

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - OTTAWA
BUSINESS STATISTICS BRANCH

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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN CANADA DURING THE FIRST QUARTER COMPARED WITH
THE SAME PERIOD OF 1944.

The volume of production during the first quarter showed recession from the high level of the same period of 1944. The index of the physical volume of business receded nearly 9 p.c. to 223.6. A recession was also shown in the general index of employment. Wholesale prices, on the other hand, showed a minor increase over the first quarter of 1944, the index moving up from 102.7 to 102.9.

The factors indicating farm income were lower in the first quarter than in the same period of 1944. The index of grain marketings receded from 259.6, the high level of last year, to 183.2, a decline of more than 29 p.c. Marketings were heavy in January of this year but receded to considerably lower levels in February and March. Livestock marketings, on the other hand, were considerably greater, the index advancing from 124.6 to 142.9. During the first quarter of the year there was a considerable increase in the inspected slaughterings of cattle, the gain being 44.7 p.c. over the first three months of 1944. Hog slaughterings, on the other hand, were sharply reduced, being 31.6 p.c. less than in the same period one year ago. Increases were shown in the output of butter and cheese, the gain being of relatively minor proportions. The price index of farm products rose slightly, the advance having been from 104.3 to 104.7.

The forestry industry was more active in the first quarter, the output of newsprint rising from 735,000 tons to 768,000, a gain of 4.6 p.c. Planks and boards were exported in greater volume, especially during February and March. Timber scaled in British Columbia amounted to 571.8 million feet against 530.9 million in the same period of last year. The export of fishery products rose from \$14,090,000 to \$14,213,000, a gain of 0.9 p.c. while a decline of 16 p.c. was shown in the export of furs.

A considerable decline was recorded in the index of mining production. Employment, however, according to the average of the monthly index, showed a recession of only 5.6 p.c. The price level of metals and minerals recorded only a slight gain over the first three months of last year. The production of electric energy showed a minor recession. The drop in the consumption of primary electric power from 9.3 billion kilowatt hours to 8.2 billion amounted to 12.3 p.c.

A considerable number of manufacturing industries operated at lower levels in the first quarter of this year than in that of 1944. The index of production receded from 302.8 to 271.8, a decline of slightly more than 10 p.c. The level of employment was also considerably lower during the first quarter. The prices of raw materials and of finished manufactured goods showed no appreciable change in this comparison. According to the statistics of freight loadings in tons and the numerical total of car loadings, railway traffic showed recession in this comparison. The railway freight movement in the first quarter of the year was 1,454,000 tons less or 5.8 p.c. below the level of the first quarter of 1944. The total was 23.5 million tons compared with nearly 25 million in the first three months of 1944. The first quarter of last year constituted an all-time record as far as the first quarter of the year is concerned. The movement in 1945 was greater than in the same period of any other year from 1940 to 1943.

Payrolls were somewhat greater in the first quarter of 1945 than in the same period of last year. The increase was due to a rise in rates rather than in the volume of employment. The aggregate weekly payments, averaged for the three representative weeks, showed an increase of 0.31 p.c. The average weekly rate was \$31.73 against \$31.24 for the same period of 1944, a gain of 1.56 p.c. A gain was shown in the employment of logging, highway construction and trade while declines were recorded in manufacturing, mining and building construction.

According to unofficial computations, dividends paid in the first quarter of the present year amounted to \$68,381,000 against \$61,457,000, a gain of 11.3 p.c. An index of dividend payments averaged 133.3 against 127.6 in the first quarter of 1944. Interest on the Dominion debt during the first eleven months of the present fiscal year amounted to \$273 million against \$200.9 million in the same period of the preceding year, the indicated gain being 35.9 p.c.

The national income, according to a tentative computation, was \$2,180 million in the first quarter of the present year against \$2,234 million, a decline of 2.4 p.c. Recession was shown in the income originating in agriculture and in manufactures, while many other groups recorded increases. The total in March was \$735.4 million compared with \$707.6 million in the preceding month, the standing in March of 1944 having been \$759.3 million.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE INVESTIGATION OF THE
EFFECTS OF THE VARIOUS FACTORS ON THE GROWTH OF
THE PLANT

The purpose of this investigation was to determine the effect of the various factors on the growth of the plant. The results of the investigation are given in the following tables.

The first table shows the effect of the various factors on the growth of the plant. The results are given in the following tables.

The second table shows the effect of the various factors on the growth of the plant. The results are given in the following tables.

The third table shows the effect of the various factors on the growth of the plant. The results are given in the following tables.

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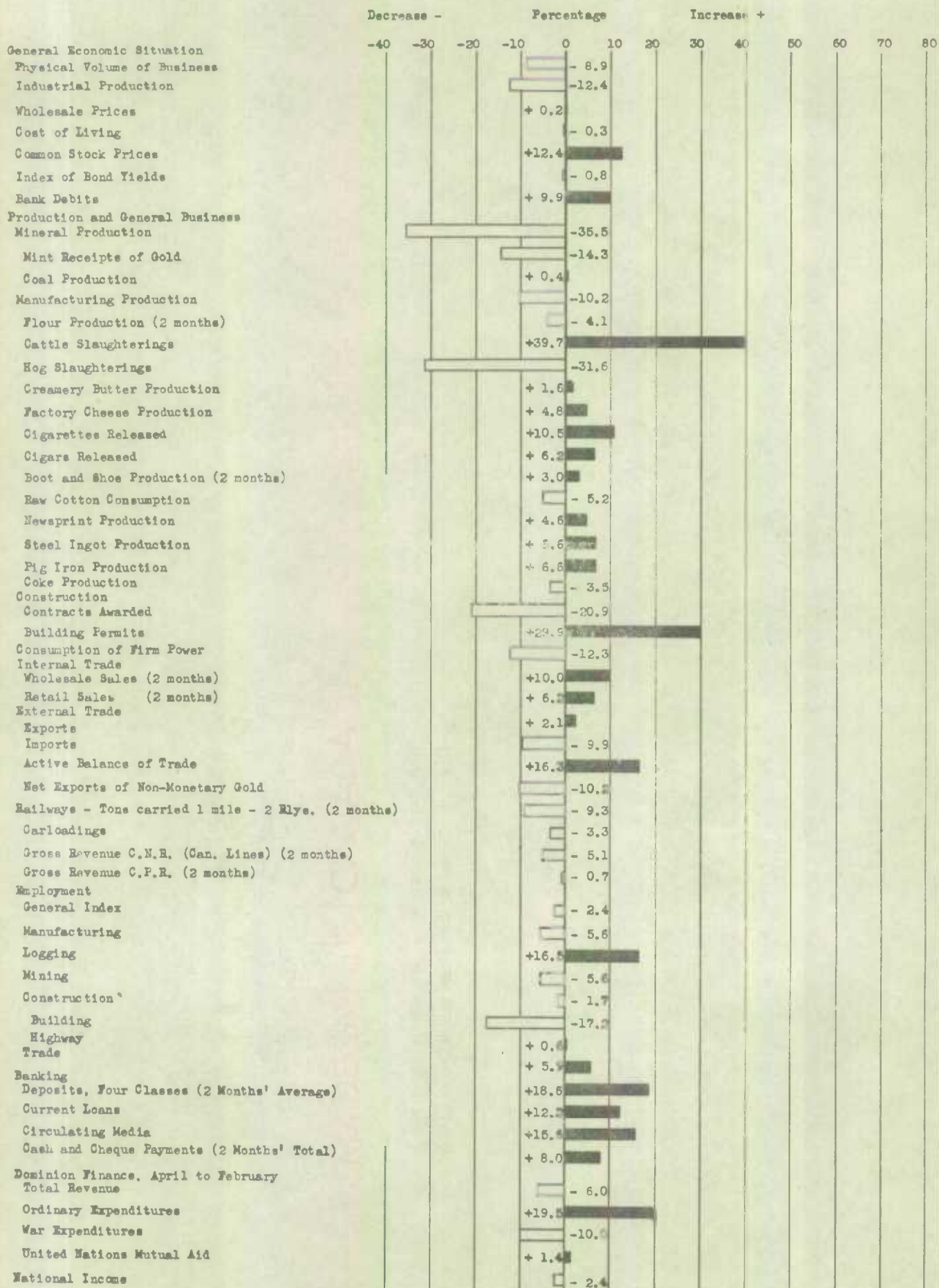
The fifth table shows the effect of the various factors on the growth of the plant. The results are given in the following tables.

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Minister of Trade and Commerce

THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN CANADA

for the First Quarter of 1945

as compared with the same period of last year.



Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The number of items showing increases and declines was the same at twenty-seven.

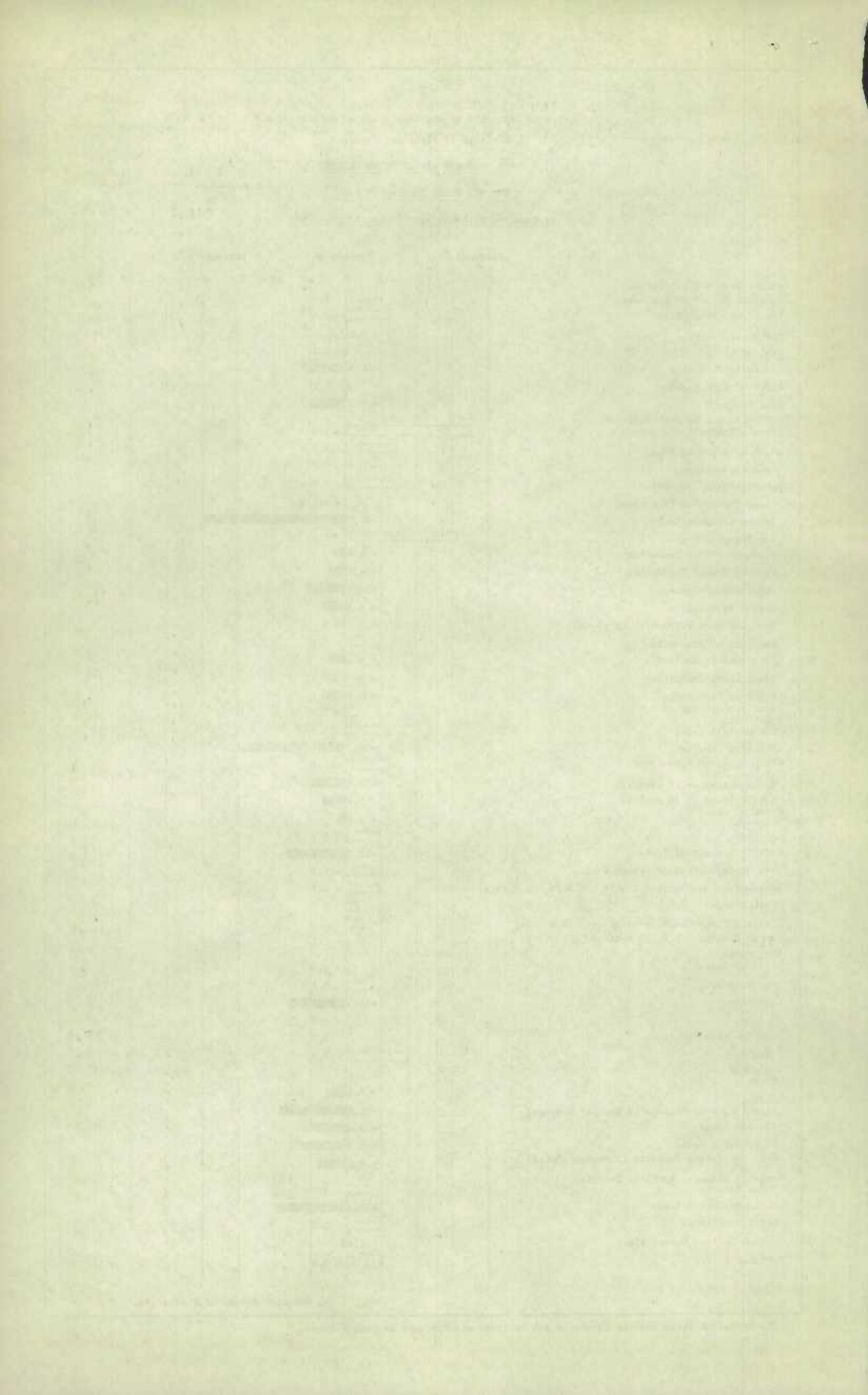


Table 1. Statistics Illustrating the Economic Situation of Canada for the First Quarter of 1945 compared with the same period of last year.

	Unit or Base Period	First Quarter		Per Cent Increase + Decrease -
		1945	1944	
<u>General Economic Situation</u>				
Index of Physical Volume of Business	1935-39=100	223.6	245.5	- 8.9
Index of Industrial Production	1935-39=100	244.7	279.2	- 12.4
Wholesale Prices	1926 = 100	102.9	102.7	+ 0.2
Cost of Living	1935-39=100	118.6	118.9	- 0.3
Index of Common Stock Prices	1935-39=100	91.8	81.7	+ 12.4
Index of Bond Yields	1935-39=100	96.5	97.3	- 0.8
Bank Debits	\$000	14,832,463	13,493,784	+ 9.9
<u>Production and General Business</u>				
Mineral Production	1935-39=100	165.1	255.9	- 35.5
Gold Receipts at Mint	Fine ozs.	652,974	761,525	- 14.3
Coal Production	Tons	4,646,923	4,629,744	+ 0.4
Manufacturing Production	1935-39=100	271.8	302.8	- 10.2
Flour Production (2 months)	Bbls.	3,960,667	4,128,898	- 4.1
Cattle Slaughtering	No.	553,540	396,121	+ 39.7
Hog Slaughtering	No.	1,920,481	2,807,283	- 31.6
Creamery Butter Production	Lbs.	36,549,807	35,970,191	+ 1.6
Factory Cheese Production	Lbs.	8,021,356	7,652,181	+ 4.8
Cigarettes released	No.	3,337,579,349	3,021,521,004	+ 10.5
Cigars released	No.	53,379,931	50,279,415	+ 6.2
Leather Boots and Shoes (2 months)	Pairs	4,974,869	4,829,275	+ 3.0
Raw cotton consumption	Lbs.	41,659,657	43,938,622	- 5.2
Paper and Lumber - Newsprint Production	Tons	768,203	734,755	+ 4.6
Iron and Steel - Steel Ingot Production	Short Ton	796,647	747,577	+ 6.6
Pig Iron Production	Short Ton	471,273	442,053	+ 6.6
Coke Production	Short Ton	996,868	1,032,608	- 3.5
Construction				
Contracts awarded	\$	44,305,800	56,031,200	- 20.9
Building Permits (58 municipalities)	\$	17,446,716	13,427,963	+ 29.9
Consumption of firm power	000 K.W.H.	8,159,478	9,306,157	- 12.3
Internal Trade - Wholesale Sales (2 months)	1935-39=100	180.5	164.1	+ 10.0
Retail Sales (2 months)	1935-39=100	144.9	136.5	+ 6.2
External Trade - Exports	\$000	781,231	765,200	+ 2.1
Imports	\$000	374,544	415,525	- 9.9
Active Balance of Trade	\$000	+ 406,687	+ 349,675	+ 16.3
Net Exports of Non-Monetary Gold	\$000,000	27.3	30.4	- 10.2
Railways - Tons carried 1 mile - (2 months) 2 Rlys.	000,000 tons	8,403	9,268	- 9.3
Carloadings	No.	843,754	872,664	- 3.3
Gross Revenue C.N.R. (Can. Lines (2 months))	\$	55,635,400	58,627,700	- 5.1
Gross Revenue C.P.R. (2 months)	\$	47,570,425	47,932,383	- 0.7
Employment - Unadjusted				
General Index	1926 = 100	179.2	183.6	- 2.4
Manufacturing		214.0	226.7	- 5.6
Logging		311.7	267.6	+ 16.5
Mining		149.5	158.3	- 5.6
Construction		92.4	94.0	- 1.7
Building		84.0	101.4	- 17.2
Highway		96.6	96.0	+ 0.6
Trade		172.4	162.8	+ 5.9
Banking - Deposits four Classes (2 months' average)	\$000	5,035,129	4,244,590	+ 18.6
Current Loans	\$000	1,117,430	996,316	+ 12.2
Circulating Media	\$000,000	976.8	845.2	+ 15.6
Cash and Cheque Payments (2 months' total)	\$000,000	13,343	12,349	+ 8.0
Dominion Finance - April to February - Total Revenues	\$	2,320,527,935	2,469,189,954	- 6.0
Ordinary Expenditures	\$	630,462,745	527,763,164	+ 19.5
War Expenditures	\$	2,939,552,425	3,267,069,981	- 10.0
United Nations Mutual Aid	\$	682,135,058	672,771,018	+ 1.4
National Income (Tentative Computation)	\$000,000	2,180	2,234	- 2.4

The number of items showing increases and declines was the same at twenty-seven.



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