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## ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN CANADA DURING THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1945 COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF THE PRECEDING YEAR

Six factors indicating the trend of economic conditions averaged higher in the first eight months of 1945 than in the same period of the preceding year. Dominion bond and wholesale prices were at somewhat higher levels, while business operations receded to a lower position.

The index of the physical volume of business averaged 220.9 in the first eight months of 1945, a decline of 8 p.c. from the same period of last year. In the same comparison, the general index of employment averaged 2.7 p.c. lower at 177.0. Advances were shown in the cost-of-living and in commodity prices at wholesale but the increases were of minor proportions. The index of wholesale prices averaged 103.2 against 102.6, an increase of 0.6 p.c.

A somewhat lower level of selaries and wages paid by industrial concerns was indicated by the statistics of aggregate payrolls August 1. Per capita earnings in the week of August 1 were given at \$32.20 against \$31.66 in the same week of 1944.

A gain was recorded in the new business obtained by the construction industry and in building permits. Contracts awarded were \$266.8 million, a gain of 27.6 p.c., while building permits were \$84.1 million, a gain of 27 p.c. The index of employment in the construction industry averaged 102.3, an increase of 8 p.c. over the same period of 1944.

The output of steel ingots showed a gain of 2.8 p.c. while pig iron production dropped from 1.3 million to 1.2 million short tons.

Canada's export trade amounted to \$2,332 million in the first eight months against \$2,310 million in the same period of last year, an increase of 1 p.c. Imports decline was 9 p.c., resulting in a considerable gain in the active balance of trade. The net exports of non-monetary gold amounted to \$65.5 million against \$76.6 million in the same period of last year.

Retail sales in the first seven months increased 7.7 p.c. while wholesale sales increased 9.5 p.c. over the same period of 1944.

Dominion government ordinary expenditures were nearly \$388 million in the first five months of the present fiscal year compared with \$270.7 million one year Special expenditures, on the other hand, receded from \$1,633 million to \$1,465 million. War expenditures dropped from about \$1,282 million to \$854 million.

The payment of dividends, according to unofficial sources, was at a lower level, the decline having been 1.7 p.c. Interest of payments by the Dominion government amounted to \$153.4 million in the first five months of the present fiscal year compared with \$115.4 million in the same period of last year.

The slaughtering of cattle amounted to 1,555,915 head in the first eight months, a gain of 23.6 p.c. over the same period of last year. Hog slaughterings decreased in the same period by 35.6 p.c. from 6,120,701 head in 1944 to 3,942,707 in 1945. Some decline was recorded in the production of creamery butter, while a gain of more than 6 p.c. was shown in the output of factory cheese, the total in the first eight months of the year having been 129.3 million pounds. The tobacco industry was more active as measured by the release of cigarettes. The total in the first eight months was 9,158 million against 7,506 million, a gain of 22 p.c. A gain of 6.2 p.c. was shown in the release of cigars.

The output of newsprint showed moderate betterment, the total having been 2,102,181 tons. As the production in the first eight months of 1944 was 1,987,540 tons, an increase of 5.8 p.c. was indicated.

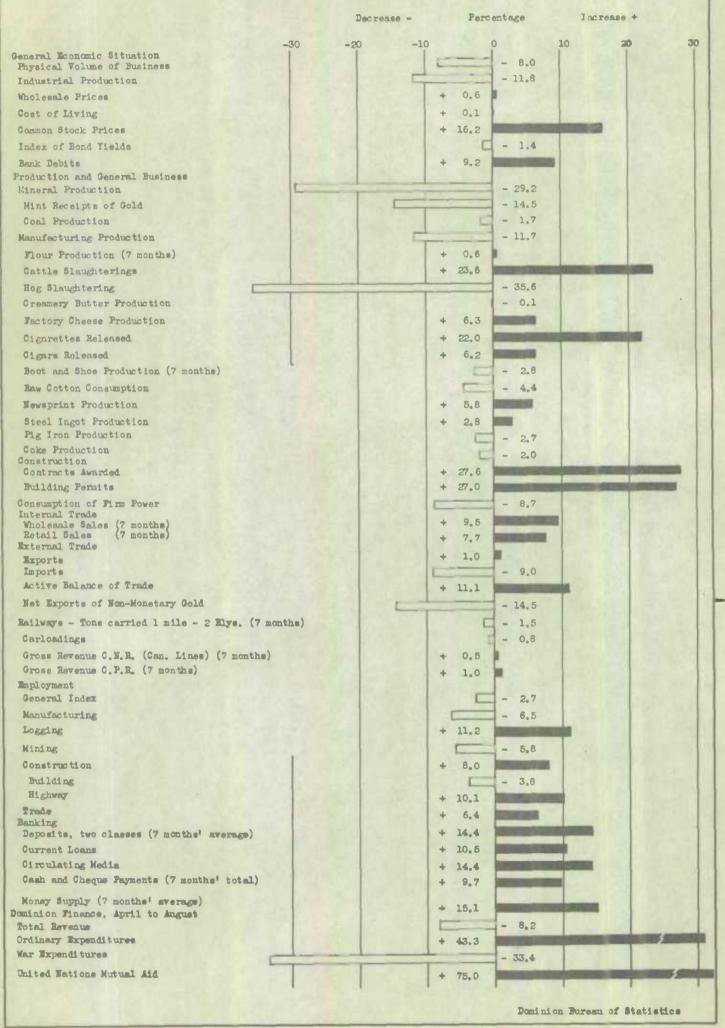
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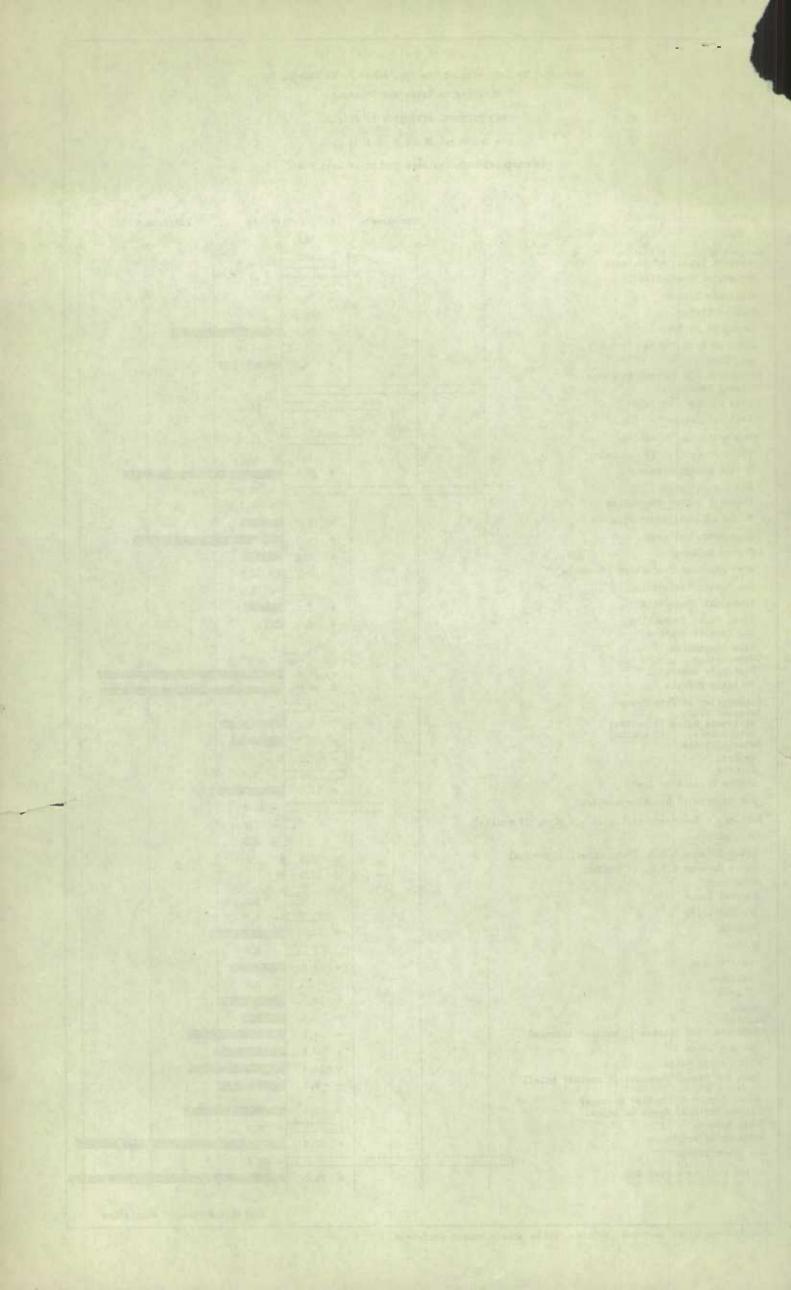
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THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN CANADA

for the First Eight Nonths of 1945

as compared with the same period of last year.





able 1. - Statistics Illustrating the Economic Situation of Canada for the First Eight
Months of 1945 compared with the same period of last year

Months of 1945 compar	ed with the	same period of	The second secon
	Unit or		Per cent
	Basa	First Eight Mo	onths Increase +
	Period	1945	1944 Decrease ≈
General Economic Situation			
Index of Physical Volume of Business	1935-39=100	220,9	240.2 - 6.0
Index of Industrial Production	1935-39=100	239,6	271.5 - 11.8
	1,926= 100	103:2	102.6 + 0.6
Wholesale Prices			
Cost of Living	1935-39=1.00	11.9.2	119.0 + 0.1
Index of Common Stock Prices	1935 39=100	96.2	82.8 + 16.2
Index of Bond Yields	1935-39=100	95,8	97.2 = 1.4
Bank Debits	\$ 000	42,812,901	39,192,266 + 9,2
Production and General Business			
Mineral Production	1935-39=100	169,9	239.9 - 29.2
Gold Receipts at Mint	Fine ozs.	1,677,182	1,961,528 - 14,5
Coal Production	Tons	10,750,555	10,934,963 - 1.7
Manufacturing Production	1935-39=100	261.4	296.0 - 11.7
Flour Production (7 months)	Bbls.	14,311,271	14,230,642 + 0.6
	No.		1,258,643 * 23.6
Cattle Slaughterings		1,555,915	
Hog Slaughterings	No.	3,942,707	6,120,701 ~ 35,6
Creamery Butter Production	Lbs.	213,929.487	214:098,231 - 0.1
Factory Cheese Production	Lbs.	129,278,804	121,593,836 + 6.3
Cigarettes released.	No. 9	1,158,071,165	7,506,248,852 + 22.0
Gigars released	No.	138,236,987	128,283,062 + 6.2
Leather Boots and Shoes (7 months)	Pairs	16,964.888	17.449,717 - 2.8
	Lbs	104, 317, 851	109,118,201 - 4.4
Les Conton consumption	2080	The Sort Soot	ToultTologram, Tex
Paper and Lumber	m.	5 100 105	1 000 540 4 5 0
Newsprint Production	Tons	2,102,181	1,987,540 + 5,8
Iron and Steel -	Barrier Tour		
Steel Ingot Production	Short Ton	2,049,707	1,993,756 + 2.8
Fig Iron Froduction	Short Ton	1,232,103	1,366,979 - 2.7
Coke Production	Short Ton	2,638,114	2,690,764 - 2.0
Construction -			
	\$	266,775,500	209,117,200 + 27.6
Contracts awarded		84,066,540	66,200,967 + 27,0
Building Permits (58 municipalitie	S/ WWW		
Consumption of firm power	000 K.W.H.	21,610,331	20:676,150 - 6.7
Internal Trade			
Wholesale Sales (7 months)	1935-39=100		1₹9,6 + 9,5
Retail Sales (7 months)	1935-39=100	172.6	160.3 + 7.7
External Trade			
Exports	\$ 000	2,331,885	3,309,686 + 1.0
Imports	\$ 000	1,065,510	1,170,304 - 5.0
Active Balance of Trade	\$ 000 +		
Net Exports of Non-Monetary Gold	\$000,000	65.5	76.6 - 14.5
Railways - Tone carried 1 mile			A
(7months) 2 Rlys.		s 33,582	34,108 - 15
Carloadings		2,390,536	0,40,0,307 - 0,8
Gross Revenue C.N.R. (Can. Lines)	7 months)\$	223,895,000	222.681,600 + 0,5
Gross Revenue C.P.R. (7 months)		184,428,670	182,603,963 + 1.0
Employment - Unadjusted -		,,	
General Index	1926=100	2.77.0	181.9 . 2.7
	1320-100		
Manufacturing		21.0.7	225.4 - 6.5
bending		247 - 2	\$22.4 + 11.2
Mining		147.5	256.5 - 5.8
Construction		102,3	24.7 + 8.0
Building		89.1	92.6 - 3.8
Righway		118.1	107,3 \$ 10.1
Trade		171.9	161.5 + 6.4
Banking		m 1 2. Q W	001
Deposits (Notice and Demand)	*000	A 1557 0.00	U 080 046 134 1
(7 months' average)	\$000	4,553,020	3,979,940 + 14.4
Current Loans	\$000	1,104,079	998,982 + 10.5
	000,000	1007.0	880.4 + 14.4
Cash and Cheque Payments (7 mont)	hsi		
	00.000	53,683	43,958 + 9,7
Money Supply ( 7 months average)		6,317	5,487 + 15,1
		01071	of ac. ac.
Dominion Finance - April to Augus		3 000 BCB 430	1 169 001 500 0 0
Total Revenues	9	1,067,767,416	1,163,921,560 - 3,2
Ordinary Expenditures	Ď,	387,968,387	270,718,758 + 43.3
War Expenditures	\$	853,664,564	1,281,789,151 - 33.4
United Nations Mutual Aid	\$	610.064.739	x 348,574.095 + 75.0
Twenty-four items recorded declines, while thirty showed increases,			

Twenty-four items recorded declines, while thirty showed increases, Aid Board, Excludes temporary advances totalling \$298,764,859 made to Mutual Aid Board,



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