

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Department of Trade and Commerce

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The Economic Index was down 0.9 p.c from Preceding Week and up 8.4 p.c. Over the Same Week of Last Year.

The economic index maintained by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics showed recession in the second week of March from the relatively high position of the preceding week. The index advanced markedly during the first eight weeks of the year, reaching in the week of February 22 the highest point for the period of observation. The recession since that time has been of moderate proportions, a drop of less than 1 p.c. being shown in the week under review. Five of the six components showed decline from the first week in March, the only exception being the railway freight movement. Most of these declines were slight, the smoothed index of bank clearings being down only 6 p.c. Owing mainly to the unsettled political situation in Europe, common stock prices showed a decline of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  p.c., the index dropping from 127 to 122.5, the average for the week of March 14. Wholesale and bond prices were nearly maintained, fractional declines being shown in the indexes. Carloadings, on the other hand, showed a gain, the index being up 0.6 p.c. The net result was that the economic index was 107.6 in the second week of March as against 108.6 in the first week.

Owing to general advances in the six major factors used in this connection, the weekly economic index was 8.4 p.c. higher in the week of March 14 than in the same week of 1935. The index of common stock prices during the twelve-month period advanced 43 p.c. Bank clearings were 18.6 p.c. greater than in the same week of 1935. The gain in the general price level measured by the index of wholesale prices was 0.6 p.c. Owing to the advance in the last five weeks, the index of carloadings was 8.6 p.c. greater in the week under review than in the same week of last year. The economic index in the week of March 14 was 107.6 against 99.3.

The cumulative total of carloadings in the first ten weeks of 1936 was 412,327 against 424,974 in the same period of 1935. The deficit was mainly due to declines in pulpwood and miscellaneous commodities, although recessions were also shown in other forest products and l.c.l. merchandise. The grain movement was considerably higher than in the same period of 1935 and important gains were shown in coal and pulp and paper.

The index of wholesale prices was practically maintained at 72.5 against 72.6 in the preceding week. Tin showed a minor decline in New York, while other base metals remained unchanged. Recessions in high-grade bond prices were slight, the bid quotation for the 1957  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent Dominion government bond having been 108  $\frac{7}{8}$  on March 13 against 109  $\frac{5}{8}$  on March 6. The 1947-52 4 per cent bond was 107 against 107  $\frac{1}{4}$  in the same comparison. The inverted index of bond yields was 142.5 in the second week of March against 142.9 in the first week. The gain in this index over the same week of 1935 was 2.2 p.c.

The index of common stock prices was 122.5 against 127.0 in the week of March 5. Declines were shown in each of the groups except in five milling stocks where the index moved up from 85.7 to 89.6. The index of 89 industrial stocks declined from 202.2 to 195.2. The decline in the index of nineteen power stocks was from 72.0 to 69.7.

Weekly Economic Index with the Six Components  
1926=100

Week Ended	Car load-ings <sup>1</sup>	Whole-sale Prices	Inverted Index of Bond Yields <sup>2</sup>	Bank Clear-ings <sup>3</sup>	Prices of Common Stocks	Shares Traded	Economic Index
March 16, 1935	70.8	72.1	139.5	90.2	85.6	116.1	99.3
March 7, 1936	76.4	72.6	142.9	113.7	127.0	279.6	108.6
March 14, 1936	76.9	72.5	142.5	107.0	122.5	263.1	107.6

1. The index of carloadings is projected forward one week to correspond with the practice in computing the economic index. 2. Cost of a fixed net income in perpetuity from Dominion long-term bonds. 3. Bank clearings were smoothed by taking a three weeks moving average for the purpose of eliminating irregular fluctuations.

#### Economic Conditions Showed a Slight Improvement in February

Economic conditions showed a further improvement in February, continuing the upward trend apparent for about three years. The advances in common stock and high grade bond prices were the main constructive influences in February. The index of 112 common stocks was 126.1 in February against 117.8 in the preceding month. Bond prices continued strong



during the month under review, the index of inverted bond yields advancing to a point equivalent to the peaks of the last year or more. The reaction of last September was entirely counterbalanced by the upward trend since that time. The high level of Dominion government bonds is a constructive factor from the viewpoint of general economic conditions. The deposit liabilities of the chartered banks receded at the end of January owing to the decline in demand deposits. Further gain was reported in notice deposits contrasting with a decline in current loans. The security holdings of the banks and the quick assets again reached new high points in the history of Canadian banking.

The indexes representing the business field were slightly reactionary in February. The index of wholesale prices showed recession and it may be said that the zone of stabilization apparent for more than two years was further extended in February. Despite a number of brilliant advances, the composite index of business operations registered appreciable recession in February. A high level had been built up during the last quarter of 1935 but a mixed trend developed in the month under review.

The outstanding factor of the month was the sharp advance in the export trade. Exports in February were in excess of \$60,000,000, showing a gain of 26 p.c. over the same month of 1935 and an adjusted increase of nearly 18 p.c. over January. The gain in imports was of a moderate character, the result being a large surplus of exports over imports. The shipment of copper and nickel to external markets was a feature of the month. The exports of copper at nearly 33,000,000 pounds was greater than in any other February in history. Nickel exports also advanced to the exceedingly high point of 17,100,000 pounds, being greater than in any other month of the post-war period. The shipments of gold to the Mint and to external points were 283,000 ounces, exceeding every other February of the last seventeen years. The shipments of silver showed a gain over the preceding month.

A decline was shown in the imports of raw cotton for further manufacture, contrasting with a considerable gain in the imports of raw wool. The operations of the forestry group expanded considerably in February. A seasonally adjusted gain was shown in the production of newsprint over the preceding month. The output was greater than in any other February in history. The export of planks and boards was more than 95,000,000 feet compared with 72,000,000 feet in January. A sharp decline was shown in the export of shingles from the high level of the preceding month. The seasonally adjusted index of the production of steel ingots and castings showed decline in February, and the same remark applies to pig iron production. The output of automobiles declined slightly from the preceding month contrary to seasonal tendencies. The imports of crude petroleum showed an adjusted decline of 17 p.c., while crude rubber imports gained 14 p.c.

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#### Gain in Export Trade

The marked advance in the export trade was an outstanding development in February. The total at \$60,200,000 showed a gain of 26 p.c. over the same month of last year. The gains were mainly shown in crop products and non-ferrous metals, the increase over February of last year having been 56 p.c. and 42 p.c. respectively. An excellent showing was indicated also in wood and paper where the gain was 17 p.c.

The percentage changes in imports and exports from February 1935 are shown in the chart on page 4, and the table on page 3.

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#### Sales and Purchases of Securities in January

The international trade in securities between Canada and other countries in January was the largest of any month during which this trade has been recorded. The volume of transactions between Canada and the United States was also the largest on record and that between Canada and the United Kingdom has not been exceeded since March, 1934.

Sales to the United States in January were \$45,260,642 as compared with \$16,001,508 in January, 1935, and \$14,231,545 in January, 1934. Purchases from the United States were \$28,974,654 compared with \$23,044,678 in January, 1935, and \$26,544,836 in January, 1934. Sales to Great Britain were \$11,112,761 in January, 1936, compared with \$4,263,321 in January, 1935, and \$16,577,137 in January, 1934. Purchases from Great Britain expanded to \$3,092,797 from \$2,460,766 in January, 1935, and \$680,262 in January, 1934. It should be noted that the new public issues of Dominion Government bonds, \$76,000,000 in August, 1935, and \$48,000,000 in January, 1936, sold to syndicates in New York, and the two \$20,000,000 short-term banking credits arranged in New York in September and December, 1935, for the Dominion Government and the \$40,000,000 three-year notes dated January 2, 1936, sold in New York to a group of Canadian and American banks have not been included in these figures.



Imports and Exports by Main Groups in February Compared  
With the Same Month of Last Year, in Thousand Dollars.

Classification	Feb. 1935	Feb. 1936	Increase + Decrease -
	\$000	\$000	Per Cent
Total Imports	37,044	41,597	+ 12.3
Vegetable products	6,791	7,093	+ 4.4
Animal products	1,574	2,241	+ 42.4
Textiles	6,250	8,195	+ 31.1
Wood and paper	1,611	1,959	+ 21.6
Iron and its products	8,322	8,666	+ 4.1
Non-ferrous metals	2,392	2,557	+ 6.9
Non-metallic minerals	6,299	6,525	+ 3.6
Chemicals	2,012	2,047	+ 1.7
Total Exports	47,677	60,198	+ 26.3
Canadian Produce			
Vegetable products	12,609	19,659	+ 55.9
Animal products	8,337	8,938	+ 7.2
Textiles	556	849	+ 52.7
Wood and paper	10,618	12,412	+ 16.9
Iron and its products	3,861	3,460	- 10.4
Non-ferrous metals	7,434	10,545	+ 41.9
Non-metallic minerals	1,068	1,360	+ 27.4
Chemicals	1,456	1,268	- 12.9

Sharp Rise in Canadian  
Trade during February

Domestic exports in February amounted to \$59,471,141 compared with \$46,719,461 a year ago, an increase of \$12,754,680 or over 27 per cent. This was also an increase over the January exports of \$5,936,546 or 11 per cent, the amount being \$53,537,595. Re-exports were \$724,057 compared with \$957,957 in February, 1935.

The February imports amounted to \$41,597,398 compared with \$37,043,710 a year ago, an increase of \$4,554,688 or over 12 per cent. They were also higher than the January imports of \$40,590,276 by \$1,007,122 or over two per cent.

The total trade in February amounted to \$101,795,596 compared with \$84,721,128 in February, 1935, an increase of \$17,074,468 or over 20 per cent.

Canada's Exports to the Empire in February

Canada's domestic exports to British Empire countries in February amounted to \$29,814,956 compared with \$24,971,414 a year ago, an increase of \$4,843,542 or over 19 per cent. Exports to the United Kingdom amounted to \$24,664,456 compared with \$19,714,108, an increase of \$4,950,348 or 25 per cent.

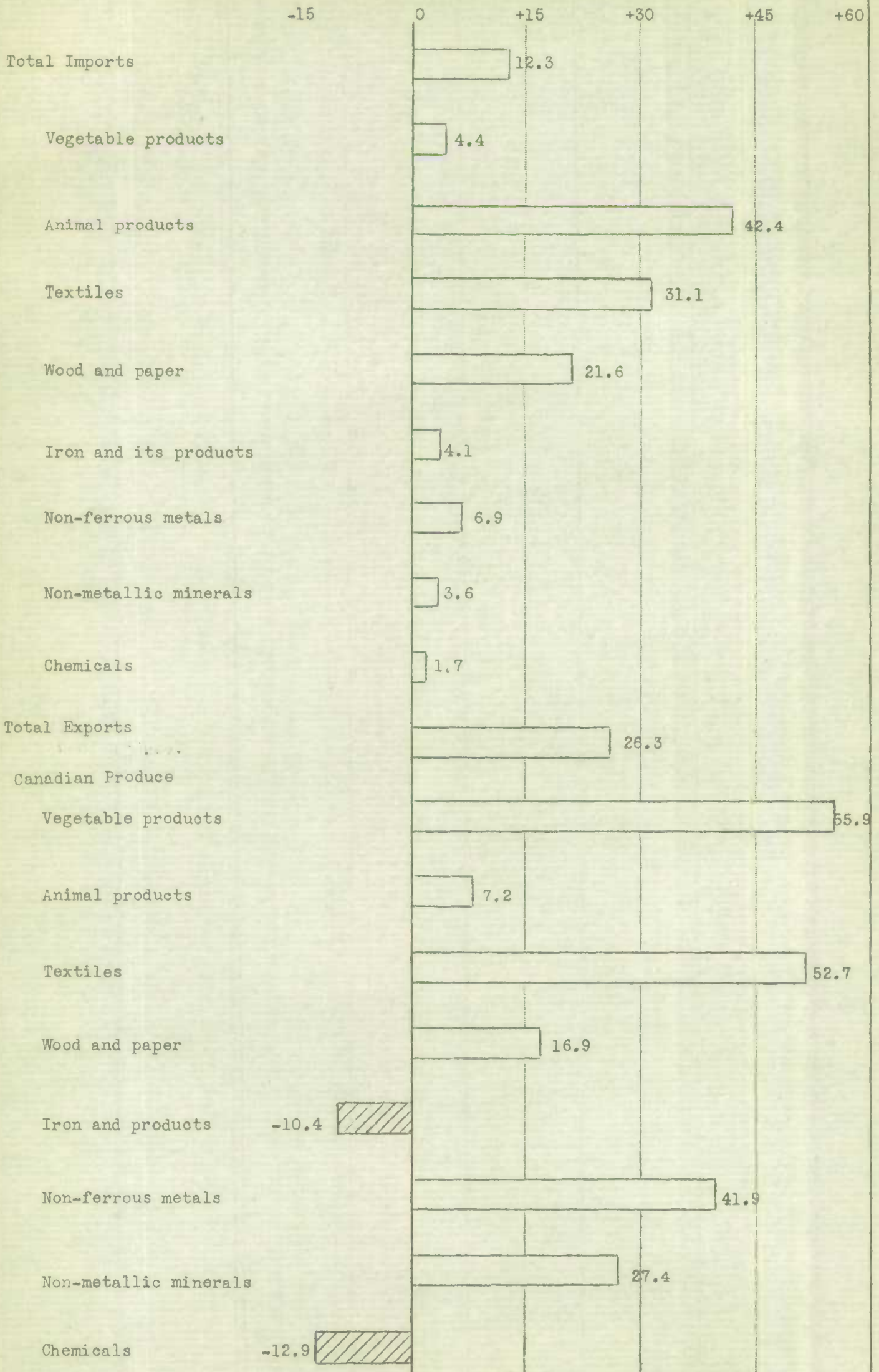
The following were the exports to other leading Empire countries with the figures of February 1935 in brackets: Australia \$1,701,986 (\$1,590,591), British South Africa \$797,189 (\$1,102,192), New Zealand \$774,490 (\$722,770), British West Indies \$616,954 (\$539,575), Newfoundland \$226,670 (\$356,040), Irish Free State \$215,558 (\$75,317).

Canada's Exports to Foreign Countries in February

Canada's domestic exports to foreign countries in February amounted to \$29,659,185 compared with \$21,748,047 a year ago, an increase of \$7,911,138 or 36 per cent. Exports to the United States amounted to \$21,555,227 compared with \$15,573,792, an increase of \$5,981,435 or 38 per cent.

Exports to other leading foreign countries were as follows with the February 1935 figures in brackets: Belgium \$1,309,903 (\$626,140), Netherlands \$1,235,780 (\$374,331), Japan \$1,192,352 (\$1,247,046), France \$784,724 (\$381,847), Germany \$541,752 (\$199,119), Norway \$358,107 (\$438,447), Greece \$293,431 (\$18), China \$253,608 (\$459,338), Sweden \$237,042 (\$199,349), Brazil \$231,752 (\$209,368), Italy \$146,801 (\$418,860).

Percentage Change of Imports and Exports  
in February 1936 from the same month of last year.





### Character of the February Exports

Canada's domestic exports in February amounted to \$59,474,000, which was an increase of \$12,755,000. The exports to the United Kingdom at \$24,665,000 were an increase of \$4,950,000, and to the United States at \$21,655,000, an increase of \$5,981,000 over 1935.

The chief item in the increase to the United Kingdom was wheat which rose from \$4,217,000 to \$9,085,000. Wheat to the United States rose from \$161,000 to \$226,000. There was a decrease in barley to both countries. Alcoholic beverages, chiefly whiskey, increased from \$537,000 to \$2,352,000, the bulk being consignments to the United States, which made a sharp increase from \$510,000 to \$2,309,000.

The export of rubber, chiefly tires and footwear, at \$1,084,000 showed a slight decrease. Buying by the United Kingdom was not so heavy. The export of sugar rose from \$53,000 to \$194,000, the larger proportion of which went to the United States. There was a considerable increase in the export of wheatflour from \$1,167,000 to \$1,430,000, the increase to the United Kingdom being from \$496,000 to \$789,000.

The cattle export increased from \$494,000 to \$637,000, there being a drop in consignments to the United Kingdom from \$129,000 to \$6,000, but shipments to United States rose from \$360,000 to \$626,000. The export of cheese to United States increased from \$3,000 to \$64,000 but to the United Kingdom declined from \$31,000 to \$17,000. There was a sharp increase in the export of fish to the United States from \$765,000 to \$1,063,000, but to the United Kingdom declined from \$446,000 to \$194,000.

Raw furs to the United Kingdom increased from \$1,407,000 to \$1,478,000 and to the United States from \$610,000 to \$735,000. Raw hides to United States rose from \$104,000 to \$333,000, while unmanufactured leather to the United Kingdom increased from \$295,000 to \$345,000. Meats to the United Kingdom fell off from \$2,490,000 to \$1,923,000 but to the United States increased from \$144,000 to \$239,000.

The export of paper, chiefly newsprint, to the United States made a large increase from \$4,384,000 to \$5,390,000, while planks and boards to the same country rose from \$421,000 to \$816,000 and to the United Kingdom from \$777,000 to \$821,000. The total export of planks and boards was \$2,008,000. Wood pulp to the United States increased from \$1,558,000 to \$1,924,000, but shingles dropped from \$227,000 to \$196,000.

The export of automobiles increased from \$1,739,000 to \$1,747,000, although there was a decline in sales in the United Kingdom from \$511,000 to \$138,000. The export of farm implements increased from \$312,000 to \$392,000, this being accounted for largely by increased sales to United States from \$73,000 to \$209,000.

There was a very large increase in the export of non-ferrous metals from \$7,434,000 to \$10,545,000. Aluminium dropped from \$480,000 to \$136,000, but copper rose spectacularly from \$1,444,000 to \$2,720,000; buying by the United Kingdom rose from \$858,000 to \$1,454,000. Nickel also made a spectacular increase from \$2,705,000 to \$4,120,000, the export to the United Kingdom rising from \$1,163,000 to \$1,609,000 and to the United States from \$988,000 to \$1,717,000. Silver increased somewhat, the bulk of it going to the United States, the export of which increased from \$371,000 to \$573,000.

There was a higher demand for asbestos which climbed from \$330,000 to \$608,000, the amount to United States growing from \$245,000 to \$461,000. Electrical energy to the United States increased from \$262,000 to \$277,000.

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### Canada's Leading Markets in February

Canada's twelve leading markets in February were as follows: 1. United Kingdom \$24,664,456; 2. United States \$21,555,227; 3. Australia \$1,701,986; 4. Belgium \$1,309,903; 5. Netherlands \$1,235,780; 6. Japan \$1,192,352; 7. British South Africa \$797,189; 8. France \$784,724; 9. New Zealand \$774,490; 10. British West Indies \$616,954; 11. Germany \$541,752; 12. Norway \$358,107.

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### Canada's Trade with Greece in February

Canada's trade with Greece took a sharp upturn in February. It rose from \$18 in February, 1935, to \$293,431 last month. This was due to a heavy export of wheat to that country, the value being \$288,325. Canada's total exports to Greece during the fiscal year 1935 were valued at \$5,341. In 1929 the total export was \$11,850,771.

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# Imports from Countries of Origin

One of the difficulties about the recording of trade statistics is to establish the countries of consignment and countries of origin in regard to certain imports. Most of the imports into Canada come direct from the countries of origin but many of them come via the United Kingdom, United States and other countries. To enable the Bureau of Statistics to state the countries of origin of leading commodities imported, the National Revenue Department has gone to considerable trouble to make as complete a record of these as possible for 1935, following upon what was done in 1934. A complete statement will appear in the printed volume dealing with the 1935 trade of the Dominion. The following statement of crude rubber imports will make clear the foregoing.

The great bulk of Canada's importation of crude rubber comes from British Malaya. It does not appear so overwhelmingly so in our trade statistics because a large proportion is consigned from the United States and therefore appears as an importation from that country. The 1935 figures illustrate the point:

	According to Countries of Consignment		Countries of Origin	
	lb.	\$	lb.	\$
Balata, crude, unmanufactured				
From - United Kingdom .....	127	155	-	-
British Straits Settlements	-	-	1,256	276
Brazil.....	-	-	10,918	1,717
Dutch East Indies...	-	-	38	46
United States.....	13,707	3,230	1,625	1,346
Total .....	13,834	3,385	13,834	3,385
Gutta-percha, unmanufactured,				
From - United Kingdom .....	6,858	7,285	-	-
British South Africa	-	-	273	55
British Straits Settlements	4,480	477	12,192	1,266
Brazil.....	-	-	1,054	126
Dutch East Indies ..	2,701	2,628	9,549	9,889
United States .....	12,502	5,377	3,573	4,431
Total .....	26,541	15,767	26,541	15,767
Rubber, crude caoutchouc or india-rubber, unmanufactured				
From - United Kingdom .....	277,367	33,825	-	-
British India .....	-	-	278,044	53,441
British Straits Settlements	33,301,415	4,300,702	53,944,466	6,145,470
British West Indies				
Trinidad and Tobago ..	2,275	364	2,275	364
Other .....	2,261	247	3,297	458
Ceylon .....	1,584,672	176,607	1,896,885	217,282
Belgium .....	115,953	51,033	54,753	23,967
Bolivia .....	-	-	20,698	2,856
Brazil .....	-	-	85,510	13,633
Ecuador .....	146,230	10,107	254,653	18,129
Dutch E. Indies ....	358,864	40,835	3,144,233	412,071
French Africa .....	-	-	1,323	331
French E. Indies ...	-	-	31,532	4,060
United States .....	19,399,173	2,341,357	470,541	63,015
Total .....	60,188,210	6,955,077	60,188,210	6,955,077

## Divorces in 1935

There were 1,376 divorces in Canada in 1935, 1,346 being granted by the courts of seven provinces and 30 by Dominion Parliament. Compared with 1934 there was an increase of 270 divorces, or 24 per cent. Ontario recorded 463 as against 358 in the previous year. Up until 1924 Canada's divorce statistics differed from those of most other countries, in that they showed a majority of divorces granted were on the petition of the husband. In 1924 wives obtained over 51 per cent of the decrees granted, but in 1925 husbands were again in the majority with slightly over 50 per cent. In 1926, 1927 and 1928 wives received relief to the extent of 52 per cent and over and their number increased until they have now reached the high point in 1934 of 68½ per cent. In 1935 the proportion dropped to about 61½ per cent.



Canada's Trade in the First Eleven  
Months of the Current Fiscal Year

Domestic exports during the first eleven months of the current fiscal year amounted to \$693,585,709 compared with \$601,801,374 in the same period of 1934-35. This was an increase of \$91,784,335, or 15 per cent. Foreign exports were \$12,305,132 compared with \$6,731,161. Imports during the eleven months amounted to \$510,037,970 compared with \$474,240,013, an increase of \$35,797,957, or over seven per cent. Trade in the eleven months was \$1,215,928,861 compared with \$1,082,772,548, an increase of \$133,156,313, or over 12 per cent.

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Canada's Trade in Two Months  
Of the Calendar Year 1936

Domestic exports in January and February, 1936, amounted to \$113,011,736 compared with \$90,621,237 in the same two months of 1935, an increase of \$22,390,449, or 24 per cent. Foreign exports were \$1,593,786 as against \$1,429,747. Imports amounted to \$82,187,674 compared with \$74,273,115, an increase of \$7,914,559, or 10 per cent. Total trade in the first two months of 1936 amounted to \$196,793,196 compared with \$166,324,149, an increase of \$30,469,047, or 18 per cent.

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Retail Prices, Rents and Costs of Services

The index number of retail prices, rents, and costs of services on the base 1926=100 fell from 80.7 in January to 80.4 in February, following a gradual advance dating from July, 1935. The index for February last year was 73.9. An index for 46 food items receded from 73.9 to 72.9, declines for eggs, butter, lard, tea, and pork products influencing the index more than higher prices for potatoes and meats, other than pork. Slightly higher prices for coal and coke resulted in a rise in the index for fuel and lighting from 87.2 to 87.3.

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Building Permits for February

The value of the building represented by the permits issued by 53 cities stood at \$1,911,384 in February, an increase of \$628,163, or 48.9 per cent over the total of \$1,283,716 for the preceding month, but a decline of \$1,689,753 or 47 per cent compared with the \$3,601,637 in February last year, when authority had been granted for the erection of a large public building. The unusually severe weather of the present winter has retarded operations in building in many parts of the Dominion. The aggregate of \$3,195,600 in the first two months of 1936 was lower than in 1935 but higher than in 1934 and 1933.

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February Exports of Wheat and Flour

The export of wheat to the United Kingdom in February amounted to 10,775,157 bushels valued at \$9,085,135, which was more than double that of a year ago. The amount to the United States was 346,470 bushels at \$225,617 compared with 383,072 at \$160,620. The total export of wheat was 14,241,169 bushels at \$11,946,435 as against 7,206,560 at \$5,535,684.

The export of wheatflour to the United Kingdom in February was 183,450 barrels valued at \$788,758 compared with 136,465 barrels at \$495,359 a year ago. The export to United States was 9,703 barrels at \$30,919 as against 9,908 at \$31,880. The total export of wheatflour in February was 340,102 barrels at \$1,429,595, compared with 309,729 at \$1,167,494.

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Accidental Deaths

There was a very large increase in the number of accidental deaths during the first nine months of 1935 compared with the same period of 1934. The total was 4,365 as against 4,041. Automobile fatalities headed the list with 823, drowning 777, burns 260, railway 162, other land transportation 135, machines 108, conflagration 117, mines and quarries 97, firearms 75, streetcar 26, air transportation 12, other accidental deaths 1,773.

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# Notable Changes in United Kingdom Trade, According to Rank

There have been some notable changes in recent years in the position of the chief trading countries of the world in the import and export trade of the United Kingdom. The United States has occupied first place in the United Kingdom import trade for the past six years, as also in 1934.

In 1935, as in 1934, Canada occupied second place, being fifth in 1924, eleventh in 1930, twelfth in 1931, fourth in 1932 and third in 1933. Australia occupied third place in 1935, as also in 1934, being in sixth place in 1924, seventh in 1930, fifth in 1931, third in 1932 and second in 1933.

The following table shows the principal countries from which the United Kingdom imports were consigned in the aforementioned years, these representing about 62 per cent of the total imports:

Countries	1924	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
United States .....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Canada .....	5	11	12	4	3	2	2
Australia .....	6	7	5	3	2	3	3
Argentina .....	2	3	3	2	4	4	4
British India .....	3	5	8	7	5	5	5
New Zealand .....	9	8	7	6	6	6	6
Denmark .....	8	4	4	5	7	7	7
Germany .....	12	2	2	8	8	8	8
Netherlands .....	10	10	10	10	10	9	9
Russia .....	15	13	13	11	12	12	10
France .....	4	6	6	12	9	10	11
Irish Free State .....	7	9	9	9	11	13	12

British India has occupied first place in United Kingdom export trade for the past six years, as also in 1924. In 1935 British countries occupied the first three places in United Kingdom export trade, South Africa being second and Australia third. The following table shows the order of the principal countries as markets for United Kingdom domestic exports, these representing about 60 per cent of the total exports:

Countries	1924	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
British India .....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Union of South Africa ....	7	8	4	5	2	2	2
Australia .....	2	3	9	3	3	3	3
United States .....	3	6	7	7	4	6	4
Canada .....	8	5	5	6	7	4	5
Irish Free State .....	4	2	2	2	5	5	6
Germany .....	5	7	6	8	8	9	7
France .....	6	4	3	4	6	7	8
Argentina .....	9	9	8	10	9	8	9
Denmark .....	18	17	14	12	11	10	10
New Zealand .....	13	11	11	11	12	12	11
Netherlands .....	11	10	10	9	10	11	12

## United Kingdom Trade in 1935

The 1935 United Kingdom trade returns indicate that the imports into the United Kingdom from 1931 to 1935 decreased from £861,253,000 to £756,936,000 or 12.11 per cent, that the imports from British Empire countries during that period increased from £246,417,000 to £284,866,000, or 15.14 per cent, and that the imports from foreign countries decreased from £613,836,000 to £472,070,000, or 23.10 per cent.

Domestic exports from the United Kingdom, however, from 1931 to 1935 increased from £390,622,000 to £425,921,000, or 9.04 per cent. Exports to Empire countries during the same interval increased from £170,673,000 to £204,314,000, or 19.76 per cent while the exports to foreign countries increased from £219,949,000 to £221,607,000, or 0.75 per cent.

Imports from Empire countries in 1931 amounted to 29 per cent of the whole and in 1935 had increased to 38 per cent, while domestic exports increased from 44 per cent to 48 per cent. Imports from foreign countries decreased from 71 per cent to 62 per cent and domestic exports from 56 per cent to 52.



## World Wheat Situation

During the past month, there has been a sharp improvement in the world movement of wheat, clearances from all countries during this period being at the highest level of the crop year. Canada and Australia have secured a very high proportion of the total trade in the past four weeks, 42 per cent in the case of Canada and 37 for Australia. The destructive influence of drought on the Argentine crop of 1935-36 continues as a major factor in the world wheat situation in its limitation of pressure on the European markets and its diversion of the existing demand to Canada and Australia. Less wheat has been forthcoming from European countries recently, partly as a result of the difficulty of financing exports and partly due to unfavourable new crop prospects. Prices have been more erratic on all markets, except Buenos Aires, influenced by European political events and the first real news of the 1936 crops.

The European winter wheat acreage is lower than in 1934-35 and in several important countries, there are definite signs that recent high yields will not be repeated this year. This, of course, is a very important factor that will gain in effect as it becomes translated into the reality of lower supplies. Heavy rains have weakened the resistance of winter wheat in France. Excessive rainfall is also reported in Holland, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal, and Italy. In the Danube Basin, conditions are described as generally satisfactory, but this optimism is tempered by the considerable acreage reduction in Roumania, the principal export area. In Russia, the winter wheat area is increased by 3 million acres and a greater spring acreage is 'planned'. Prospects are favourable, but the harvest is by no means assured. In contrast with the wet winter season experienced in western and southern Europe, North Africa has suffered from drought until recently and Algeria still reports the need of rain. In India, prospects are favourable. The United States winter wheat crop is generally believed to promise a return about 75 to 100 million bushels more than in 1934-35, despite dust storms and winter-killing in important areas.

As Argentina and Australia prepare to seed another crop for 1936-37, soil conditions are quite variable. If the minimum price in Argentina remains at its present level, this will naturally encourage a decided increase in acreage. Abnormally dry weather is reported in Western Australia, South Australia and Victoria but increased acreage is anticipated in New South Wales, where soil conditions are much better.

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## Prospective Competition in Wheat Sales

It is apparent that Canada may expect much less competition than usual in selling wheat until the 1936 crops are harvested. Russia will probably offer the first real competition. In the United States, where an import basis has prevailed in 1934-35 and 1935-36, an export surplus appears probable in 1936-37, although governmental policy regarding its disposal is not yet clear. Present prospects suggest a surplus of such size that it could reasonably be added to domestic end-of-season stocks without embarrassment. Australia has marketed her moderate 1935-36 surplus very quickly and competition from that source must diminish soon. If the Argentine minimum price is lowered to discourage an increase in acreage and possible embarrassment of the treasury, then a slight increase in shipments to European markets may ensue, but this cannot be a major influence. Unless large supplies are forthcoming from Russia in the early fall, Canada should continue as the principal source of the world's wheat throughout the calendar year.

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## Motor Car Sales in Canada in 1935

Sales of new motor vehicles in Canada in 1935 numbered 100,961 and were valued at \$101,265,655. Of the total number, 83,242 were passenger cars which sold for \$33,429,114, while 17,719 were trucks and buses which sold for \$17,866,541. Passenger car sales show a gain over 1934 totals of 35 per cent in number and 31 per cent in retail value, while the increase in truck and bus sales was still greater, being 49 per cent in number and 46 per cent in retail value.

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## Production of Certain Minerals

The 1935 output of asbestos was 210,164 tons as against 155,980 in 1934 and 158,367 in 1933. Feldspar output was 15,817 tons compared with 18,302 and 10,653. Commercial salt production amounted to 312,890 tons compared with 197,621 and 175,375.

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Births, Deaths and Marriages  
in First Nine Months of 1935

Live births during the first nine months of 1935 amounted to 168,221 as compared with 160,988 in the same period of 1934, and the birth rate was 20.6 as against 20.9. Other Vital Statistics for this period follow, with corresponding figures for 1934 in brackets: Illegitimate births 6,494 (6,386); Per cent of total live births 3.9 (3.8); Stillbirths 4,930 (4,886); Per cent of total births 2.8 (2.8); Deaths 79,604 (76,129); Death rate 9.7 (9.4); Marriages 53,371 (52,224); Marriage rate 6.6 (6.5); Deaths under one year 12,176 (11,955); Rate per 1,000 live births 72 (71); Deaths under one month 5,898 (5,949); Rate per 1,000 live births 35 (35); Maternal deaths 351 (394); Rate per 1,000 live births 5.1 (5.3).

Deaths from certain causes for the nine months were as follows: Typhoid and paratyphoid fever 192 (211); Smallpox 3 (2); Measles 391 (105); Scarlet fever 132 (147); Diphtheria 153 (161); Influenza 2,820 (1,515); Infantile paralysis 53 (60); Tuberculosis 5,049 (5,010); Cancer 8,389 (7,792); Diseases of the heart 11,934 (12,210); Diseases of the arteries 6,069 (5,515); Pneumonia 5,520 (4,949); Diarrhoea and enteritis 2,197 (2,685); Nephritis 4,675 (4,279); Suicide 675 (693); Homicide 121 (105); Automobile accidents 323 (778); Other violence 3,579 (3,284).

Wheat Stocks and Movement

Wheat marketings in the Prairie Provinces for the week ending March 6 amounted to 1,286,189 bushels, an increase of 663,646 over the previous week, but a decrease of 380,332 in comparison with last year. Marketings for the elapsed part of the crop year totalled 187,302,170 bushels compared with 188,771,340.

Overseas export clearances of wheat amounted to 2,567,673 bushels during the week of March 13 as against 2,602,293 in the same week last year. Imports of Canadian wheat into the United States for consumption and milling in bond for re-export totalled 795,000 as against 251,000, making a combined total of 3,362,673 bushels as against 2,853,293. During the crop year to March 13 clearances totalled 91,270,270 bushels compared with 77,922,306 in the same period of the previous crop year. United States imports amounted to 32,813,448 bushels compared with 16,629,154. This brought the combined total of overseas export clearances and United States imports to 124,083,713 compared with 94,551,460.

Canadian wheat in store on March 13 totalled 214,316,677 bushels, showing a decrease of 3,566,955 bushels from the week before, and a decrease of 23,101,990 from the same date of 1935. There were 20,297,067 bushels of Canadian wheat in the United States, a decline of 1,343,626 from a week ago, but an increase of 540,293 over last year.

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Building Permits, February.
2. Statistics for Payroll, Stocks and Gross Margins of Wholesale Merchandising Establishments, 1934.
3. Rigid Insulating Board Industry, February.
4. Prices and Price Indexes, February.
5. Canada's Monthly Trade Trends, March-February, 1933-34 to 1935-36.
6. Trade of Canada by Months, April 1932 to February, 1936.
7. Births, Deaths and Marriages, Third Quarter, 1935.
8. Weekly Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices.
9. Divorces Granted in Canada, 1935.
10. Asbestos Production, Dec. 1935.
11. Gypsum Production, December.
12. Feldspar and Salt Production, December.
13. Grain Situation in the Argentine.
14. Index Numbers of 23 Mining Stocks.
15. Trade of Canada, Quarter ending December, 1935.
16. Canadian Grain Statistics.
17. Summary of Exports of Canadian Grains and Flour, February.
18. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways.
19. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, Fourth Quarter, 1935.
20. Boilers, Tanks and Engines Industry, 1934.
21. Sales and Purchases of Securities between Canada and Other Countries, January.
22. Index Numbers of Security Prices.
23. Accidental Deaths, January - September, 1935.
24. Sales of Motor Vehicles and Motor Vehicle Financing, 1935.
25. Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation.





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