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A FACT A DAY ABOUT CANADA
FROM THE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
AS SUPPLIED TO THE
CANADIAN RADIO BROADCASTING COMMISSION
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SECOND SERIES

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Note: A Fact a Day is broadcast over the Commission's network immediately after the Canadian Press News broadcast.

A Fact a Day about Canada

from the

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

No. 65. Sun. Dec. 1, 1935 - Education is More than Schooling

Education, broadly speaking, is the process of changing and shaping lives. The early years of a life are the most susceptible to this moulding, but it is a process that is as long as the life itself. Home, friends, and daily work, have always been the greatest educational institutions, and they are still doubtless more influential than schools, which are to be compared rather with such other institutions as the press, the church, the theatre and the radio -- to mention a few of the others in order of the amount we spend on them.

The annual expenditure on Canadian schools and universities in recent years has been about 160 million dollars. Newspapers, magazines, books, and printed advertising matter, have been produced annually in Canada to the value of 70 or 80 million dollars and the value of imports of this kind has exceeded exports each year by more than ten millions. Thus we seem to have been paying something like 100 million dollars for our reading material, or nearly two-thirds as much as for schools.

Church finances are not published in all cases, but a reasonable estimate for their receipts seems to be about 70 million, or rather less than half of the expenditure on schools. The annual receipts of motion picture theatres are about thirty million dollars. New radios and licenses cost in the neighborhood of 15 million dollars, and there is also the cost of programmes to consider.

Adding together what we pay for the press, the church, the movies and the radio, the sum is much higher than for schools. If we knew, too, the cost of such other educational influences as sports, holidays, clubs and hobbies, we would be better able to place the schools in their proper setting among the whole fraternity of educational institutions.

This information has been supplied by the Education Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 66. Mon. Dec. 2, 1935 - Corks

The family corkscrew is not so much in evidence in the last few years and the pop, as it does its work, is less frequently heard. The bottles we buy are being closed more and more with caps that screw on or are otherwise attached to close the mouth. However, a large proportion of the slim-necked glass containers are still corked in the old-fashioned way.

Corks are made from the bark of a species of oak tree which is a native of Southern Europe. The best qualities are supplied by Spain. The bark is of great thickness and increases by annual layers. The external layers are removed every eight or ten years, the average yield of one tree being 45 pounds. The slabs are placed in barley water or steamed for an hour, which reduces the bulk

and the cork is ready for marketing. Refuse pieces are ground and mixed with rubber for floor cloth.

During the last four or five years the importation of cork bark has dropped from \$260,000 to \$15,000, and manufactured cork wood from \$415,000 to \$74,000. The corks for bottles, etc. have declined from 412,000 pounds to 230,000 pounds. The cork we get comes mainly from Spain and Portugal.

This information is taken from reports issued by the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 67. Tues. Dec. 3, 1935 - Automotive Retail Establishments

The statement is sometimes made that we are becoming a nation on wheels, and the lines of automobiles on highways and city streets lend a good deal of substance to the remark.

The extent to which the automobile has caused the development of distributive and service agencies is not generally realized. There are approximately 15,000 retail establishments in Canada engaged primarily in the automotive trade and, of course, there are a great many other places of business which carry automobile supplies or gasoline as a side line. Of the 15,000 automotive establishments, about 2,400 are automobile dealers, although here again there are sub-agencies of various kinds which also deal in cars.

There are about 5,500 filling stations in the Dominion and 4,100 garages dealing in automobiles and gasoline. In addition, there are approximately 1,800 service garages or repair shops of various sorts.

These retail automotive establishments of all kinds gave employment to approximately 50,000 persons, including active proprietors as well as employees.

This information is taken from reports issued by the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 68. Wed. Dec. 4, 1935 - Canada's Progress in 1935

December is the month in which we take stock of ourselves. It can be stated that Canada's climb on the road to better times was continued in the year now drawing to a close. Some industries were not so active as in 1934, but, on the whole, productive operations were greater than in the preceding year. The gain in output, based on available information, was over 7 per cent. In view of the considerable betterment which took place in 1934 over the low point of the depression reached in 1933, this gain is regarded as satisfactory.

The level of productive operations in 1935, measured by the first ten months, was practically the same as in 1926. The year 1926 is regarded as the best representative of average conditions in the post-war period.

The relative stability of the commodity price level was also a favorable development. An advance in the prices of animal products and of metals has been a feature of recent months. Government bond prices were at an unusually high level during the greater part of the year. Bond yields were remarkably low, indicating that funds in large amount were seeking investment. Common stock prices reached a new high

point on the recovery in November, evidently indicating an improvement in the prospects for Canadian companies.

The mining and power industries showed marked gains in 1935, available information suggesting that the output of each will establish a record.

Manufacturing production did not make so bright a showing but the gains predominated. Employment in such industries averaged more than 7 per cent greater than in 1934.

A Bulletin describing the trend of the year may be obtained upon application to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

No. 69. Thurs. Dec. 5, 1935 - The Place Where I was Born

Most people who have left the family roof-tree to wander and settle afar have at some time, no doubt, had the intense desire to see once again the place where they were born and the house wherein they first saw the light. Poets have sung of the "Auld Hoose" and the music of it has brought tears to the eyes and longing to the hearts of those away from home. And when they did make the pilgrimage to the old shrine, they have been able to point out to their children what is to them the one house in all the houses they have known, humble as it may have been.

Nowadays far more children are born in hospitals than was the case a generation ago, and perhaps those so brought into being have lost something of the romance of the childhood of their parents. Yet the children born at home are still far in excess of the hospital-child. During 1933, for example, there were 67,000 babies born in hospitals out of the whole 223,000 born throughout the Dominion, or fewer than one-third. Apparently it is in the cities that we have more of the hospital-complex regarding these things than in the country, and as "la vieille maison grise" has the air of the country, probably most of the romance there ever was about it still remains. Incidentally, it is one of the troublesome jobs in vital statistics to allocate births and deaths in hospitals back to their proper localities.

The information in the foregoing is taken from a report issued this week by the Institutional Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 70. Fri. Dec. 6, 1935 - The King of Fruits

The apple is the King of Fruits. It is of ancient origin. The Romans cultivated many varieties of apples, probably thirty. Some of them were carried to Old Gaul and the British Isles. The French settlers in Nova Scotia and Quebec planted apple seeds three hundred years ago and De Monts also sent them some apple trees. From that time onwards the apple has been the most important fruit of the Canadian people. The repeal in 1866 of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854, gave a stimulus to the development of apple-growing by directing the attention of growers to the British market. It is highly nutritious and has a very strong appetite appeal, especially to children.

Two varieties which are most widely known and which are very popular, namely the Fameuse, or Snow, and the McIntosh, are both of Canadian origin, the Fameuse coming originally from Quebec and the McIntosh from Ontario. British Columbia

in the last quarter of a century has made rapid progress in apple culture, and its "Delicious" is becoming widely known, as is the same apple in Ontario. There are other varieties less well known which originated in Canada, and most of the rest came from England, the United States and Russia.

Our exports in the last two years have been over five and a half million barrels, most of them going to the United Kingdom, where the Canadian apple is welcomed. Our production this year was over four million barrels.

This information is taken from reports issued by the Department of Agriculture and the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 71. Sat. Dec. 7, 1935 - Canada's Trade with the Dutch East Indies

The Dutch East India Company was formed in 1602, two years after the English East India Company. Its great era of prosperity was the 17th century, that same period in which the Dutch fleet sailed up the Medway and burned the British fleet at anchor. The Company, which had authority to make peace and war, founded Batavia in Java in 1619, took Ceylon and Malacca from Portugal, established itself at the Cape of Good Hope in 1652 and made a treaty with the Princes of Sumatra in 1667.

In the 18th century the Company steadily declined and after suffering heavily in the war of American Independence, it was dissolved in 1798. Since that time, Java, Sumatra, and other remaining Dutch possessions in the East Indies have been administered from the Netherlands by a Governor-General and a council of five, and some of the smaller islands by native princes. That volcanic territory has an area of 730,000 square miles, or about as large as Canada from Ottawa to the Atlantic seaboard. The population has grown from three million to 53 million, chiefly pure native and Malay.

Our imports from the Dutch East Indies are valued at about half a million dollars and our exports much the same. We get nuts, sago, tapioca, coffee, spices, tea, vegetable oil, rubber, tobacco, manila and sisal grass, and straw manufactures. We send apples, potatoes, wheatflour, canned fish, evaporated milk, paper, machinery, automobiles, aluminium, electrical apparatus and ammonium sulphate.

This information is taken from reports issued by the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 72. Sun. Dec. 8, 1935 - Honey as a Food

Before the introduction of cane sugar, honey was apparently the only sweet available for human consumption. It is the only sweet that comes from nature to the table unchanged by human agency. It is the nectar of the flowers gathered by bees and ripened by them within their hives. Because it is largely a predigested sugar, honey when eaten is immediately absorbed into the blood stream and thus becomes a quick source of energy which makes it an ideal food for children and athletes.

It places no tax upon the digestive system and therefore is especially suitable for elderly people and those with impaired digestion. It contains mineral elements essential to the human body. When first obtained from the bees, honey is in a liquid form, but all Canadian honeys granulate sooner or later.

The value of honey as a food does not appear to be so well appreciated by the present generation as by the ancients. King Solomon impressed upon his people the desirability of using it. Old writings talk of "milk and honey".

Canadian production of honey runs to over 24 million pounds, chiefly from Ontario and Manitoba.

This information is taken from reports issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture and the Agricultural Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 73. Mon. Dec. 9, 1935 - Centres of Trade

Since the beginning of history, towns have been the centres of trade. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that in Canada most of the retail business is conducted in the larger cities and towns of the Dominion.

Although only 22 per cent of the Canadian population reside in cities with a population of more than 100,000 persons, 26 per cent of the retail stores and 43 per cent of the retail sales are attributed to establishments in these larger cities.

If we widen the group to include cities of more than 30,000 population as well as those over 100,000, we find that slightly less than 30 per cent of the population dwells in such places but that stores in these cities account for 34 per cent of the number and 55 per cent of the trade of the Dominion.

The concentration of business in towns does not, of course, imply that sales are made only to residents of the cities. Purchases are made by out-of-town residents both by personal visit to the city stores and also by mail.

The amount of business conducted in smaller places is by no means unimportant as in 1930 sales in places of less than 1,000 population were valued at almost \$450,000,000.

This information comes from the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 74. Tues. Dec. 10, 1935 - Forestry

Canada's forests cover 36 per cent of the total land area, and nine-tenths of the forest land is still owned by the Crown.

In normal times, provincial governments derive a direct revenue from timber lands of \$15,000,000 annually. Over 261 million cubic feet of standing timber is destroyed by fire in an average year and 700 million is also destroyed by insects and fungi.

Scientific forestry, with sustained yield as its object, is being practised in Canada only in a limited experimental way, uncontrolled by any central organization.

The cut in an average year has a value of over 180 million dollars.

This information is taken from reports issued by the Forestry Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 75. Wed. Dec. 11, 1935 - Decrease in More Serious Crimes

There was a general decrease in all classes of indictable offenses in Canada last year. There were 1,200 fewer convictions. These are the more serious offenses, such as murder, manslaughter, forgery, destruction of property and burglary.

There was a 12 per cent increase, however, in the non-indictable, or less serious offenses. These include gambling, drunkenness, breaches of the traffic laws, and nuisances of various kinds.

Last year was the first year since 1931 in which an increase in that kind of crime has taken place. The increase in convictions for breaches of the traffic laws, while general, was most marked in Ontario.

The increase in convictions for drunkenness was the first recorded since 1929. This increase was general in every province.

There are 164 cities and towns in Canada of over 4,000 inhabitants, aggregating about four and a half million persons. The police numbered 5,157, which is an average of one policeman for every 860 or so of the population.

This information comes from the Criminal Statistics Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 76. Thurs. Dec. 12, 1935 - Furs

Furs have had their place in myth, song and ancient legend and it may come as a surprise to many to learn that Cinderella's slipper was not made of glass, as many of us were informed by fairy story books, but was, in fact, a fur slipper.

The original of Cinderella and her famous foot-gear, which had its origin in Egyptian folk-lore, was written by a noted French author, named Perrault, under the title "Cindrillion" (little cinder girl) and although he wrote that the little heroine dropped on the steps of the palace a "pantoufle en vair" (fur slipper), the printer set the type so as to read "en verre", and "verre" in French is "glass", while silver and azure in heraldic design and supposed to represent the fur on squirrel bellies was worn only by the nobility. So a typographical error has been responsible for the belief long held by children and even grown-ups that the slipper the Prince found, which fitted only Cinderella's foot and not those of her ugly and wicked step-sisters was made of a fragile substance such as glass and not of a durable material such as fur.

Canada is one of the largest fur trading countries of the world. Considerably over six million pelts were taken last season, representing a value of twelve and a half million dollars. Ontario stood first in order of aggregate value, with Alberta second and the North West Territories third.

This information comes from the Fur Statistics Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 77. Fri. Dec. 13, 1935 - Wheat

Wheat, which is Canada's great food commodity export, is an ancient grain. It is mentioned in the oldest books of the Bible. On the tombs of the early Egyptian kings there are pictures which show men harvesting wheat. The Chinese say that wheat was grown in their country four thousand years ago. The old Roman city of Pompeii was buried in ashes from an eruption of Mount Vesuvius in the year 79 A.D. and when the ruins of this ancient city were uncovered, men found curious mills for grinding wheat.

Wheat came to Canada in 1605. Prior to that, the grain of the Indians was maize, which was unknown to Europeans. The French colonists brought wheat with them and planted it at Port Royal, now Annapolis, their first settlement. In that year was the first wheat harvest in North America.

Our export of wheat is a very important item in Canada's trade and during the past twelve months brought 137 million dollars into the country.

This information is taken from reports issued by the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 78. Sat. Dec. 14, 1935 - Canada's Trade with Jamaica

Jamaica was wrested from the Spaniards 280 years ago -- when Oliver Cromwell was in power. Across the harbor from Kingston is old Port Royal, known in buccaneering days as "the wickedest city in the world". It is now a sleepy town of narrow streets, stately residences and here and there the strangely curved figureheads from old British frigates. Fort Charles, the only building left standing when the town slipped into the sea after the earthquake of 1692, was once in the charge of Nelson when he was 21. It was there that Morgan had his base.

Jamaica is 144 miles long and 49 in extreme breadth. It is a little more than twice the size of Prince Edward Island. It has over one million inhabitants, of whom about 15,000 are whites.

Canada's trade with that British West Indian island is important. We got goods last year to the value of nearly four and a half million dollars and our exports were over three million. Our chief import last year was raw sugar to the value of two millions and bananas next at over one million. We also got, as usual, large quantities of coffee, grape fruit, oranges and spices and millions of cocoanuts.

Wheatflour was our largest export, but we sent large quantities also of oats, potatoes, fish, meats, condensed milk, lumber, machinery, automobiles, cement, soap and a host of other things.

This information comes from the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 79. Sun. Dec. 15, 1935 - Perfumes

In Egypt different kinds of perfume were offered on the altar at dawn, noon and evening. Perfumes were pressed into service of the dead and the process of embalming was carried out with the costliest spices. The Hebrews took with them from Egypt the use of incense and other perfumes.

It used to be that almost every man in church when he used his handkerchief spread an aura of perfume in his neighborhood. But if mere men do not now fix themselves up so much in this way, and perhaps women not so much either, a great deal of perfume is still used in very many ways.

Perfume is obtained from the flowers, leaves, and in some cases the roots and the wood of plants by the extraction of the essential oil. Constantinople and Adrianople are the great markets for Eastern perfumes, especially the prime favorite, otto of roses. The principal other floral perfumes come mainly from Southern France and the Riviera; from Cannes, rose, tuberose and jasmin; from Nîmes, thyme, rosemary and lavender; from Italy, iris and bergamot; from England, mint and lavender. Chemists now make synthetic perfumes and these are becoming of increasing importance.

Canada imports the basic materials and prepares a wide variety of perfumes for the market, the factory value being about half a million dollars annually, and we import finished products to about the same amount.

This information comes from the External Trade and Manufacturing Branches of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 80. Mon. Dec. 16, 1935 -- Cocoa

When the Spanish soldier Cortez conquered Mexico in 1519, he found that the people of that country were very fond of a drink which they called "chocolatl." It was served to their ruler, Montezuma, in a cup of gold. The roving Spaniards introduced the drink into their own country. Its preparation was kept secret, and so cocoa was not used outside Spain for a long time and was expensive.

Cocoa and chocolate are products of the seeds of a tropical tree called cacao. It is seldom more than 20 feet high. It begins to bear when five or six years old and continues to yield for forty years. The blossoms grow in clusters, small and pink or yellow in colour. Four months after blossoming, dark yellow or brown pods are hanging. When fresh, the beans are white and when dry are brown.

Canada last year imported about 24 million pounds of cocoa beans and over two million pounds of cocoa butter which is the oily substance pressed from the beans. Most of our cocoa beans came from the West Indies, chiefly Trinidad and Jamaica, and a large quantity from the Gold Coast, which is the chief supplying country of the world. Occasionally our main Canadian supply has come from the Gold Coast.

This information is taken from reports issued by the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 81. Tues. Dec. 17, 1935 - Food Stores in Canada

There is a well-known saying that an army marches on its stomach but the provision of food is no less important in civil life. One out of every three retail stores in Canada is a food store and every second retail establishment in the Dominion is engaged in selling food or serving meals.

Food stores in Canada total approximately 45,000 establishments, of which 18,000 are grocery shops, 5,000 sell groceries and meat, and another 5,000 are butcher shops or meat markets. There are 9,000 confectionery and candy stores, 3,000 milk dealers, and 1,500 fruit and vegetable stores.

In the towns, villages and country cross-road settlements of the Dominion, there are about 12,000 country general stores which sell food products as well as providing a great many more staple articles to farmers and other rural dwellers.

The places where meals are served, outside of hotels, number about 5,600, of which approximately 2,200 are regular restaurants.

This information comes from the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 82. Wed. Dec. 18, 1935 - Shoe Polish

When the fledgling leaves home to fight the battle of life by his lonesome, carrying with him tearful blessings and the memory of prayers and fond hopes expressed, does he find in his kit, when he opens it in his boarding house, one thing his father found in his day -- a shoe brush? Maybe yes and maybe no.

Perhaps the lad intends to get his footwear cleaned up in the boot-black's place of business on the Main Street, a kind of business that has become quite a big affair in these ever-changing days. The eldest boy in the family has not often now the morning duty of polishing a long array of shoes before he goes to school. For one thing, the families are not so large, and father, with less expense to meet, can get his brogues shined at a store now and again.

It costs a huge amount of money to keep the boots and shoes of the Canadian people polished. The factory output of shoe polish runs to about \$340,000 in a year and we import a great deal also, especially from Great Britain. Along with other kinds of leather polish it comes to about the same amount. With retail costs and charges by the boot-blacks and railway porters, the aggregate must be a huge sum. It must go to millions.

This information is taken from reports by the Manufacturing and External Trade Branches of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 83. Thurs. Dec. 19, 1935 - Trend of Economic Conditions

The main factors indicating the trend of economic conditions in Canada averaged higher in November than in any month since the depression first became severe. Gradual improvement had been shown during the first ten months of 1935, but several of the most significant factors moved up sharply in November.

For example, the production of industrial plants was about three per cent greater than in the preceding month, some commodities being produced or shipped in larger volume than in any other month in the post-war period. The exports of nickel reached the highest point in post-war history. The output of news-print was greater than in any other November. The imports of crude rubber, mainly for the manufacture of tires, was the feature of the month, the inward shipment, with the single exception of one previous record, being greater than in any other similar period since the termination of the war. The production of pig iron, indicating conditions in the primary iron and steel industry, was greater than at any time since July 1930. The index of the volume of imports of all classes of merchandise was greater than in any other month since the early part of 1931.

Government bonds and common stocks advanced in November, the prices of stocks averaging higher than at any time since the first quarter of 1931. Bank deposits at the first of the month were at a new high point for several years, indicating a gain in the purchasing power of the public.

But of course these brilliant advances were far from general, and economic conditions are still rated greatly below the prosperous period culminating in 1929.

Further information on these points published in the Weekly and Monthly Review of Business Statistics may be had upon application to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

No. 84. Fri. Dec. 20, 1935 -- December Sales in Our Stores

A study of the monthly sales figures of a representative number of firms shows the value of retail trade for the month of December to be 33 per cent above normal. Of course, not all kinds of business derive an equal stimulus from the Christmas trade. The increase for some lines of trade is much greater, and for others, considerably smaller, than the 33 per cent average.

The December business of candy and confectionery stores is 86 per cent above normal, while that of grocery store and meat markets shows an increase of only 7 per cent.

Sales of women's clothing stores, while slightly below average in the autumn months, rise to a peak in December when they are 85 per cent above normal. The December business of men's clothing stores, on the other hand, is on the average only 28 per cent above normal. It should be stated, however, that the business of men's clothing stores is at the same comparatively high level during the preceding two months of October and November. When combined sales figures for the last three months of the year are considered, the proportion of the annual business transacted in this period is found to be similar for men's and women's clothing stores.

The December business of department stores is approximately 50 per cent better than average, while the business of the popular variety, 5-and-10¢-to-a-dollar stores, is 85 per cent above normal.

This information is taken from a report on seasonal variations in retail trade recently published by the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 85. Sat. Dec. 21, 1935 -- Canada's Trade with the Falkland Islands

Canada has very little direct trade with the Falkland Islands, the commodities exchanged coming and going mainly via the United Kingdom. But the Falklands have a great appeal for British people, and a more particular interest since Sturdee's naval victory over Von Spee in December, 1914.

The Falklands lie 300 miles east of the Straits of Magellan and are the most southerly British Possession. The area is about 4,600 square miles, or more than twice that of Prince Edward Island. The islands were discovered by Davis in 1592

and visited by Hawkins two years later. France made a settlement there in 1764, then Spain and later the Argentine. The last settlement was destroyed by the Americans in 1831. In 1833 the Falklands were colonized by the British, many Scottish sheep farmers being sent there.

The Falklands have a population of 2,400; with one or two exceptions all are of pure European origin. Only nine of the non-British cannot speak English. The population has been increasing. The chief exports are wool, tallow, hides and seal oil. The dependencies of South Georgia, South Shetlands, South Orkneys and other smaller islands have a whaling trade greater than all the rest of the world combined. In South Georgia in 1933 the whales caught numbered 2,364 and the oil was valued at about \$1,320,000.

This information is contained in reports received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 86. Sun. Dec. 22, 1935 - Farm Implements

Just what has been happening to the implements and machinery on the Canadian farm during the last few years may be understood well from the figures contained in a report issued a few days ago.

The investment on such equipment of the average Canadian farm is around \$900, but implements and machinery have a habit, even with the best of care, of having to be repaired or renewed, and then, of course, the good farmer likes to be adding to his equipment in order to increase his efficiency.

Accordingly, in prosperous years we find him spending considerable money for that purpose. In 1920 he spent on the average about \$85 and in 1928 two or three dollars more than that to keep up his working plant. When the black years came he had to retrench. He had to get along somehow without the replacement of his equipment that he would like. In 1932 and 1933 he was spending on the average only about \$8. Last year he could only disburse a little less than \$12.

This goes to show that the going along the furrow and in the barn and the dairy has not been as easy as it should have been.

These figures are obtained from a report issued by the General Manufactures Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 87. Mon. Dec. 23, 1935 - The Wood Fire

Now that the winter is upon us, bringing with it so many varied pleasures, there is none that has a pleasanter influence upon our lives than that hour or two of an evening in a cosy room before a cheerful fire. There is a good book to entrance one's thoughts, the charm of conversation with friends we love, the family gathering. Contemplation is not the least of the allurements.

This brings to mind that the forest gives us the fire and the book. Despite the fact that we mine a great volume of coal and import huge quantities by ship and rail, we still draw heavily upon the woods for our supply of fuel. Wood fuel is actually second in importance amongst our forest products. It is greater than planks, boards and timber.

Pulpwood stands first. The annual harvest of that paper-making wood is slightly over one-third of our forest production, while the quantity taken for fuel is only a trifle less than one-third. In other words, the pulp-wood cut runs to about \$33,000,000 and firewood to \$31,000,000.

This information is taken from reports issued by the Forestry Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 88. Tues. Dec. 24, 1935 - Bells are Ringing

The bells of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem will soon be ringing the message of Christmas over all the Christian world, and we shall hear it with joy. Big Ben will come over the air to us from Westminster, too, and resound greatness. It is with religious dates that we associate bells the most and that custom has come down to us from a remote age.

While we associate greatness with Big Ben, that bell is not so very large, comparatively speaking. It weighs fifteen and a half tons. The Russians have been the makers of the largest bells. There is one in use in Moscow, weighing 128 tons, and another 57 tons. Mingoen in Burma has a bell weighing 80 tons. Peking has one at 53 tons and the famous Mahajanda bell at Rangoon weighs 22 tons. Great Paul at St. Paul's, London, is two tons heavier than Big Ben.

Canada in the last ten years has imported church bells to the value of \$600,000. These have come mainly from France, the United Kingdom and the United States. Of late years the imports have dropped heavily. There are many churches in Canada without bells.

This information is taken from reports by the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 89. Wed. Dec. 25, 1935 - Christian Canada

Another Christmas Day is nearly spent and we may pause for a moment before it is gone to fix in our minds the fact that Canada is overwhelmingly a Christian country, a people who believe that revealed religion came from Jesus of Nazareth.

There are in Canada about ten and a half million people and 10,200,000 of these, speaking in round numbers, subscribe to the Christian faith that was proclaimed in Palestine nearly two thousand years ago. True there are many varieties of the Christian Church, man-made sects abound, there are sharp divisions, but the main element in them all is the same.

Less than two per cent of the Canadian people do not profess the Christian religion. The most numerous of that small minority are the Jews, yet they number only about 156,000. There are 24,000 Confucians, who are almost entirely of Chinese origin, and there are 16,000 Buddhists who are mainly Japanese. The pagans, mostly Indians, number about 5,000, and there are Sikhs, Hindus, Shintos and Mohammedans, who all told number about 2,000. There are very few people, comparatively speaking, who profess no religion at all, -- only 21,000.

This information is taken from reports issued by the Census Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 90 Thurs. Dec. 26, 1935 - Ice

Mother nature makes ice for us, an abundance of it, but we are getting to use less and less of that variety, and more and more of the artificial production. Indeed an ice-making machine run by electricity has come into very common use in the Canadian home.

It is one of those improvements science has given us which has robbed many workers of their employment. It has done away pretty much with what was not very long ago a great winter employment for men folk. On rivers and lakes in the vicinity of the cities it used to be a stirring sight to see men sawing ice and teaming it to the warehouses for distribution in the warm months. Now we are making ice as we go. We are in the machine age.

In the place of many thousands of men who used to cut ice in winter, only some 500 are employed in making it. Apart altogether from domestic manufacture and in those plants which make it for their own use, there were about 350,000 tons of ice manufactured in Canada last year at a value of close to \$1,500,000. We even exported this commodity to the extent of \$162,000, chiefly to the United States. However, the American people themselves manufacture 20 million tons or more in a year.

This information is taken from reports issued by the Manufactures Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 91, Fri. Dec. 27, 1935 - The Country Store and Other Stores

Retail stores are developed to meet the demands of the public for merchandising services. In the country districts we find the general store retailing a wide variety of goods from pins to tractors, even a nice little show of Christmas gifts, as there is not a sufficient demand for any one item to warrant the operation of specialty stores selling only a few lines of merchandise.

In the cities and towns, however, there is a great deal of specialization both by individual stores and in the departments of large stores.

The number of retail outlets of various kinds reflects, to a considerable extent, the relative convenience in shopping which buyers desire for different commodities. Food products are in almost daily demand by every family, and we find that there is one food store to every 232 persons in the Dominion. Purchases of clothing, on the other hand, are made much more infrequently, and there is only one clothing and apparel store to approximately 1,000 persons.

The relationship between population and number of stores differs with localities. On the whole there is one drug store to approximately every 3,000 persons in Canada, but in the cities and towns the average is between 1,500 and 2,000 persons to each store.

This information is taken from reports issued by the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 92. Sat. Dec. 28, 1935 - Canada's Trade with Hawaii

The Hawaiian, or Sandwich Islands, are a dependency of the United States. There are twenty islands, with a total area of about 6,400 square miles, which is about three times that of Prince Edward Island or one-third that of Nova Scotia. The population is over 368,000, one-third being aliens.

The islands were discovered in 1778 by Captain Cook who was killed there in the following year. They formed a kingdom until Queen Liliuokalani was driven from the throne in 1893, a republic being proclaimed in 1894. In 1897 the group was annexed by the United States. The Governor is appointed by the President of the United States and there is a Senate and a House of Representatives. A delegate is sent to Congress.

The islands are very fertile, and rice, cane sugar, pineapples, coffee, bananas and other tropical and sub-tropical products are abundantly grown. Canada imported these products to the extent of \$85,000 last year, while the exports to Hawaii aggregated \$600,000. The chief item was ammonium sulphate to the value of nearly \$400,000.

Canadians play an important part in the tourist trade of these Pacific islands but there is no record or estimate of the spending that is done there by people from this Dominion.

This information is taken from reports issued by the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 93. Sun. Dec. 29, 1935 - The Mackinaw

For quite a long while now the Canadian people, generally speaking, have subscribed to international forms and customs in outdoor dress. So much so has this been the case that the Jack Canuck of the winter pictures, clad in his mackinaw, fur cap and shoe-packs, has become just somebody we have read about or heard about. We have not been meeting him. The Canadian in winter has had no particularly distinctive dress to meet his climatic conditions.

But apparently we are coming back to common sense in these things and in the last few years the number of boys, and girls, too, who are wearing mackinaws on a winter day, is increasing. Many of these comfortable garments are of leather, and are commonly called wind-breakers, but the typical mackinaw is a short, heavy, double-breasted plaid or tartan coat, the design of which is large and striking. Often it has a belt. The name is said to have come from the Indian tribe of Mackinacs.

The latest available figures show that the output of mackinaws was about 60,000 in a year and this was more than double the output of two or three years before. The wind-breaker output has run up to 300,000.

This information comes from the General Manufactures Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 94. Mon. Dec. 30, 1935 - Greeting Cards

The first Christmas card dates only from about 1846, just ninety years ago, but in that time the custom of sending Christmas cards has grown to huge proportions

and has been extended to include such occasions as New Year's Day and Easter, besides individual birthdays. The Valentine probably attained greater popularity than any of them for a long time, but in later years the pictorial post card has spread tremendously.

Greeting cards have developed quite a large industry in Canada and there are 32 firms which make a specialty of them. Other firms manufacture them as side lines. The factory-valued output runs to over one million dollars and we import about one-third as many as we manufacture. A great quantity is also made at home by industrious artists who display marvellous ingenuity and talent. The ordinary visiting card is also often used, so that when envelopes, postage and retail profits are added, a vast sum is spent each year by the Canadian people on this pleasing way of keeping up contacts with friends near at hand and far away.

Most of our importations comes from the United States, Great Britain and Germany, but we get many also from a dozen other countries, such as France, Italy and Switzerland, where the artistic temperament is highly developed.

This information is contained in reports issued by the Forestry and External Trade Branches of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

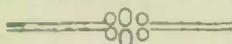
No. 96. Tues. Dec. 31, 1935 - Canada in 1935

The year 1935 has brought surprises, most of them of the pleasant kind. Natural forces of recovery have asserted themselves and the business of the Dominion was more active than in 1934. Brilliant advances were made in several industries, the output of a number of commodities even exceeding the high levels of 1929.

Mineral production reached a new high point in volume and was only surpassed in value during the climax of the last prosperity cycle. Newsprint production was about the same as in 1929 and the output of electric power reached a new high point in history. The automobile and allied industries also enjoyed a greater measure of prosperity in the year just drawing to a close. The primary iron and steel and construction industries have recorded marked gains.

The financial background also brightened in the period under review. The commodity price level remained stable for the last two years, advances being shown recently in animal products and non-ferrous metals. Dominion bond prices during the greater part of the year were higher than at any other time since the days of the war, when such issues were first distributed widely in the Canadian market. Common stock prices moved up sharply in the last quarter, denoting better prospects for company operations. The banks have a full pocket book -- security holdings and quick assets were never so large.

While the bright lights of the situation are predominant, shadows are also unfortunately in evidence. The heavy expenditure for relief and the continued deficits of the Canadian National Railways are placing a continuous strain on the public finances. A difficulty consequently faces Canada at the dawn of the New Year. To offset this, governments throughout Canada have begun a serious attempt to balance budgets and curtail expenditures. On the whole, owing to the developments of the last twelve months, we may look to the future with well-founded confidence.



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