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Business Gain in October

Appreciable gain was recorded in the volume of productive operations in October over the preceding month. The expansion has been marked since the outbreak of hostilities, a tendency toward tapering off having been shown in the last three or four months. The index of the physical volume of business on the five-year base of 1935-1939 was 239.5 in October against 236.7 in the preceding month. The standing in October was higher than in any other month except last August when the index registered 241. The index was 207.2 in October of last year, the gain during the 12 months having been 15.6 per cent.

Two of the five main components of the business index recorded gains in October over the preceding month. The index of manufacturing production rose five points to 304. The index of construction, based upon the new business obtained by the industry, showed a gain from 77.5 to 82.5. Other indexes, consisting of mineral production, electric power and distribution were at a lower level in October than in the preceding month.

The index of mineral production receded from 322 to about 311. The output of coal was 1,540,741 tons against 1,441,270 in the preceding month, but the gain was less than normal for the season. A minor decline was shown in the gold receipts at the mint and gold production showed recession in the latest month for which statistics are available. The mining industry has recently been handicapped by the shortage of man power.

The increase in the manufacturing group was the main influence in raising the index of the volume of business in October. Operations of the flour milling industry were nearly maintained after the usual adjustment. The index of tobacco releases rose from 161.5 to 179.3. Gains were shown in release of Canadian raw leaf and in cigarettes. The total number of cigarettes made available was 969 million against 923.7 million. The net result was that the index indicating the trend of manufacturing based on crop products rose more than 10 points to 144.3.

Gains in the slaughterings of hogs and sheep were counterbalanced by decline in cattle. The general index for the meat packing industry receded from 165 to 163.8. The index of dairy output showed a recession of about three points to 125.7. The production of cheese declined less than normal for the season. The index of activity in the textile industry receded from 156.0 to 150.6. Cotton consumption declined from 14.2 million pounds to 13.6 million.

The operations of the forestry industry showed decline, the index receding from 147 to 114. The gain in newsprint production was less than normal for the season. A gain was recorded in the output of steel ingots. Steel production was 271,976 tons against 241,255. Pig iron production showed a recession less than normal for the season. The index of activity in the iron and steel industry rose from 617.3 to 626.5, reaching a new high point.

A slight gain was also shown in the operations of the non-ferrous metal group the index rising more than one point to 287.4. The non-metallic group showed a slight slackening in operations, the index receding from 152.6 to 151. The output of electric power rose from 3,277 million k.w.h. to 3,459 million, but the increase was considerably less than normal for the season, the index receding from 160.5 to 151.3. The index of wholesale sales showed a gain in the latest month for which statistics are available. A decline, on the other hand, was shown in retail sales. The index of tons carried by steam railways was at a lower position. The net revenue of the Canadian Pacific Railway was \$5,841,000 in October against \$5,718,000 in the same month of last year. The total for the first ten months was \$38.6 million against \$37.7 million in the same period of 1942.

Merchandise imports amounted to \$162.9 million against \$137.3 million in September. After correction for seasonal and price factors, the index rose from 172.1 to 180.3, the highest point since last January. Exports, exclusive of gold, rose from 247.4 million to 262.9 million. The gain, however, was considerably less than seasonal tendencies, and a considerable decline was shown in the adjusted index.

Economic Activity in October compared with the Preceding Month
1935-1939=100

	1943	
	October	September
Physical Volume of Business	239.5	236.7
Industrial Production	283.3	280.9
Mineral Production	310.9	322.4
Gold Receipts	81.2	85.6
Coal Production	91.8	113.1
Manufacturing	304.1	299.2
Flour Production*	146.6	148.3
Rolled Oats Production*	68.8	68.7
Inspected Slaughtering	163.8	165.0
Cattle	96.5	113.3
Sheep	88.1	78.4
Hogs	219.9	209.2
Creamery Butter	115.3	121.7
Factory Cheese	141.5	139.1
Tobacco	179.3	161.5
Cigar Releases	110.9	129.8
Cigarette Releases	184.8	164.0
Boots and Shoes Production*	120.3	119.1
Textiles	150.6	156.0
Cotton Consumption	130.4	133.3
Forestry	114.2	127.2
Newsprint	97.2	102.8
Iron and Steel	626.5	617.3
Pig Iron Production	289.9	249.2
Steel Production	286.6	267.9
Construction	82.5	77.5
Contracts Awarded	80.6	70.6
Building Permits	90.1	104.8
Cost of Construction	133.0	132.7
Electric Power	151.3	160.5
Distribution	148.8	154.0
Marketings -		
Grain and Live Stock Marketings	51.0	53.4
Grain Marketings - Country Elevators	44.6	45.3
Wheat	30.9	34.7
Oats	240.3	363.7
Live Stock Marketings	78.5	88.7
Cattle	70.4	81.6
Calves	76.5	72.1
Hogs	105.4	126.4
Sheep	102.3	74.3
Cold Storage Holdings, 1st of following month	155.8	136.3
Eggs	158.8	151.8
Butter	120.4	116.4
Cheese	136.6	126.4
Beef	113.2	124.5
Pork	237.4	175.3
Mutton	71.9	100.5
Poultry	254.2	149.3
Lard	138.1	99.8
Veal	142.2	151.8
* Preceding Month		

Boatbuilding Industry in 1942

There were 115 establishments in Canada in 1942 engaged wholly or principally in the manufacture of small wooden vessels and pleasure craft, such as row boats, canoes, sailboats, motor boats, etc. The capital investment was \$2,167,887. The products manufactured during the year were valued at \$2,504,483 compared with \$2,284,068 in 1941. Several establishments formerly included in this group, having undertaken the production of larger ships for war purposes, have been transferred to the shipbuilding industry.

Canada's Ten Months' External Trade

Canada's external trade in the first ten months of 1943 totalled \$3,839,870,323 compared with \$3,285,732,633 in the same period of 1942 and \$1,853,467,337 in the similar period of 1940. In these three years Canada's external trade has increased approximately two billion dollars. This is exclusive of gold.

The export of Canadian products in the ten months of this year amounted to \$2,378,-991,791 and imports \$1,439,893,992. Exports in the similar period of last year totalled \$1,889,801,990 and imports, \$1,380,468,301. Exports of foreign produce in the ten-month period totalled \$20,984,540 compared with \$15,462,342 a year ago.

Imports from the British Commonwealth and Empire during the ten months ended October totalled \$198,000,000 compared with \$241,000,000 a year ago. Imports from the United Kingdom during the ten months totalled \$113,700,000 compared with \$144,200,000 a year ago, from the United States \$1,181,200,000 compared with \$1,084,500,000, and other Foreign Countries \$60,700,000 compared with \$54,900,000.

Domestic exports to the British Commonwealth and Empire during the ten months ended October amounted to \$1,130,700,000 compared with \$964,300,000 in the like period of 1942, of which the United Kingdom accounted for \$837,200,000 compared with \$625,800,000 a year ago. Exports to the United States amounted to \$910,700,000 compared with \$659,200,000, and to other Foreign Countries \$337,600,000 compared with \$266,300,000.

The ten months' balance of trade was in Canada's favour to the extent of \$960,082,-339 as compared with \$741,224,113 in the same period of 1942, and was approximately nine times greater than in the similar period of 1940. Net exports of non-monetary gold aggregated \$121,000,000 compared with \$184,400,000 in the ten months of 1942.

Canada's External Trade in October

Canada's external trade in October, excluding gold, was valued at \$425,795,307 as compared with \$384,639,552 in the previous month and \$333,160,229 in October last year. Domestic exports totalled \$259,808,158 compared with \$244,914,478 in September and \$211,895,406 in October, 1942. Imports amounted to \$162,920,856 compared with \$137,271,083 in the previous month and \$140,192,890 a year ago.

The October balance of trade was in Canada's favour to the extent of \$99,953,595 compared with \$110,097,586 in September and \$72,774,449 last year. Net exports of non-monetary gold, additional to the balance of trade, amounted to \$11,300,000 in October compared with \$11,800,000 in September and \$19,300,000 in October, 1942. The amount of duty collected during the month was \$18,176,681 compared with \$14,587,428 in September and \$12,778,809 a year ago.

Domestic exports to the United Kingdom in October amounted to \$73,400,000 compared with \$55,300,000 in October last year, while imports totalled \$13,300,000 compared with \$12,500,000. Domestic exports to the United States in October totalled \$112,800,000 compared with \$79,200,000, with imports amounting to \$134,500,000 compared with \$110,300,000.

Production of Crude Petroleum in September

Canada's production of crude petroleum and natural gasoline in September amounted to 811,864 barrels, excluding that produced in the Northwest Territories. In the corresponding month last year production totalled 826,868 barrels. Alberta's September output amounted to 798,211 barrels, of which the Turner Valley accounted for 770,800 barrels. Canadian production during the nine months ended September aggregated 7,521,969 barrels compared with 7,806,046 in the similar period of 1942.

Natural Gas Production in September

Natural gas production during September amounted to 2,711,820,000 cubic feet compared with 2,312,999,000 in the previous month and 2,882,467,000 in the corresponding month last year. During the first nine months of this year production totalled 31,592,233,000 cubic feet compared with 30,850,037,000 in the like period of last year.

Retail Sales of Gasoline in July

Retail sales of motor, tractor and aviation grades of gasoline in July totalled 92,471,000 gallons, according to returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from the tax departments of the Provincial Governments and Canadian oil companies. In July last year sales totalled 86,454,000 gallons. Sales during the seven months ended July aggregated 479,037,000 gallons compared with 487,312,000 in the same period of last year.

World Wheat Situation

Only moderate success has attended efforts in 1943 to reverse wheat acreage policy from one of contraction in recent years to one of expansion for 1944. Both the United States and Argentine agricultural authorities encouraged increased wheat acreage this year, but in Argentina the plantings were actually smaller, while in the United States the winter wheat acreage for next year's harvest is below expectation.

United States farmers were frustrated by weather conditions in their attempts to expand wheat acreage to meet the goal set for 1944. Reversal of the acreage policy was announced in mid-summer and an increase of 14,000,000 acres for the 1944 harvest was set as the national goal. It was expected that the winter wheat States would take up a substantial share of this proposed increase, but on first count they appear to have failed to reach their expected quota.

Drought has persisted over a wide area including the important wheat producing sections of western Kansas, south-western Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas. Current estimates concede an increase of between 10 and 15 per cent in wheat acreage over the entire winter wheat belt, and this in terms of acres is between 3.7 and 5.6 million acres. Some of the seed went into a very dry seed bed and is not germinating satisfactorily. Rains now could bring about recovery, but unless moisture is received soon abandonment of seeded acreage might be quite considerable.

There is still the spring wheat area to be reckoned with in the fulfilment of the 1944 acreage goal, but it is considered doubtful that sufficient expansion of spring wheat plantings will take place to make up the leeway indicated at the present time. The spring wheat area in 1943 was approximately 16,000,000 acres, and it is conceivable that this could be expanded to the 1938 level of around 23,000,000 acres. It was between 1938 and 1939 that spring wheat acreage in the United States was so extensively cut.

Just a year ago the emphasis was on wheat acreage reduction in both the United States and Canada. At that time stocks of surplus wheat were enormous and efforts were being made to produce feed grains and oil-bearing seeds. Since then the diversion of wheat to non-food use has been quite extensive, particularly in the United States and this, together with the expectation of some increase in relief shipments of cereal grains to Europe has caused the about-face.

The wheat surplus in Canada is still very substantial and there are quite considerable stocks in Argentina and Australia available for export, but the rapid disappearance of wheat in non-food channels, which has been a topic of discussion the past several months, is a factor of importance. The Food Research Institute of Stanford University had a word to say about this in a recent study of the wheat situation, when pointing out that world wheat stocks as of August 1, 1943, were about 1,500,000,000 bushels above pre-war normals.

Such abundance of wheat if preserved only for human food and seed for planting would easily meet the maximum potential requirements in the current crop year and leave substantial carry-overs, but the Institute was concerned about the huge quantities these non-food channels are capable of absorbing and noted that unrestrained diversion of wheat to animal feed and for industrial use, including alcohol manufacture and fuel, would soon exhaust the surplus. It was their view that the problems of the current situation in wheat were not those of supplies, but the management of supplies.

Some indication of the use of wheat for live-stock feed in the United States is to be found in the record of sales by the Commodity Credit Corporation. The latest available figures show that during the first nine months of 1943 a total of almost 360,000,000 bushels of wheat was sold for animal feed. Sales during the four months July-October amounted to 158,000,000 bushels and the C.C.C. has been adding to its holdings through purchases of wheat on the open market in the United States and through imports from Canada and Argentina.

Since Canada is likely to be a heavy shipper of wheat to the United States in the current crop year, the question of wheat acreage in Canada next year will be a topic at the forthcoming Dominion-Provincial Conference on the 1944 production objectives. Wheat acreage in Canada was slashed in 1941 and heavily reduced again in 1943, but the higher prices now obtaining for Canadian wheat, together with expanding markets for the surplus, are likely to encourage expansion in 1944. It will be early December, however, before the acreage objectives are named.

Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on November 25 totalled 365,343,774 bushels, including 343,119,219 bushels in Canadian positions and 22,224,555 bushels in United States positions. On the corresponding date last year the visible supply totalled 453,889,449 bushels.

Farmers' Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Farmers in western Canada delivered 9,237,761 bushels of wheat from the farms during the week ending November 25 as compared with 10,096,343 in the previous week. During the elapsed portion of the crop year which commenced August 1, marketings in Western Canada totalled 85,749,999 bushels compared with 114,507,071 in the comparable period of the previous crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were delivered from western farms during the week ending November 25, totals for the previous week being in brackets: oats, 1,503,058 (1,564,077) bushels; barley, 1,176,757 (1,217,648); rye, 17,508 (16,034); flaxseed, 225,365 (135,837).

Canadian Milling in October

Wheat ground in Canadian mills in October amounted to 9,349,024 bushels compared with 8,233,257 a year ago. Oats ground totalled 1,874,794 bushels as against 1,372,205. Production of wheat flour during the month was 2,118,409 barrels, the highest monthly production so far this year. A year ago it was 1,851,062 barrels. Total production of wheat flour for the first quarter of the crop year was 6,020,694 barrels compared with 5,408,733 in the similar period of the previous crop year.

Stocks of United States Grain in Canada

United States wheat in Canada on November 25 totalled 235,252 bushels compared with 85,772 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks of other grains were as follows, with the figures of a year ago in brackets: rye, nil (23,548) bushels; corn, 146,827 (3,541,171); soya bean, 30,832 (nil).

Stocks of Canadian Butter, Cheese and Eggs

Stocks of creamery butter in the principal cities of Canada on December 1 amounted to 39,485,549 pounds as against 18,811,509 a year ago. Stocks of dairy butter were 130,361 pounds. Stocks of cheese in the nine leading cities totalled 39,541,707 pounds compared with 47,263,052 on December 1, 1942. In addition to the Canadian stocks on hand, imported cheese amounted to 42,883 pounds.

Cold storage eggs on December 1 amounted to 36,100 dozen, all of which was located in Montreal, while a year ago the amount was 379,193 dozen, of which the principal amount was in Calgary. Fresh eggs on December 1 totalled 313,935 dozen compared with 721,145 on November 1 and frozen eggs 7,679,125 pounds compared with 9,981,884 a year ago.

Production of Fruits in 1940

The value of fruits, including tree and small, produced in Canada in 1940 was \$18,277,169, of which fruit farms accounted for \$15,442,229, other farms \$2,133,572, and elsewhere than on farms \$701,368, according to the 1941 census of agriculture.

Values of principal varieties produced on fruit farms during the year were as follows, with quantities in pounds in brackets: apples, \$7,232,893 (590,237,817);

crab-apples, \$70,988 (4,784,889); apricots, \$99,527 (4,042,738); peaches, \$1,789,819 (70,644,667); pears, \$552,396 (30,419,026); plums and prunes, \$391,449 (18,456,441); cherries, \$659,693 (12,326,074); grapes, \$1,257,008 (61,733,646); strawberries, \$2,115,660 (38,432,506); raspberries, \$902,636 (12,801,730); currants, \$84,590 (1,142,977).

Ontario was the chief fruit producing province of the Dominion in 1940 with a total value of \$8,369,801, followed by British Columbia at \$4,974,495, Quebec \$2,067,098, Nova Scotia \$2,054,965, New Brunswick \$387,568, Alberta \$147,486, Saskatchewan \$122,211, Manitoba \$88,494, Prince Edward Island \$65,051.

Sales of Fertilizers in Canada

Sales of fertilizer materials and of mixed fertilizers, including exports but excluding the export of calcium cyanamid, totalled 700,997 short tons during the year ended June, 1943, compared with 607,679 short tons sold during the previous twelve months.

Sales consisted of 72,070 tons of fertilizer materials and 417,699 tons of mixtures sold in Canada, making a total of 479,769 tons. Last year's Canadian sales totalled 433,251 tons. The 1942-43 export figures included 38,520 tons of mixtures and 172,708 tons of materials.

Macaroni and Kindred Products

The production of macaroni, spaghetti, vermicelli, noodles, etc. in Canada is increasing. In 1942 it amounted to 50,287,000 pounds compared with 44,314,000 pounds in the previous year. There were 16 establishments comprising this industry in 1942 distributed as follows: Ontario five, Manitoba four, British Columbia three, Quebec three and Alberta one.

Indexes of Country General Store Sales

Country general store sales averaged five per cent higher in October than in the corresponding month last year, according to information received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from general merchandise stores located in the smaller towns and rural areas. The unadjusted index of sales on the base 1935-1939=100 stood at 162.0 in October compared with 153.9 a year ago. Sales during the ten months ended October averaged 11.4 per cent heavier than in the similar period of last year.

Index of Wholesale Prices

The general wholesale price index on the base 1926=100 advanced 0.7 points to 101.9 in October, continuing a steady upward trend in evidence since the beginning of the war. Higher index levels were recorded for vegetable products, animal products, wood, wood products and paper and iron and its products. Other main groups were unchanged with the exception of chemicals and allied products which dropped 0.2 to 100.3.

Output of Central Electric Stations

Central electric stations produced 3,458,568,000 kilowatt hours during October as compared with 3,376,775,000 in the previous month and 3,174,419,000 in October last year. On a daily basis this was less than the September output, a decrease having been shown in secondary power. The total output during the ten months ended September increased to 33,357,403,000 kilowatt hours from 30,757,950,000 in the similar period of 1942.

Exports of power to the United States in October totalled 190,451,000 kilowatt hours compared with 207,087,000 a year ago, a decline having been recorded in secondary power exports. Exports during the ten months ended October aggregated 2,139,039,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 2,036,104,000 in the corresponding period of 1942.

Social Areas of Vancouver and Winnipeg

Prior to the 1941 census an arrangement was made between the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the councils of social agencies of the cities of Vancouver and Winnipeg to have 1941 census data compiled for certain social areas of these cities. The areas provided for were drawn up by the social agencies in co-operation with the census branch

of the Bureau. Due to the fact that numerous requests have been received from these cities for 1941 census figures by social areas it was decided to publish the data in the form of a bulletin.

This bulletin which has been released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, gives final population figures by sex, conjugal condition, age, racial origin, religious denomination, birthplace, period of immigration, naturalization and citizenship, schooling, and official language and mother tongue, for the social areas of both Vancouver and Winnipeg as of the 1941 censuses. Interested persons may obtain copies on application to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Bulletins on Racial Origin By Conjugal Condition, Age, Religion, Birthplace, Etc.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released bulletins which classify the population of the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and the cities of Halifax and St. John by racial origin, showing for each origin the number of males and females by conjugal condition, age, religious denomination, birthplace, immigration and citizenship, official language and mother tongue and schooling as of June 2, 1941.

These bulletins are part of a series to be published for the Dominion as a whole, the provinces and cities of 30,000 population and over. It is expected that Bulletins Nos. B-6, B-7 and B-8 for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, respectively, and Bulletin B-9 for British Columbia will be released during the next few weeks. The series will be completed early in the New Year with the publication of Bulletins Nos. B-4 and B-5 for Quebec and Ontario, respectively.

Weekly Earnings of Male and Female Wage-Earners Employed in Manufacturing Industries in 1941

Average weekly earnings of male wage-earners employed in the manufacturing industries of Canada as a whole amounted to \$27.72 in 1941, an increase of \$5.59 or 24.7 per cent over 1939. Due to an increase of 3.4 hours in the working week, average hourly earnings advanced from 46.2 cents in 1939 to 53.8 cents in 1941, an increase of only 16.5 per cent. Male wage-earners in Ontario received the highest average earnings of \$29.39 per week, British Columbia came second with \$28.99, followed by Manitoba with \$26.56, Quebec \$26.14, Nova Scotia \$24.42, Alberta \$24.32, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan \$22.81, and Prince Edward Island \$16.70.

In comparing weekly earnings in the major industrial groups, it is found that the iron and steel group reported the highest earnings of \$32.01, being followed by the other groups in the order named: non-ferrous metal products \$31.28, chemicals and allied products \$28.38, non-metallic mineral products \$27.88, miscellaneous industries \$25.41, animal products \$24.81, wood and paper products \$24.25, textiles and textile products \$23.74, and vegetable products \$23.55.

Average weekly earnings in 1941 in the forty industries employing the great number of male wage-earners ranged from \$40.57 for automobiles to \$19.03 for sawmills. In only thirteen industries were weekly earnings above \$30.00. These industries in the descending order of their rank were: automobiles, automobile supplies, bridge and structural steel, petroleum products, aircraft, pulp and paper, railway rolling-stock, shipbuilding and repairs, non-ferrous metal smelting and refining, electrical apparatus and supplies, miscellaneous iron and steel products, machinery, and brass and copper products. In fourteen other industries earnings ranged between \$25 and \$30 per week. In twelve they received between \$20 and \$25, while in only one industry, viz. sawmills, were they below \$20.

Female wage-earners received on an average of \$15.05 per week in 1941, an increase of \$2.27 as compared with 1939. Workers in Ontario with \$15.82 per week were paid the highest wages. British Columbia with \$15.18 ranked second, followed by Alberta with \$14.85, Quebec \$14.46, Manitoba \$14.09, Saskatchewan \$13.81, New Brunswick \$11.84, Nova Scotia \$11.80, and Prince Edward Island \$9.10.

Female wage-earners in the iron and its products group received the highest wage of \$16.91 per week, while in the vegetable products group they received the lowest wage of \$13.62. In the textiles and textile products group which employs 45 per cent of the total number of female wage-earners employed in manufacturing, the average wage was \$15.33, twenty-eight cents above the average for all groups.

Average weekly earnings of female wage-earners have a narrower range than those of male workers. Weekly earnings in the forty industries employing the greatest number of female wage-earners in 1941 ranged from \$23.66 for the aircraft industry to \$11.55 for bread and other bakery products. In only fifteen industries were weekly earnings above \$15.00. These were: aircraft, fur goods, automobile supplies, slaughtering and meat packing, women's factory clothing, brass and copper products, men's clothing contractors, sheet metal products, electrical apparatus and supplies, miscellaneous chemical products, hats and caps, rubber goods, woollen cloth, machinery and cotton yarn and cloth. In ten other industries weekly earnings ranged between \$14 and \$15, in nine other they were from \$13 to \$14, while in the remaining six they were below \$12.

Male wage-earners in 1941 worked on an average 51.5 hours per week, an increase of 3.4 hours over 1939. Of these 18.0 per cent worked 44 hours or less, 34.2 per cent worked between 45 and 50 hours, 17.8 per cent worked between 51 and 55 hours, and 30.0 per cent worked 56 hours or over. Female wage-earners worked shorter hours, averaging 47.1 hours per week in 1941. This was 4.4 hours less than the number of hours worked by male wage-earners. Of the female wage-earners employed 27.8 per cent worked 44 hours or less, 42.0 per cent worked between 45 and 50 hours, 18.6 per cent worked between 51 and 55 hours, and 11.6 per cent worked 56 hours or over.

Circulation of Public Libraries in 1941

The circulation of public libraries in Canada in 1941 totalled 20,283,618 volumes as compared with 20,728,151 in 1939, a reduction of 444,533 volumes according to a survey conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The decrease was confined to the borrowing of adult reading matter, particularly of fiction, the circulation of books for children having been increased. Despite the decline in circulation the number of registered borrowers increased to 1,057,336 in 1941 from 1,045,521 in 1939.

Illustrating the trend in the wartime reading habits of the Canadian people, the public library circulation of adult fiction volumes decreased to 9,944,591 volumes in 1941 from 10,225,813 in 1939, adult non-fiction to 3,922,343 volumes from 3,997,336; juvenile increased to 5,979,200 volumes from 5,707,948, while unclassified volumes decreased to 447,525 from 786,054.

One plausible explanation for the decline in the circulation of adult fiction volumes lies in the fact that many readers who by joining the armed services have gone out of reach of the libraries. There has been no general plan by means of which librarians could provide a compensating service to enlisted readers. However, some library boards out of local resources have made special attempts to meet the library problem of training centres in or near their cities, but in the main the provision of reading material for service personnel has been left to voluntary agencies.

Children have made increased use of public library facilities. The newer school programs of study, placing less reliance on a few text books and recommending access to a wide selection of books, doubtless have much to do with this development. In addition to the traffic in books a few libraries make provision for story hours or classes to be conducted on the library premises, while others have members of the library staff visit the schools.

The survey shows that well over half of the Canadian population is still without public library service as compared with one-fourth in the United States and less than one per cent in Britain. Expenditures on libraries in this country continue to be less than 20 cents per capita while it approaches 30 cents in Britain and is more than 40 cents in the United States.

Dominion Revenues from Manufacture and Sale of Liquor

The total Dominion revenue from the manufacture and sale of liquor, exclusive of sales tax, during the fiscal year 1942-43 was \$80,952,000 as against \$60,710,000 in 1942. In 1939 it was \$25,669,000, so that the revenue is now more than three times greater than when the war began in the Fall of 1939. The large revenue in 1943 was made up of excise duties, excise taxes, excise duties on malt and customs duties.

The production of spirits last year was the largest in a great many years, the amount being over 19,000,000 proof gallons, while that of malt liquors was almost 109,000,000 gallons. In 1939 the production of spirits was 9,643,000 proof gallons and malt liquors 63,332,000 gallons.

Wines produced during 1941 but placed in storage for maturing totalled 4,841,000 gallons and the amount of fermented wine bottled or sold in bulk during the year was 4,189,000 gallons. This amount is not quite so large as in 1940, but exceeds previous years with the exception of 1929 and 1930.

The estimated consumption of spirits in Canada in 1943 was 4,903,023 proof gallons as against 3,433,664 in 1939. The estimated consumption of malt liquors was 97,610,326 gallons as against 63,302,752 in 1939, and that of wine 4,627,567 gallons compared with 3,461,867 gallons.

International Bridge, Tunnel and Ferry Companies

The number of passenger automobiles crossing the Canada-United States border by facilities operated by bridge, ferry and tunnel companies dropped from 5,450,993 in 1941 to 4,253,759 in 1942, or by 22 per cent, and although commercial vehicles increased slightly, the total number of vehicles decreased from 5,845,812 to 4,675,740, or by 20 per cent. Pedestrians and passengers, other than drivers, also decreased from 12,235,127 in 1941 to 11,076,456. The effect of the through trucking of United States freight in bond between Detroit - Sarnia and Buffalo, largely war material, was not apparent in 1942 as the service did not begin until October.

Railway Revenues in September

Canadian railways earned \$66,620,000 in September as against \$58,590,000 in the same month of 1942. Freight revenue increased by eight per cent and passenger revenue by 36 per cent. Operating expenses increased by \$5,177,000 or 12½ per cent, and the operating income increased from \$11,803,000 to \$13,034,000. Passenger traffic was by far the heaviest in any September, being 273 per cent greater than in 1938. The number of employees increased from 155,550 to 165,509 or by 6.4 per cent, and the total payroll increased by \$2,425,000 or by over 10 per cent.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Racial Origin by Conjugal Condition, Age, Etc., N.B., 1941 (10 cents).
2. The Boatbuilding Industry, 1942 (10 cents).
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