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Published by Authority of the Hon. James A. Mackinnon, M.P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - OTTAVA
BUSINESS STATISTICS BRANCH

Price 50 cents a year

Dominion Statistician: Chief, Business Statistics Branch S. A. Cudmore, M.A. (Oxon.) F.S.S., F.R.S.C.

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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN CANADA DURING THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1942, COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF THE PRECEDING YEAR

The impact of the war was the occasion of marked expansion in economic activity in Canada during 1942. Productive operations and the deposit liabilities of the banks rose to new high levels in history. The advance in wholesale prices and bond prices were of a moderate character. Commodity prices, however, averaged higher than in any other time since 1929. High-grade bond prices were relatively stable averaging higher than at any other time since the first half of 1939. Each of the four factors were above the interwar trend. While common stock prices and speculative trading were at a low level in 1942, advances were recorded in the last quarter.

Averaged for the first eleven months, the index of the physical volume of business was 23 p.c. higher in 1942 than in the preceding year. The index of prices recorded a standing of 95.6 against 89.5, a gain of 6.8 p.c. The increase in four classes of bank deposits was 9.4 p.c., the advance having been from \$3,019 million to \$3,303 million. The index of common stock prices was 63.5 against 67.5, a decline of 4 points or nearly p.c.

Owing mainly to the expansion in war production, the index of manufacturing operations advanced from 172 to nearly 240, a gain of 39 p.c. The output of factory cheese was 195.3 million pounds against 141.3 million. The release of cigarettes rose from 7,862 million to 9,278 million. The primary iron and steel industry made further advances over the high level of 1941. Steel ingot production was 2,854,000 short tons against 2,455,000. Owing to the shortage of scrap material, the production of pig iron rose tharply from 1,352,000 to 1,811,000 tons.

Declines were shown in the new business obtained by the construction industry, ontracts showing a reduction of 27.4 p.c., while building permits in 58 municipalities ere 26.7 p.c. lower. The consumption of firm power as produced by the central electric tations was 29.487 million k.w.h. against 25,032 million, a gain of 17.8 p.c. Retail ales recorded a gain of 15 p.c. according to the indexes available for the first ten onths of the year. The increase in wholesale sales was 10.3 p.c.

Railway traffic recorded a considerable expansion over the high level of 1941. he number of tons carried one mile on the two principal railways during the first ten onths recorded a gain of 10.0 p.c. Carloadings numbered 3.114,000, amounting to a gain f nearly 6 p.c. The gross revenues in the first ten months showed an increase of 20.7 .c. on the Canadian National and 17.2 p.c. on the Canadian Pacific.

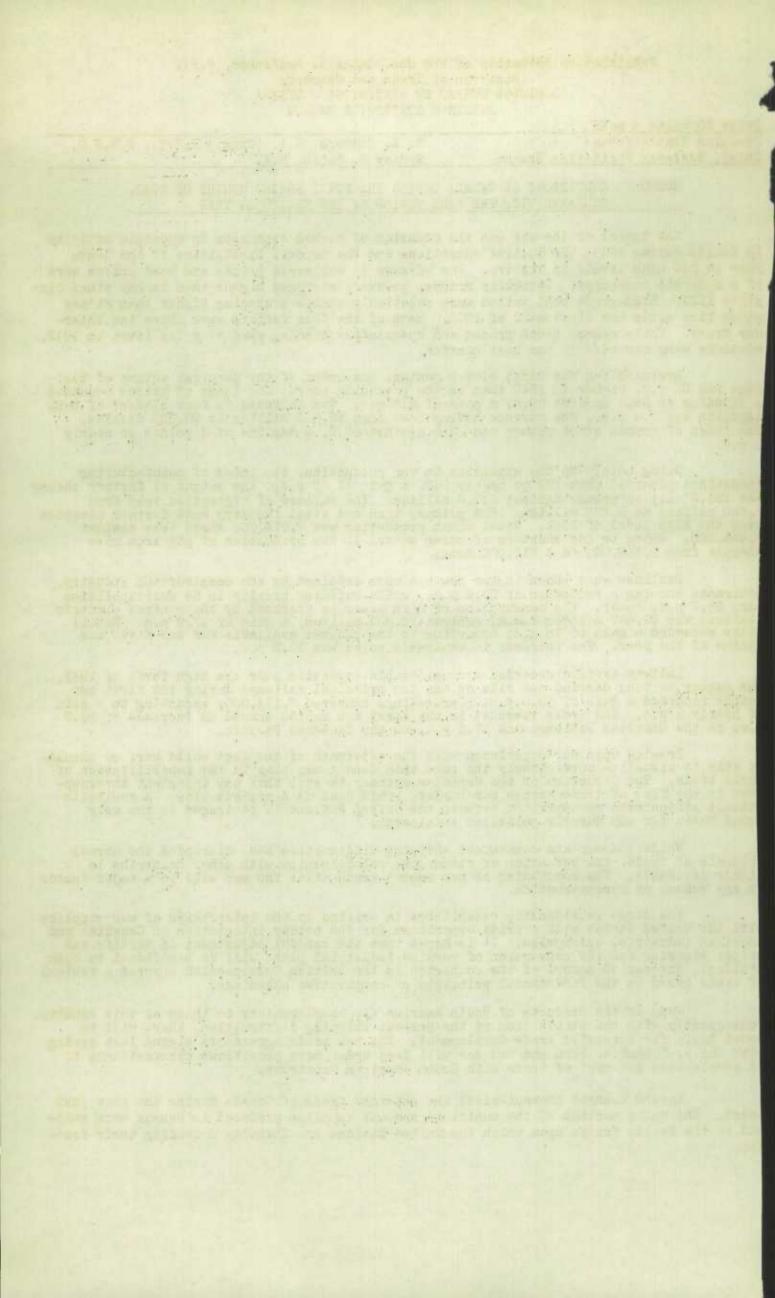
Drawing upon our experience with the aftermath of the last world war, we should able to visualize more clearly the role that Canada may play in the rehabilitation of orld trade. The structure of the Canadian economy is such that any important interruption in the flow of trade across our borders would deal us a serious blow. A realistic tempt at economic co-operation between the United Nations is envisaged as the only ound basis for any durable political settlement.

While the war and consequent shipping difficulties have disrupted the normal bannels of trade, the retention of commercial relationships with other countries is ignly desirable. The rebuilding of our export trade after the war will be a major factor n any scheme of reconstruction.

The close relationship established in wartime by the interchange of war supplies ith the United States will provide experience for the better integration of Canadian and merican industrial enterprise. It is hoped that the careful adjustment of tariffs and roper planning for the conversion of wartime industrial plant will be beneficial to both ations. The varied nature of the countries in the British Commonwealth ensures a revival f trade based on the fundamental principle of comparative advantage.

Many of the products of South America are complementary to those of this country. onsequently with the termination of the present shipping difficulties, there will be ound basis for extensive trade development. The new trade agreements signed last spring ith Chile, Colombia, Peru and Ecuador will lead under more propitious circumstances to a accelerated movement of trade with South American Countries.

Marked changes characterized the external trade of Canada during the year just ended. The major portion of the munitions and war supplies produced in Canada were shipted to the battle fronts upon which the United Nations are doggedly defending their free-tom.

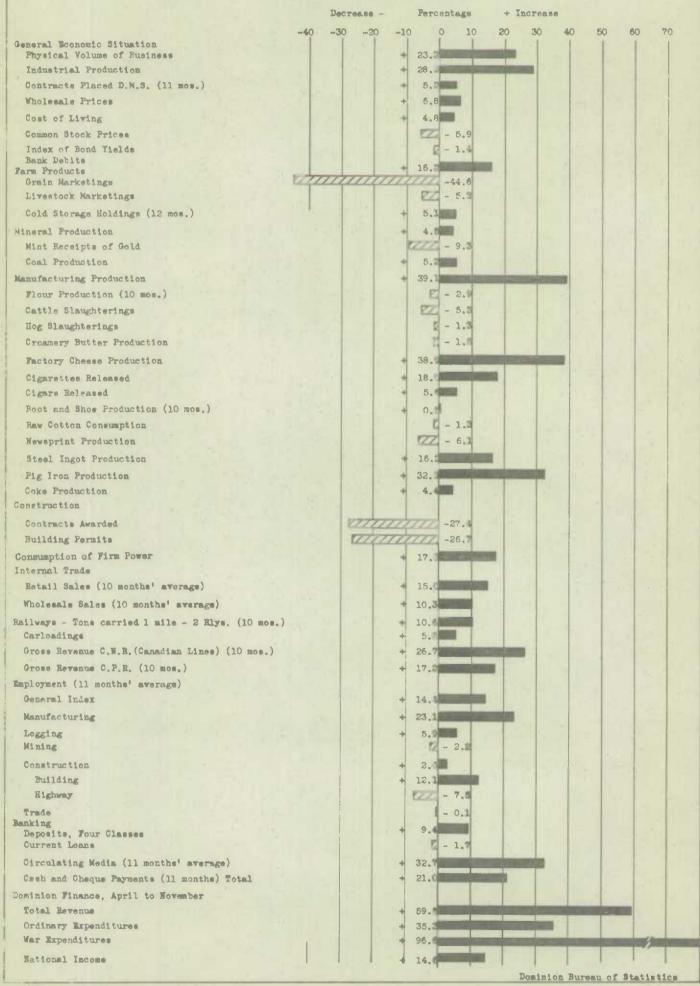


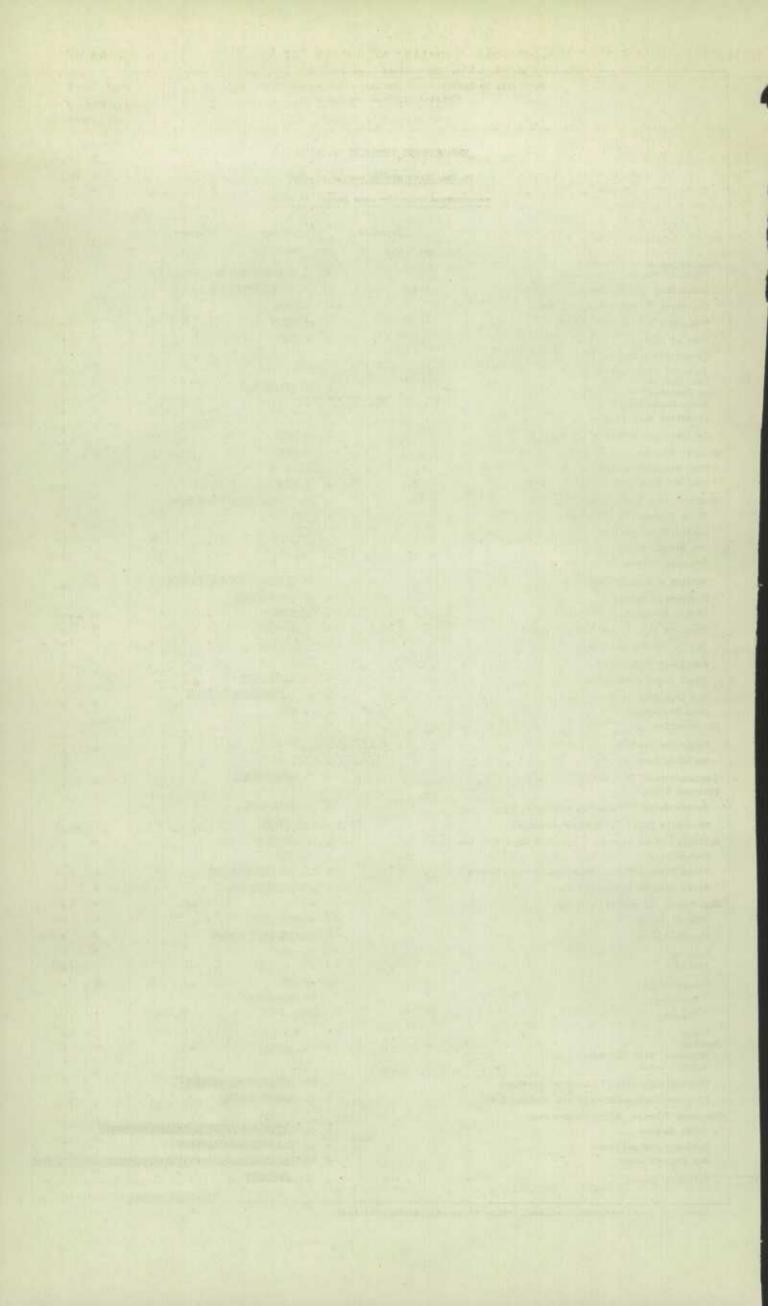
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THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN CANADA

in the first eleven months of 1942

as compared with the same period of 1941





Statistics Illustrating the Economic Situation of Canada for the first eleven months of 1942, compared with the same period of 1941.

1942, compared with	Unit or	First Eleven	Months	Per Cent Increase +
	ase Period	1942	1941	Decrease -
eneral Economic Situation	1000			0.7. 0
Index of Physical Volume of Business		199.9	162.3	+ 23.2
Index of Industrial Production	1935-9=100	225.0	174.6	+ 28.9
War Contracts Placed, D.M.S. (11 mos.	\$000	1,152,209	1,095,416	+ 5.2
Wholesale Prices	1926=100	95,6	89,5	+ 6.8
Cost of Living	1935-9=100	116.8	111.4	+ 4.8
Index of Common Stock Prices	1935-9=100		07.5	- 5.9
Index of Bond Yields	1935-9=100	99,3	100.7	- 1.4
Bank Debits	\$000	41,331,641	35,556,411	+ 16.2
reduction and General Business				
Farm Products -				
Index of Grain Marketings	1935-9=100	101.3	182.8	- 44.6
Index of Livestock Marketings	1935-9=100	98.5	103.9	- 5.2
Index of Cold Storage Holdings				
(12 mos.)	1935-9=100		135.5	+ 5.1
Mineral Production	1935-9=100		210.4	+ 4.5
Gold Receipts at Mint	Fine Ozs.		4,679,764	
Coal Production	Tons	16,982,687	16, 138, 478	+ 5.2
anufacturing Production	1935-9=100		172.3	+ 39.1
Flour Production (10 mos.)	Bbls.	16,724,160	17,229,375	- 2.9
Cattle Slaughterings	No.	1,515,443	1,600,472 5,580,552	- 5.3 - 1.3
Hog Slaughterings Creamery Butter Production	Lbs.	5,514,614	273,352,525	- 1.5
Factory Cheese Production	Lbs.	196,260,314	141, 322, 522	+ 38.9
Cigarettes released		9,277,939,153	7,861,718,369	+ 18.0
Cigars released	No.	182,257,034	172,551,831	+ 5.6
Leather Boots and Shoes (10 mos.)	Pairs	23,465,437	23,337,905	
Raw Cotton Consumption	Lbs.	179,893,951	182,238,790	- 1.3
Paper and Lumber -				
Newsprint Production	Tons	2,932,911	3,125,042	- 6.1
Iron and Steel -				
Steel Ingot Production	Short Ten		2,456,469	
Pig Iron Production	Short Ton			+ 32.9
Coke Production	Short Ton	2,999,488	2,872,981	+ 4.4
Contracts awarded	\$	271 985 200	374,781,400	- 27.4
Building Permits (58 Municipalitie		69, 281, 958	94,462,939	
		29,480,683	25,031,777	
Internal Trade -	000 110 110	22, 100,000	20,001,777	1 11.00
Wholesale Sales (10 mos.' average)	1975-9-100	156.4	141.8	+ 10.3
Retail Sales (10 mos. average)			128.2	+ 15.0
Railways- Tons carried 1 mile - 2 Rl		74144	200 00	. 20.0
		ns 41,700	37,701	+ 10.6
Carloadings	No.	3,114,260	2,942,748	
Gross Revenue C.N.R. 10 months	210 8	0,114,000	2,512,114	- 0,0
(Canadian Lines)	\$	270, 952, 100	213,906,000	+ 26.7
Gross Revenue C.P.R. 10 months	\$	211, 157, 000		
Employment (10 months' average) -	*			2.40
General Index	1926=100	172,5	150.8	+ 14.4
Manufacturing		205.1	160.6	+ 23.1
Logging		192.9	182.1	+ 5.9
Mining		172.1	175.9	- 2.2
Construction		128.4	125,1	+ 2.6
Building		153.6	137.0	+ 12.1
Highway		143.4	155.0	- 7.5
Trade		155.3	155.5	- 0.1
Banking - (11 months' average)				
Deposits, Four Classes	\$000	3,303,473	3,018,749	+ 9.4
Currents Loans	\$000	1,072,421		
Circulating Media (11 mos. averag		568.6	428.5	+ 32.7
Cash and Cheque Payments (11 mos.)				
Total		55,987	46,268	+ 21.0
Dominion Finance - April to November				IT II
Total Revenues		1,453,760,770	911,369,490	+ 59,5
Ordinary Expenditures	\$	349,940,123	258,641,835	
War Expenditures		1,432,527,984	728,652,033	
United Kingdom War Financing	\$	908,928,634	-	**
National Income	\$000,000		5,953	+ 14.6
Seventeen items recorded declines. wh				2.10

Seventeen items recorded declines, while thirty-six showed increases.



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