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Estimate of the National Income in January

The national income was tentatively estimated at \$716 million in the first month of the year compared with \$687 million in January 1943. While the standing was less than the monthly average for 1943, income was greater than in any other January. The gain over the same month of last year was 4.3 per cent. The advance from September 1939 to May 1943 was unprecedented and income since that time has been relatively well maintained at the highest level in history.

The movement of a number of important economic factors bearing on the trend of the national income confirms that the maximum level, at least for the time being, has now been reached. The tapering off of employment and aggregate payrolls is a sign of the times. Except for the possibilities of increasing total output by improving industrial efficiency and lengthening the work week the maximum level of national income is mainly determined by the full employment of the labour force. The index of general employment at the first of the year was only slightly above that of the beginning of 1943, and the gain in the sample of aggregate weekly payrolls was limited to 7.9 per cent.

The advance in the national income has been curbed in the last eight months in contrast with the movement of some of the main economic generators. The production of steel indicating the trend in the manufacture of munitions and in capital formation rose 17 per cent in January over the same month last year. The advance in exports was nearly 38 per cent to about \$246 million in the same comparison. The excess of Dominion expenditures over revenues was \$69.5 million in January against \$15.6 million in the same month last year. The money supply, consisting of the four main classes of deposit liabilities and the circulating media in the hands of the public, rose about 24 per cent to \$5,108 million at the end of January.

Economic Conditions in January

The major factors indicating the trend of economic conditions recorded a marked gain in January over the same month of 1943. The trend of business operations was upward throughout the year, resulting in a very much higher level for general indexes of business and production. The index of the physical volume of business was 247 in January against 225.8 in the same month of last year, a gain of 9.4 p.c. The upward trend of business operations has been maintained since the outbreak of hostilities. Marked advances were recorded especially in 1941 and 1942 and the upward trend was continued to the end of 1943. The index of the physical volume of business reached a new high point in December and the recession in January from that position was of minor proportions.

The marked expansion in the export trade during the last twelve months is indicated by the rise of nearly 38 p.c. in the total for January. The total was about \$246 million as compared with \$178.5 million in the same month of 1943. War production reached its main objectives in the last twelve months and the export trade reflected the movement of the munitions and war supplies to the main theatres of war. The expansion during the last twelve months has resulted mainly from increased war production.

The phase of full employment having been practically reached, the general index of employment at the beginning of the year was 185.7 compared with 183.7, an advance of only two points over the standing on the same date of 1943. Minor advances were shown in manufacturing, logging and trade in the same comparison. Gains, however, were in part offset by declines in mining construction and other groups.

While the advance in wholesale prices was of a moderate character during the last two years, the trend was definitely upward. A marked advance had taken place between August 1939 and the latter part of 1941. The index on the base of 1926 crossed the line of parity in an upward direction in the latter part of 1943, the standing in January having been 102.5. This level compares with 97.1 in January 1943, a gain of 5.6 p.c.

The increase in the deposit liabilities of the banks was one of the significant factors. The total at the end of January was \$4,273,000,000 compared with \$3,494,000,000 on the same date of last year. The increase in the deposit liabilities, constituting the greater part of the money supply in Canada, rose 22.3 p.c. during the twelve months. The advance in bank deposits has been in evidence since the early part of 1934.

Canada's Merchandise Export Trade in February

Canada's merchandise export trade continues to grow and in February the value was \$227,168,000 as compared with \$167,699,000 in the corresponding month last year. Features of the month's trade were the heavily increased outward shipments of wheat, meats and motor vehicles and parts. Wheat exports rose to \$28,484,000 from \$4,909,000 in February a year ago, meats to \$20,236,000 from \$7,253,000 and motor vehicles and parts to \$30,315,000 from \$16,794,000. Wool exports were increased to \$1,683,000 from \$195,000.

The flow of Canadian supplies to India, China, the French Possessions, Italy, Russia, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and to many other countries was continued during the month. Merchandise exports to India were valued at \$12,144,000 compared with \$5,998,000, China \$3,050,000 against nil, French Possessions \$1,100,000 compared with \$102,000, Italy \$4,921,000 compared with nil, Russia \$6,490,000 compared with \$964,000, Turkey \$2,696,000 compared with nil, United Kingdom \$78,184,000 compared with \$51,893,000 and the United States \$91,650,000 compared with \$81,085,000.

The following were amongst the leading commodities exported during February, totals for the same month of 1943 being in brackets: fruits, \$501,000 (\$337,000); vegetables, \$778,000 (\$576,000); wheat flour, \$5,301,000 (\$4,475,000); fishery products, \$4,489,000 (\$3,247,000); furs, \$3,169,000 (\$2,049,000); cheese, \$1,509,000 (\$3,651,000); eggs, \$882,000 (\$1,646,000); cotton, \$751,000 (\$261,000); artificial silk, \$755,000 (\$358,000); planks and boards, \$4,990,000 (\$4,200,000); pulp wood, \$1,763,000 (\$1,200,000); wood pulp, \$7,257,000 (\$7,661,000); newsprint, \$12,682,000 (\$9,399,000); farm implements, \$1,204,000 (\$616,000); chemicals, \$8,139,000 (\$6,080,000); fertilizers, \$2,268,000 (\$1,268,000).

Exports to other leading countries were as follows, totals for February 1943 being in brackets: British East Africa, \$423,000 (\$1,221,000); British South Africa, \$2,205,000 (\$877,000); Ceylon, \$498,000 (\$33,000); British Guiana, \$516,000 (\$545,000); Jamaica, \$391,000 (\$458,000); Trinidad and Tobago, \$1,059,000 (\$1,288,000); Newfoundland, \$2,650,000 (\$2,156,000); Australia, \$4,197,000 (\$2,272,000); New Zealand, \$1,203,000 (\$82,000); Argentina, \$265,000 (\$209,000); Brazil, \$497,000 (\$41,000); Colombia, \$123,000 (\$81,000); Cuba, \$229,000 (\$245,000); Egypt, \$6,939,000 (\$10,371,000); Iraq, \$415,000 (\$2,025,000); Mexico, \$484,000 (\$804,000); Persia, \$285,000 (nil).

Food Stocks in Store on March 1

Stocks of creamery butter in storage and in transit in Canada on March 1 were 19,877,746 pounds as compared with 33,371,932 on February 1 and 12,354,859 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks on March 1 during the past five years averaged 19,782,000 pounds.

Cheese stocks, including earloads in transit, totalled 27,996,586 pounds as compared with 33,192,171 on February 1. A year ago the total was 27,508,058 pounds, but this amount did not include stocks in the hands of the railway companies.

The inventory of evaporated whole milk owned by manufacturers was 3,895,400 pounds, while last year the amount was 4,723,430 pounds and last month 5,381,867. The main by-product, skim milk powder, totalled 752,564 pounds, a reduction of 100,000 pounds from last month, but over half a million pounds less than last year when the total was 1,299,306.

The quantity of shell eggs on hand was 6,795,245 dozen, which compares favourably with 4,272,520 last month and 2,955,082 a year ago. Almost half of the holdings were owned by the Special Products Board for drying. Frozen egg meats amounted to 7,007,091 pounds as compared with 5,685,218 on February 1 and 2,606,390 a year ago.

Total poultry stocks were 23,202,018 pounds, including an estimate of one million pounds for some firms which did not report in time. Of the quantity reported, 9,559,839 pounds were chickens, a reduction of 2.2 million from last month, and a decrease from last year of five million pounds; fowl stocks totalled 6,660,313 pounds, being six times more than a year ago; turkeys amounted to 4,940,348 pounds as compared with 5,205,263 last month and 3,399,677 pounds last year.

Total stocks of Canadian pork were 100,784,203 pounds, most of it awaiting shipment to Great Britain. Last year the holdings were 57,095,151 pounds. Beef holdings were 53,816,498 pounds, practically the same as last month, but more than twice last year's stocks which were 16,433,174 pounds. Veal stocks at 2,948,112 pounds, showed a reduction from last month, the total then being 4,456,993 pounds. Last year stocks amounted to

837,542 pounds. Mutton and lamb amounted to 8,406,650 pounds as compared with 1,985,154 last year. Stocks of all frozen fish were 23,382,168 pounds as compared with 18,079,172 a year ago. Cod holdings were 4,482,409 pounds, haddock 971,029, salmon 4,833,473 and sea herring, including kippers, 4,736,678 pounds.

Apple holdings were reduced to 1,178,160 bushels from 2,608,399 last year. A year ago the stocks were 1,777,331 bushels. Stocks of fruits, frozen and in preservatives, amounted to 27,921,238 pounds compared with 29,248,168 on February 1. March 1 stocks included 791,773 pounds of frozen fruits in consumer packages, 10,165,941 frozen for reprocessing and 16,963,524 pounds held in preservatives for reprocessing.

Vegetables, frozen and in brine, amounted to 1,948,969 pounds, including 1,048,246 pounds in frozen consumer packages, 243,780 frozen for reprocessing and 656,943 pounds in brine. Last month holdings totalled 2,612,475 pounds.

Stocks of potatoes were 183,922 tons as compared with 213,516 last month and 138,805 last year. The inventory of onions declined to 1,733 tons from 3,316 tons on February 1. Last year the stocks on hand were 9,604 tons. There were also on hand on March 1 this year 615 tons of beets, 1,080 tons of cabbages, 5,202 tons of carrots, 4,152 crates of celery and 412 tons of parsnips, all domestic produce. In addition there were 135 tons of imported beets, 414 tons of cabbages, 42 tons of carrots, one ton of onions, 82 tons of potatoes and 14,321 crates of celery.

Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on March 9 totalled 336,415,792 bushels, including 317,341,920 bushels in Canadian positions and 19,073,872 bushels in United States positions. On the corresponding date last year the visible supply totalled 443,136,011 bushels.

Marketings of Wheat and Coarse Grains

Deliveries of wheat from the farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending March 9 amounted to 5,482,072 bushels as compared with 6,286,671 in the previous week. During the present crop year which commenced August 1, 1943, marketings totalled 179,004,217 bushels as compared with 170,687,693 in the similar period of the previous crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were delivered from the farms in western Canada during the week ended March 9, totals for the previous week being in brackets: oats, 1,047,703 (1,324,574) bushels; barley, 486,739 (747,565); rye, 71,524 (115,355); flaxseed, 19,535 (19,422).

Production of Coal and Coke in January

Canada's production of coal in January amounted to 1,620,669 tons as compared with 1,609,349 in the previous month and 1,559,304 in the corresponding month last year. Alberta's output in January totalled 718,653 tons compared with 671,441 a year ago, while Nova Scotia's total was 544,407 tons compared with 532,380.

January imports of coal amounted to 1,181,600 tons as compared with 856,942 in January, 1943. Exports of Canadian coal totalled 74,717 tons compared with 35,120. Employees in the coal mines of Canada during December 1943, numbered 27,284 as compared with 25,487 in the corresponding month of 1942.

Production of coke in January amounted to 345,000 tons compared with 344,000 in the previous month and 232,000 in the same month of 1943.

Production of Sawn Lumber in 1942

A minor decline was recorded in the production of sawn lumber in Canada in 1942, when the total was 4,935,145,000 feet board measure as compared with 4,941,084,000 in 1941, a reduction of 5,939,000 feet. Pulpwood production was increased to 687,819 cords from 553,701 in 1941, while shingles decreased to 3,720,482 squares from 4,160,772. The total value of sawmill products in 1942 was \$192,919,000, of which sawn lumber accounted for \$149,855,000, shingles \$13,191,000 and pulpwood \$7,175,528. In 1941 the total value was \$163,412,000.

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Although British Columbia's production of sawn lumber was reduced to 2,303,552,000 board feet from 2,407,800,000 in 1941, that province contributed almost half of the total Canadian output. Quebec was in second place with 1,010,510,000 board feet as compared with 914,691,000, followed by Ontario with 625,433,000 board feet compared with 602,248,000.

Production in the remaining provinces in 1942 was as follows, totals for 1941 being in brackets: New Brunswick 328,927,000 (332,211,000) board feet, Nova Scotia 253,525,000 (252,490,000), Alberta 198,898,000 (214,619,000), Saskatchewan 125,657,000 (125,853,000), Manitoba 82,243,000 (85,918,000), Prince Edward Island 5,732,000 (4,724,000), Yukon 583,000 (530,000).

Where Have We Been Getting Our Coffee?

During the last fifteen years or so the chief source of our supply of coffee has been British East Africa. The new coffee plantations of that country were coming into their own. The lands lie adjacent to Abyssinia where coffee grows wild. Prior to that our chief source of supply was Brazil.

Before the war a total import of about 40 million pounds was an ample supply for Canadians and of that amount approximately 12½ million came from British East Africa. That does not appear to be a very large total when compared with pro rata United States needs, but whereas the Americans are coffee-drinkers in the main, Canadians are tea drinkers.

Our total imports in 1940 were close to 42 million pounds but in 1941, to meet the needs of the Armed Forces and the Red Cross, etc., the imports rose to 55 million pounds. That appeared to be adequate, but the war on the oceans became more intense and merchant tonnage was difficult to obtain with the result that our imports dropped to about 45 million. Of the ten million drop, nearly six million was the reduced import from British East Africa alone.

Something had to be done at once to relieve the situation, so the rationing of coffee came into force on August 3, 1942. That measure solved the problem.

Import figures for the years 1941 and 1942 make clear where Canadians get their coffee. The amounts that follow are for 1942 in pounds, with the 1941 totals in brackets: British East Africa 10,802,000 (16,258,000), Salvador 11,447,000 (7,380,000), Costa Rica 8,685,000 (4,139,000), Guatemala 5,083,000 (5,007,000), Jamaica 4,100,000 (4,007,000), Brazil 3,077,000 (9,733,000).

The smaller amounts came from British South Africa, British India, Trinidad and Other British West Indies, Colombia, Hayti, Mexico, Netherland East Indies, San Domingo, Hawaii and Venezuela. There was none from Abyssinia in 1941 and 1942 and only 831 pounds in 1940.

Where Have We Been Getting Our Sugar?

Imports of sugar in 1942, the latest year for which figures are permitted to be published, amounted to 6,252,000 cwt. This was a heavy drop from 10,958,000 cwt. in 1941. It explains why the rationing of sugar was brought into being on July 1, 1942. The lower imports were occasioned by the scarcity of tonnage as a result of the call made upon merchant shipping by the outbreak of war between Japan and the Allied Powers in the Pacific, whence much of Canada's raw sugar requirements were obtained.

Following were the imports in hundredweights by sources in 1942, with the 1941 figures in brackets: Australia 573,000 (1,188,000), Fiji 800,000 (1,377,000), Cuba 1,801,000 (1,320,000), Hayti nil (12,000), Peru nil (13,000), San Domingo 185,000 (2,350,000), British Guiana 534,000 (1,009,000), Barbados 172,000 (855,000), Jamaica 1,285,000 (1,003,000), Trinidad and Tobago 678,000 (1,132,000), Other British West Indies 68,000 (459,000). This sugar was all for refining in Canada. Other sugar imports amounted to 158,000 cwt. as against 240,000 in 1941.

Production of beet sugar in Canada in 1942 was 1,890,000 cwt. compared with 2,150,000 in 1941.

Directory of Private Schools in Eight Provinces

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics announces the publication of a directory of private

schools in Canada. It is divided into three sections. Section one lists private elementary and secondary schools in eight provinces, Quebec excepted. Private schools are more numerous in Quebec than in the other provinces, and since the provincial Bureau of Statistics, Quebec, publishes a "List of the Independent Schools", the work is not here duplicated. In the present directory the names of more than 300 private elementary and secondary schools appear. Their annual enrolment of approximately 35,000 represents about two per cent of the enrolment in public elementary and secondary schools in the eight provinces.

Section two lists the high school departments of colleges. They are not numerous but count about 5,000 students, who, together with the 12,000 secondary students among the 35,000 already mentioned, constitute about seven per cent of all secondary students in the eight provinces. Section three records the commercial schools or business colleges, numbering about 130 in the eight provinces. In a recent year the enrolment in these schools included 10,000 day students and about 5,000 evening students.

Copies of this directory may be obtained on application to the Dominion Statistician, Ottawa --- price 25 cents.

Retail Merchandise Trade of Quebec in 1941

The retail merchandise trade of the Province of Quebec in 1941 was valued at \$381,671,000 as compared with \$651,139,000 in 1930, an increase of 25.7 per cent. There were 39,712 retail stores in the province in 1941, 38,161 of which were independent stores whose sales formed 83.7 per cent of the total. In 1930, 34,236 retail outlets were recorded. In 1941 these stores required the services of 96,749 employees, including 75,562 persons engaged on a full-time basis and 22,187 on a part time basis. In addition, there were 38,574 proprietors who devoted the major portion of their time to the management of their retail businesses.

The following were the sales by kind of business groups in 1941, corresponding totals for 1930 being in brackets: food group \$240,481,900 (\$186,233,900), country general stores \$49,290,500 (\$42,510,700), general merchandise group \$104,145,900 (\$93,108,300), automotive group \$113,069,200 (\$71,554,200), apparel group \$85,743,800 (\$61,105,900), building materials group \$32,844,800 (\$30,715,900), furniture, household and radio group \$34,346,400 (\$29,222,900), restaurant group \$28,542,100 (\$17,205,300), other retail stores \$127,933,900 (\$116,983,200), second hand group \$2,272,500 (\$2,498,200).

Furniture Industry in 1942

An increase of 6.7 per cent was recorded in the gross value of products manufactured by the Canadian furniture industry in 1942 when the total was \$45,650,000 as compared with \$42,776,000 in 1941. Of this amount, household furniture accounted for \$31,817,000, including bedroom furniture to the value of \$10,623,000, upholstered living room furniture at \$9,745,000, dining room furniture \$3,709,000 and kitchen furniture \$3,578,000. Production of office and store fixtures and furniture amounted to \$4,376,000 and for churches, schools and public buildings \$1,059,000.

Civil Aviation in November

Revenue passengers transported by civil aircraft in November increased to 22,726 from 16,720 in the corresponding month of 1942, and the average number per aircraft mile rose to 7.9 from 7.3. The amount of revenue freight carried was 507,448 pounds compared with 310,521, and mail 547,279 pounds compared with 499,515.

Car Loadings on Canadian Railways

Car loadings for the week ended March 4 increased to 69,207 cars from 68,330 in the previous week and 63,424 in the corresponding week last year. In the eastern division loadings increased from 42,445 cars in 1943 to 44,295 and in the western division from 20,979 to 24,912 cars.

The large increases in the eastern division were hay and straw and automobiles, the former increasing from 219 to 999 cars and the latter from 1,312 to 1,799 cars. In the western division grain increased from 3,131 to 6,915 cars, live stock from 1,174 to 1,741 cars and pulpwood from 919 to 1,421 cars.

During the first nine weeks of 1944 loadings of grain in the western division increased to 57,265 cars from 31,509 in the corresponding period of 1943.

Stocks of United States Grain in Canada

Stocks of United States grain in Canada on March 9 amounted to 1,827,149 bushels compared with 3,382,898 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks included the following varieties, totals for the same date last year being in brackets, wheat, 1,190,252 (nil) bushels; corn, 620,326 (3,359,372); rye, nil (23,526); soybeans, 15,571 (nil).

Reports Issued Today

1. Directory of Private Schools in Eight Provinces (25 cents).
2. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
3. Monthly Review of Business Statistics, February (10 cents).
4. Economic Conditions in Canada, January (10 cents).
5. Production of Leather Footwear, January (10 cents).
6. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
7. Retail Merchandise Trade, Quebec, 1941 (25 cents).
8. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, March 1 (10 cents).
9. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, March 1 (10 cents).
10. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, March 1 (10 cents).
11. Cold Storage Holdings of Meat and Lard, March 1 (10 cents).
12. Area, Production and Value of Field Crops, Prince Edward Island, 1941 (10 cents).
13. Coal and Coke Statistics, January (10 cents).
14. Preliminary Report of the Lumber Industry, 1942 (35 cents).
15. The Furniture Industry in Canada, 1942 (15 cents).
16. The Machine Shops Industry, 1942 (15 cents).
17. Civil Aviation, November (10 cents).
18. Domestic Exports by Principal Countries, February (10 cents).
19. Summary of Canada's Exports, February (10 cents).

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