588 in the corresponding period last year.

Output of ferro-alloys in September amounted to 17,007 tons compared with 18,548 in September last year, while the total for the nine months ended September was 168,630 tons compared with 159,070 in the corresponding period of 1942.

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### Country General Store Sales in September

Country general store sales averaged six per cent higher in September than in the corresponding month last year, according to reports received from over 360 of these general merchandise stores located in the smaller towns and rural areas. The unadjusted index of sales on the base 1935-1939=100 was 147.7 compared with 139.7 a year ago. Sales during the nine months ended September averaged 12.1 per cent higher than in the like period of 1942.

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### Births, Deaths and Marriages in September

Births registered in cities, towns and villages having a population of 10,000 and over numbered 10,860 in September, deaths 4,357 and marriages 5,264 as compared with 10,262 births, 4,091 deaths and 7,157 marriages in September last year, showing increases of six per cent in births, seven per cent in deaths and a decrease of 26 per cent in marriages.

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### Compressed Gases Industry

Manufacturing plants in Canada engaged chiefly in making industrial gases in 1942 reported a gross value of products at \$8,203,556 compared with \$6,345,140 in 1941, an increase of 29.3 per cent. The chief products were oxygen, acetylene and carbon dioxide. The output of oxygen increased 52 per cent to 541,184,707 cubic feet, acetylene 29 per cent to 105,751,660 cubic feet and carbon dioxide 10 per cent to 18,442,416 pounds. Output of hydrogen declined 30 per cent to 40,365,249 cubic feet.

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### Reports Issued Today

1. The Roofing Paper Industry, 1942 (10 cents).
  2. Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries, August (10 cents).
  3. Statistics of Dairy Factories, 1941 (25 cents).
  4. Advance Preliminary Statement of Stocks of Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Principal Cities of Canada, November 1 (10 cents).
  5. Slaughtering and Meat Packing; Sausage and Sausage Casings, 1942 (25 cents).
  6. Fruit Crop Report (10 cents).
  7. Price Movements, October (10 cents).
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  18. Indexes of Country General Store Sales, September (10 cents).
  19. Tobacco Crop Report (10 cents).
  20. Production of Iron and Steel, September (10 cents).
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The following table shows the number of persons in the population of Canada, by age and sex, in 1981. The population is shown in thousands.

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Population of Canada, by age and sex, 1981

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Population of Canada, by age and sex, 1981

1. Total population	26,000,000
2. Males	13,000,000
3. Females	13,000,000
4. Under 15	4,000,000
5. 15 to 64	12,000,000
6. 65 and over	10,000,000
7. Under 15	4,000,000
8. 15 to 64	12,000,000
9. 65 and over	10,000,000
10. Under 15	4,000,000
11. 15 to 64	12,000,000
12. 65 and over	10,000,000
13. Under 15	4,000,000
14. 15 to 64	12,000,000
15. 65 and over	10,000,000
16. Under 15	4,000,000
17. 15 to 64	12,000,000
18. 65 and over	10,000,000
19. Under 15	4,000,000
20. 15 to 64	12,000,000
21. 65 and over	10,000,000
22. Under 15	4,000,000
23. 15 to 64	12,000,000
24. 65 and over	10,000,000
25. Under 15	4,000,000
26. 15 to 64	12,000,000
27. 65 and over	10,000,000
28. Under 15	4,000,000
29. 15 to 64	12,000,000
30. 65 and over	10,000,000