

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

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Weekly Review of Economic Statistics.- The Economic Index was 5.5 p.c. Greater than in the Same week of 1934, but Declined from the Preceding week

Owing to the decline in four factors used in the compilation, the economic index recorded an appreciable decline in the last week of November. A sharp increase had been shown in the preceding week and the decline in the week under review nearly counterbalanced that gain. The index of common stock prices showed a very slight increase and the level of wholesale prices was fully maintained. The important declines were in bank clearings and speculative trading. The recession in the index of inverted bond yields was of a moderate character, while carloadings showed a decline of 3.6 p.c. The economic index was 98.9 in the week ended November 30 compared with 104.2 in the preceding week, a decline of 5 p.c.

Despite the decline in the last week of November, the standing was still considerably higher than in the same week of 1934. Each of the six components recorded gains in this comparison and the increase in the index was no less than 5.5 p.c. The gain in common stock prices over the same week of last year was 26.7 p.c., the standing being 112.0 against 88.4. A sharp gain was also recorded in speculative trading. Bank clearing were at a level nearly 10 p.c. higher than last year and appreciable advances were also shown in carloadings and commodity and bond prices. The economic index in the week of November 30 was 98.9 against 93.8 in the same week of 1934.

After showing gains for two weeks, the index of carloadings dropped off in the 47th week. The index was 67.1 against 69.6 in the preceding week. The cumulative freight traffic during the 47 weeks was 2,145,000 cars against 2,117,000 cars in the same period of 1934, the greater part of the gain being attributable to a heavier movement in miscellaneous commodities, which are largely manufactured goods. Declines in this comparison were shown in grain, coke, coal, lumber and live stock, while the other commodity groups of the official classification recorded appreciable gains.

The level of wholesale prices, following slight advances in the two preceding weeks, was maintained in the week ended November 29. The index remained unchanged at 72.9 p.c. of the average for 1926. The level of wholesale prices has now been for eleven weeks at a higher position than in the same period of 1934, the increase in the week under review over the corresponding week of last year having been 2.4 p.c. Referring to average quotations on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, No. 1 Manitoba Northern wheat showed a slight advance in the week under review. Coarse grains, on the other hand, recorded general recessions. The prices of live stock on the Toronto stockyards showed declines from the preceding week, the drop in the price of bacon hogs being substantial. In the metal markets of New York, tin showed a slight increase, while the prices of other important base metals remained unchanged. The Canadian index for non-ferrous metals rose from 72.7 to 73.6 when increases in lead and zinc proved of more consequence than reductions in tin and brass.

While common stock prices averaged slightly higher in the week ended November 28, than in the preceding week, the sharp upward trend of the advance during the seven preceding weeks was by no means maintained. The index was 112.0 against 111.9. Five of the industrial groups showed gains while three declined, the net result for 87 industrials being an advance from 172.3 to 173.2. The index of 20 utilities moved up from 52.2 to 52.4, while a slight recession was shown in 16 power stocks. Partly in view of the sharp increase in the last eight weeks, a markedly higher level was shown than in the same week of 1934, the gain in this comparison being 27 p.c. Considerable declines were shown in bank clearings and speculative trading.

Weekly Economic Index with the Six Components  
1926=100

Week Ended	Car-loadings <sup>1</sup>	Wholesale Prices	Recipro-cals of Bond Yields <sup>2</sup>	Bank Clear-ings	Prices of Common Stocks	Shares Traded	Economic Index
Dec. 1, 1934	65.4	71.2	132.1	75.5	88.4	159.7	93.8
Nov. 23, 1935	69.6	72.9	134.6	113.3	111.9	436.5	104.2
Nov. 30, 1935	67.1	72.9	133.7	83.0	112.0	356.5	98.9

1. The index of carloadings is projected forward one week to correspond with the practice in computing the economic index. 2. Price of a fixed net income from Dominion Bonds.



# Bank Deposits and Security Holdings Showed Gain in October

The striking feature in the banking situation at the end of October was the continued gain in deposit liabilities. Even after adjustment for seasonal tendencies, the demand deposits showed an increase of 2.2 p.c. Notice deposits at \$1,465,000,000 against \$1,444,000,000 at the end of September showed an adjusted gain of 1.7 p.c. A small percentage gain was also shown in current loans during October, the total being \$855,600,000 against \$839,300,000, the adjusted gain being slightly less than one p.c. Owing to the increasing disparity between deposits and current loans, the banks added materially to their security holdings. A new high point was reached, the adjusted increase over the end of September being one half of one p.c. Declines were shown in call loans in Canada and elsewhere, both of these accounts being at relatively low levels. The gain in the notes in the hands of the public was less than normal for the season, the index declining from 95.7 to 92.4.

Variation was shown in the important banking factors as compared with October 1934. Important increases were shown in deposits and security holdings, while declines were recorded in current and call loans. The gain in demand deposits was 15.3 p.c. and notice deposits moved up nearly 7 p.c. The increase in security holdings was no less than 22½ p.c. in the 12 month period. Large percentage declines were shown in call loans in Canada and elsewhere.

## Banking Factors -- in Dollars

	Actual Amounts		p.c. Inc./ Dec.-	Indexes 1926-100		p.c. Inc./ Dec.-
	October 1934	October 1935		September 1935	October 1935	
Demand Deposits	542,443,750	625,206,281	15.3	107.2	109.6	2.2
Notice Deposits	1,370,178,568	1,465,301,708	6.9	108.1	109.9	1.7
Current Loans	895,728,990	855,599,556	- 4.5	89.7	90.5	0.9
Security Holdings	910,575,865	1,115,869,620	22.5	206.8	207.9	0.5
Call Loans, Canada	108,399,690	73,758,684	-32.0	54.5	52.5	- 3.7
Call Loans, Elsewhere	103,917,364	52,130,116	-49.8	24.8	21.7	-12.5

The chart on page 4 presents a long-term picture of several important banking factors.

## Index of Industrial Production on the 1926 Base during October Was 26 p.c. Higher in Canada than in the United States

The economic betterment of Canada was maintained at a relatively better level from August 1933 to the present than that of the United States. Continued advance has been shown in Canada without any important setback. The resistance to depressing influences in the United States from the first of the present year was relatively effective and the recent upturn appears to be based on more solid foundations than was the case in 1933 or 1934.

Recovery in the United States during 1933 and 1934 was interrupted by marked reactions. A spectacular recovery was shown from March to July 1933, but the standing reached at that time was by no means maintained.

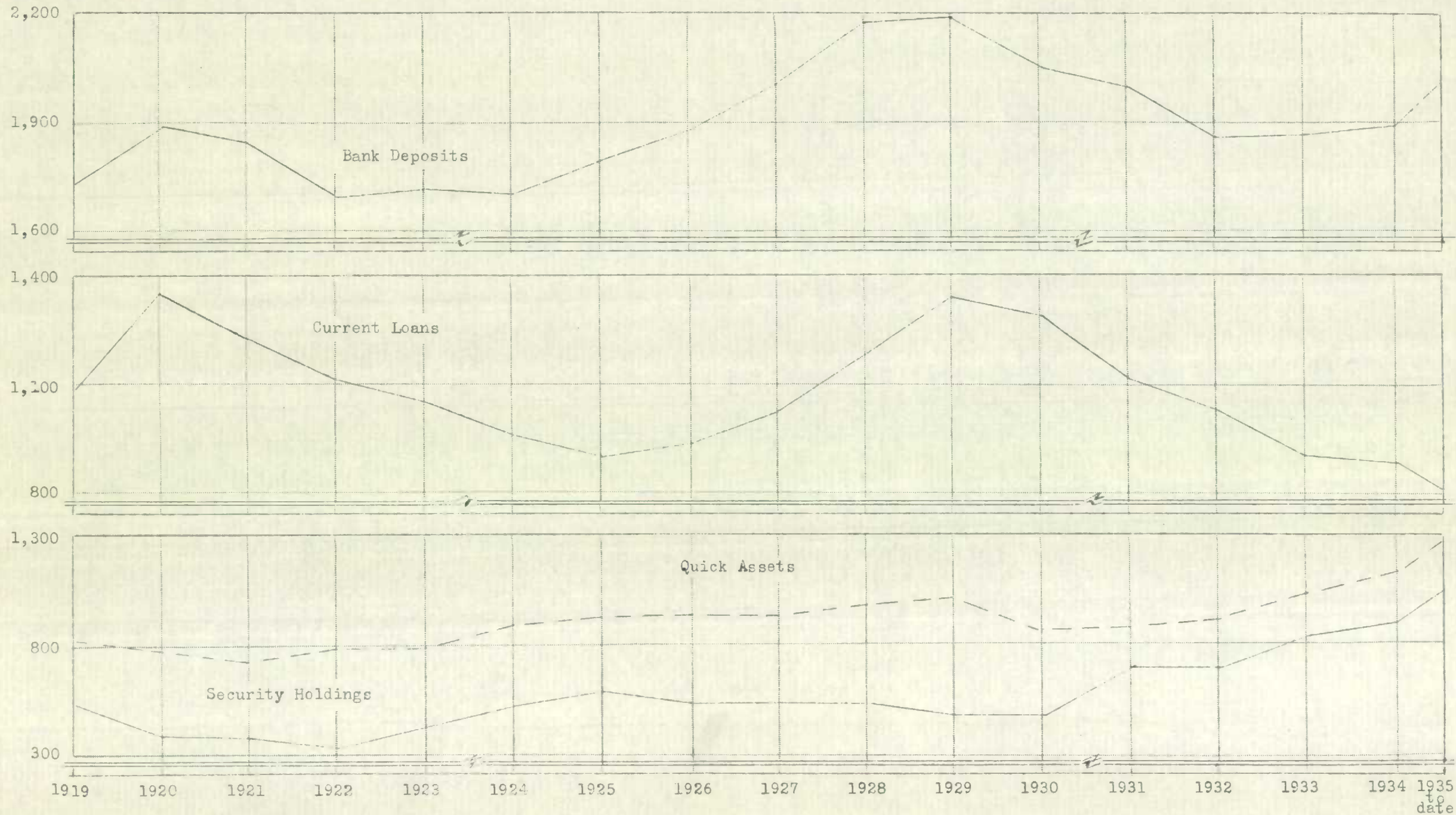
In Canada, however, the lowest point of industrial production, measured by the official index, was reached in February 1933, and the gain from February to September of that year was of a pronounced character. A further advance has been in evidence from the beginning of 1934 to the present. The Canadian index of industrial production in October was 110 compared with 87, the standing of the index of the United States transferred to the base of 1926.

While the official indexes of production of Canada and the United States are prepared by different methods, the comparison of them is interesting for observing the current trend and many points of resemblance are shown in the trends of the industrial groups in the two countries. The table on page 3 furnishes definite information as to the relative position in the two countries during October.

## Stocks of Foreign Corn

Stocks of foreign corn in Canada on November 29 included the following, with last year's figures in brackets: United States 1,356 (6,046,533) bushels, Argentine 525,975 (205,425), South African 2,034,461 (1,486,161).

Million Dollars





Business Conditions in Canada  
During First Ten Months of 1935

Measured by the records of the first ten months, economic recovery in Canada characterized the year of 1935. The betterment of 1934 was unmistakably extended in the year now drawing to a close. Most of the major factors advanced in the present year to new high levels since the minima were reached during the worst phases of the depression in 1932 and the first quarter of 1933.

The trend of business operations is the most significant factor considered in this connection, reflecting the actual volume of production in a wide variety of industries. The business index expressed as a percentage of the base year of 1926 averaged 101.3 in the first ten months of 1935, compared with 94.2 in the same period of the preceding year. The gain of 7.5 per cent represents a satisfactory advance over the levels of 1934, especially in view of the considerable betterment which took place in the latter year over the low point of the depression. Notwithstanding the rapidity of the gain in 1934, the trend continued upward during the elapsed portion of the present year, the gains in the index after the smoothing adjustment being practically continuous from month to month. The level has recently been close to that of the base year of 1926, chosen as being the best representative of average conditions in the post-war period.

The close interconnection of various economic functions was shown in the recovery in common stock prices subsequent to the early months of 1933. A spectacular gain was made from March to July of that year. Fluctuations of a relatively narrow character were shown during 1934 and the early months of the present year. A marked advance has been shown in recent months reflecting the improved prospects for corporate revenues. The official common stock index averaged 91.1 in the first ten months of 1935 compared with 85.7 in the same period of 1934, a gain of 6.3 per cent. The index of mining stocks averaged 6.1 per cent lower in the same comparison.

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Railway Revenues in September

With an increase in freight traffic of 14.6 per cent and in passenger traffic of 2.4 per cent over last year, Canadian railways showed an increase in gross revenues for September from \$27,605,390 to \$29,585,261. Operating expenses increased from \$21,688,325 and the operating income from \$4,998,347 to \$5,380,468. The increase in the pay roll was \$1,174,699, or 8.9 per cent, for an increase in the number of employees of 2,153, or 1.7 per cent.

For the nine months, January - September, gross revenues increased from \$218,206,109 in 1934 to \$220,730,659 and operating expenses from \$188,368,238 to \$195,496,357, but the operating income declined from \$20,714,245 to \$17,049,387.

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Farm Implement Imports in October

Imports of farm implements and machinery in October were valued at \$179,052 as against \$197,793 a year ago. The larger items included 75 cream separators at \$2,328 from Sweden, 26 at \$3,448 from United States and 25 at \$878 from the United Kingdom; 10 fanning mills at \$1,237 from the United States; equipment for generating electricity at \$3,901 from Great Britain; ensilage cutters at \$8,126 from the United States; 48 traction engines at \$40,251 from the United States and 14 at \$7,298 from the United Kingdom.

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Green Coffee Imports in October

Green coffee imports in October amounted to 2,867,448 pounds compared with 2,243,662 in October 1934. Countries of origin of the landing quantities were: Brazil 857,801 lb., Colombia 636,673, British East Africa 634,909, Jamaica 213,225, United Kingdom 186,192, Hawaii 83,302, Trinidad 80,125, United States 76,038, Costa Rica 59,345, Mexico 21,024, Venezuela 20,853, Ethiopia 4,400, Guatemala 3,735, Dutch East Indies 1,367.

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Stocks of Tobaccos

Stocks of Canadian tobaccos on Sept. 30 totalled 55,296,166 pounds compared with 62,793,627 on the same date last year. Stocks of imported tobaccos totalled 10,706,511 as against 14,475,306.

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### Patients in Canadian Hospitals

The average daily number of patients in Canadian hospitals in 1933 was 39,231, the average stay 13 days for newborn and 21 days for adults and children. The number of patients under care in all hospitals during the year was 700,284, of whom 69,282 were newborn and 631,002 adults and children. The number of adults and children who died in hospital was 25,813 and the number of newborn 2,057.

### Leather Footwear Production

The October production of leather footwear was 1,911,713 pairs compared with 1,982,451 in September and 1,782,172 in October 1934. The ten months' output was 18,440,551 pairs an increase over the corresponding period last year of 2,434,862 or 15 per cent. In every one of the ten months this year there was an increase over the same month last year.

### Copper Production of 1934 An All Time High Record

Production of new copper in Canada during 1934 totalled 364,761,062 pounds valued at \$26,671,438 as compared with 299,982,448 pounds at \$21,634,853 in 1933. The quantity produced in 1934 constitutes an all time high record for the industry, the previous high output being 303,478,356 pounds recorded for 1930. The decrease in the average price of the metal from 12.982 cents per pound on the New York market in 1930 to 7.419 cents in 1934, as computed from London quotations, is strongly reflected in the value of the 1934 copper output as compared with that of 1930.

The United Kingdom is now Canada's principal market for copper and it is encouraging to note a distinct improvement in 1935 in the price of copper in London where the price per pound, expressed in Canadian funds, increased from an average of 6.820 cents in January to 8.602 cents for the month of October. The pronounced change in the international flow of Canadian copper is emphasized in the fact that 95.7 per cent of the total value of Canadian copper exports in 1930 went to the United States and only 1.9 per cent to the United Kingdom, whereas in 1934 the percentage to the United States had fallen to 13.1 while the value of consignments to the United Kingdom had increased to 64.2 per cent.

### Retail Merchandise Trade in Ontario in 1934

Retail trade in Ontario for the year 1934 amounted to \$815,982,000, according to calculations made by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and based upon reports received for the annual Census of Merchandising and Service Establishments. This figure represents an increase of approximately 11 per cent in value of sales over 1933 and it is also 3.8 per cent higher than the amount recorded for 1932. Representing the value of retail trade for 1930 by 100, sales for the following years may be represented by 86.4 for 1931, 71.5 for 1932, 66.9 for 1933, and 74.2 for 1934.

### Retail Merchandise Trade in British Columbia in 1934

Retail trade in British Columbia in 1934 amounted to \$171,652,000, according to calculations made by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and based upon reports received for the annual Census of Merchandising and Service Establishments. This figure represents an increase of 10.9 per cent in value of sales over 1933 and it is also 5.4 per cent higher than the amount recorded for 1932. Representing the value of retail trade for 1930 by 100, sales for the following years may be represented by 83.5 in 1931, 65.5 for 1932, 62.2 for 1933, and 69 for 1934.

### Recent Wholesale Price Movements in Other Countries

The third quarter of 1935 witnessed a further gradual advance in commodity price levels. The movement was broader than in the earlier months of the year, including within its sweep the European gold 'bloc' as well as countries whose currencies are linked with the pound sterling, and the United States. Higher prices for animal products and textiles led the advance, although in many areas, increases were general in all the more important commodity groups. The only group in which declines commonly occurred was that of vegetable products which is dominated by cereal grains.



Comparative Indexes of Production in the United States and  
Canada for latest available month (1926=100 for both Countries),  
United States Indexes being as Published in the Federal Reserve  
Bulletin but transferred to the base of 1926

	United States October 1935	Canada October 1935	Percentage Inc. for latest month in Canada over United States
Total industrial production	87	110	/ 26
Mining	85	170	/ 100
Coal	65	94	/ 45
Silver <sup>x</sup>	75	60	- 20
Zinc	69	281	/ 307
Manufacturing	87	105	/ 21
Iron and Steel	77	77	0
Automobiles	82	60	- 27
Textiles	108	107	- 1
Food Products	86	101	/ 17
Leather and Shoes <sup>x</sup>	104	103	- 1
Petroleum Refining <sup>x</sup>	135	225	/ 67
Tobacco	123	144	/ 17
Construction	36	54	/ 50
Carloadings	60	71	/ 18

<sup>x</sup> September

Wheat Stocks and Movement

Export clearances of wheat during the week ended November 29 amounted to 2,982,009 bushels as against 3,879,482 a week ago, and 3,240,532 last year. Crop year clearances totalled 45,953,660 bushels as compared with 52,192,280 in the same period last year.

Marketings in the Prairie Provinces for the week of November 22 amounting to 5,614,641 bushels, recorded an increase of 1,886,696 over the previous week and an increase of 1,408,706 over last year's corresponding figure.

The amount of Canadian wheat in store on November 29 totalled 265,153,324 bushels, and recorded a slight increase of 66,434 bushels over the previous week and an increase of 10,653,996 over last year. In transit wheat amounted to 4,591,582 bushels compared with 3,938,329 the week before. United States wheat in Canada amounted to two bushels, and last year 1,048,912.

Areas Sown to Principal Field Crops

The total area estimated as sown to the principal field crops for 1935 is 55,645,160 acres, as compared with 55,037,820 acres reported for the same crops in 1934. Wheat occupied 24,115,700 acres, as compared with 23,985,000 in 1934. For fall wheat, the area harvested was 555,100 acres, as compared with 425,600 in 1934. The area under spring wheat was 23,560,600 acres as against 23,559,400. Oats occupied 14,096,200 acres as against 13,730,800; barley 3,886,800, as against 3,612,500; rye 769,500 acres, as against 734,900, and flaxseed 214,400 acres as against 226,900.

For the remaining crops, the acreages for 1935 are estimated as follows, with the 1934 figures in brackets: Peas 94,650 (94,960); beans 64,510 (56,760); buckwheat 380,100 (407,200); mixed grains 1,152,500 (1,159,200); corn for husking 167,700 (161,100); potatoes 506,800 (569,200); turnips, mangolds, etc., 185,200 (187,400); hay and clover 8,712,900 (8,881,400); Alfalfa 764,900 (681,400); fodder corn 480,700 (497,100); sugar beets 52,600 (52,000).

Numbers of Farm Live Stock in 1935

The total numbers of farm live stock in Canada as in June last are estimated as follows, with the corresponding numbers for 1934 within brackets: Horses 2,931,337 (2,933,492); total cattle 8,820,600 (8,951,900); sheep 3,399,100 (3,421,100); swine 3,549,200 (3,654,000); hens and chickens 53,062,900 (55,429,500); turkeys 2,066,200 (2,643,900); geese 918,100 (943,600); ducks 721,600 (781,700); total poultry 56,768,800 (59,798,700).

## Retail Merchandise Trade in the Prairie Provinces

Retail trade for the three Prairie Provinces combined amounted to \$361,960,000 in 1934 according to calculations made by the Bureau of Statistics. This figure represents an increase of 8.8 per cent in value of sales over 1933 and one per cent higher than 1932. For Manitoba the increase in value of sales in 1934 over the preceding year was 7.2 per cent; for Saskatchewan the increase was 8.3 per cent, and for Alberta 11.1. Representing the value of sales for 1930 by 100, indexes for the years following are 76.2 for 1931, 64.6 for 1932, 60.0 for 1933, and 65.2 for 1934.

While increases in trade were recorded for practically all lines of business, the greatest gain over 1933 was experienced by motor vehicle dealers. The total business of these establishments including the sale of both new and used vehicles, amounted to \$53,241,000, an increase of 39.5 per cent over the figure reported for 1933 and only slightly lower than the value for 1931. Sales of grocery and combination stores for the three provinces in 1934 were \$38,299,000 or 3.1 per cent higher than in 1933. Sales of meat markets for 1934 were \$8,229,000 or 10.3 per cent higher than in 1933. Value of sales for country general stores showed an increase over 1933 of 9.7 per cent. For department stores the increase was 3.2 per cent; for hardware stores 12.6 per cent; lumber and building material dealers, 11.3 per cent, and for drug stores 3.4 per cent.

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## Reports Issued During the Week

1. Retail Merchandise Trade in the Prairie Provinces, 1934. ✓
2. Recent Price Movements in Other Countries.
3. Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Cold Storage.
4. Second Annual Report of Hospitals in Canada, 1933. ✓
5. Stocks and Consumption of Unmanufactured Tobacco, Quarter Ending Sept. 30. ✓
6. Production of Leather Footwear, October.
7. Weekly Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices.
8. Crop Acreages, Live Stock and Poultry.
9. Monthly Review of Business Statistics, November.
10. Index Numbers of 23 Mining Stocks.
11. Copper, 1934. ✓
12. Sand and Gravel, 1934. ✓
13. Monthly Indexes of Retail Sales, 1929-1935.
14. Business Conditions in Canada during first Ten Months of 1935.
15. Retail Merchandise Trade in British Columbia in 1934. ✓
16. Retail Merchandise Trade in Ontario in 1934. ✓
17. Index Numbers of Security Prices.
18. Canadian Grain Statistics.
19. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways.
20. Imports of Coffee and Tea, October.
21. Imports of Farm Implements and Machinery, October.
22. Imports of Pulp Wood, Wood Pulp and Paper, October.
23. Coal and Coke Statistics, October.
24. Railway Statistics, September.



