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A Fact a Day about Canada
from the
Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 1. Thurs. Oct. 1, 1936 - Death on the Highway

This evening begins the first of the third annual series of "A Fact a Day about Canada from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics", and perhaps there could be no better beginning than to draw attention, even though it is an unpleasant subject, to the great modern menace to life upon the highway. Deaths from automobile accidents are increasing to an alarming extent. No fewer than 1,225 persons so died in 1935 and that was an increase of 110 over 1934.

It is difficult to say what are the chances the owner of a car takes that he will return safely from his run. Perhaps, however, the records will furnish a guide. Last year there were 40,724 automobile accidents reported to the police of 161 cities and towns of over 4,000 population. There were 346 deaths and over 12,538 injuries from these accidents.

This leaves 879 deaths for rural districts, small towns and villages and an estimated total injured of 21,300, or a total killed and injured of 22,525. There were about 1,176,000 motor vehicles registered in Canada last year, which means that, for every thousand cars registered, approximately one person was killed and 18 persons injured. In other words, one person was killed or injured for every fifty cars licensed.

Deaths from steam railway accidents last year numbered 212, and from street car 37. Air transportation accounted for fourteen fatalities.

These figures come from the Vital, Criminal Statistics and Transportation Branches of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 2. Fri. Oct. 2, 1936 - The Linotype

Newspapers, periodicals and books are much cheaper today than they were a generation ago and one of the marvellous inventions which made cheap printing possible is the linotype. Because of the fact that the credit has been given persistently elsewhere, the Canadian people are apt to forget that the inventor was a Canadian, an Ottawa man, George Pringle Drummond. Drummond's machine was working for more than a decade in the Dominion capital before it was introduced in any other country.

In the year 1877, Drummond completed his invention and ran the first molten type-metal slug or printing surface bar in the world. The speed was not very much short of the fast machines of today. In that year he filed patents with the Canadian office at Ottawa and the United States office in Washington.

On the tragedy which deprived Drummond of his patent rights, we need not dwell here. Suffice it to say that he never received a cent for his invention. However, his name lives as a great Canadian who gave the publishing world one of its sharp advances. He died in 1890.

There are about two thousand linotype machines operating in Canada today with an approximate value of over seven million dollars. The circulation of daily newspapers of all kinds runs to considerably over two million copies and the speed with which news of the world is presented to readers is due in large measure to the linotype.

This information comes from the General Manufactures Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 3. Sat. Oct. 3, 1936 -- Canada's Trade with Cuba

Cuba is the largest of the West India Islands, with an area of 44,000 square miles, or almost as large as Nova Scotia and New Brunswick combined, and very fertile. It has a population of four million people. Spanish is the language. Havana, the capital, is a city of half a million.

The island was a possession of Spain from its discovery in 1492 until 1898, with the exception of one year, in 1762-63, when it was under British rule, but it was returned to Spain in exchange for Florida. The government of Spain was marked by a generally corrupt administration and by turbulence. In 1898 the United States threatened interference in order to end the chaos and sent the battleship Maine to Havana harbour. In February of that year the vessel was sunk by an explosion, the cause of which seems likely to remain an unsolved mystery. A short Spanish-American war led to the abandonment of the island and its occupation by United States troops until 1902, when a republic on the American plan was proclaimed. In 1906 the United States had to intervene once more, but three years later the republic was again inaugurated.

The chief agricultural products of Cuba are sugar and tobacco. There are cattle ranges on the vast savannahs in the interior. The chief forest product is mahogany while cedar is used for boxing the tobacco crop.

The main item in Canada's imports from Cuba is fresh fruit, notably tomatoes, which have run up in recent years to about four million pounds, pineapples and grape-fruit. We also get tobacco, sponges, molasses and rum and in some years heavy quantities of sugar. Our exports are varied but particularly potatoes, fish, paper, malt, chemicals, flour, paint, electrical apparatus and hay.

This information comes from the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 4. Sun. Oct. 4, 1936 -- The Romance of Tea

A striking increase in the imports of tea calls to mind the romance that is associated with that British Empire beverage. The Empire produces from 50 to 60 per cent of all tea produced and consumes from 50 to 60 per cent of all tea consumed. The Empire's great tea producers are India and Ceylon.

Tea has been cultivated in India for a century, having been transplanted from China. When the coffee industry of Ceylon was devastated by a plant disease in the seventies, tea was introduced. It rescued the island from ruin. Legend says that tea was introduced to China from Assam. This was investigated and the wild tea of Assam was found to be of very high quality. The first consignment of Empire tea in 1839, sold at auction in London, realized prices from \$3 to \$7 per pound.

The tea bush is an evergreen and is kept to a height of three to five feet by pruning. There are three general types of tea -- fermented or black, semi-fermented, and unfermented or green tea. India and Ceylon send us practically all the black or fermented tea, while Japan and China produce the bulk of the green tea.

The tea we drink usually is a mixture and sometimes it is necessary to blend thirty or forty varieties to maintain the desired flavour. Queen Victoria in the eighties commissioned a firm to blend a tea for her private use.

Tea was the drink of the American pioneer. It was brewed in the backwoods of the early colonies as it is today in the Canadian northland. The Canadian consumption is over four pounds per capita but in the United Kingdom it is about eleven pounds, Australia and Ireland eight pounds. Imports into Canada in the first six months of 1936 were 21½ million pounds, an increase of six million pounds over the same period last year.

This information comes from the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 5. Mon. Oct. 5, 1936 -- Canada and the Tea Clippers

Last evening we were saying something about tea as an Empire beverage, but it has a connection with Canada which is one of the great romances of sea-faring. The records show consignments of tea in 1815 to York Factory, the "tea waggons" of the East India Company plying between Canton and Montreal, as well as Halifax.

When Great Britain introduced Free Trade and threw her markets open to the world, the famous "Yankee Clippers" caused consternation in British shipping circles by making a bid for the tea trade. Over one hundred clippers such as the Lightning and the Flying Cloud, built by a Nova Scotian named Donald Mackay, rushed the first season's tea from China to London at a speed hitherto unbelievable and got twice as much per ton for the cargo.

An urgent demand came from Britain for more and faster ships. Canada responded magnificently and from Quebec to St. John there was a shipping boom in the fifties that forever linked Canada's name and fame with the sea and all its doings. Great vessels like the Marco Polo and the Star of the East slid into the water manned by sturdy, bearded Canadians. They sailed into every port of the world and earned respect.

The first freight to travel east by rail in 1886, from what is now Vancouver, was a cargo of over 17,000 half chests of tea brought from the Orient by the W. B. Flint, a little 800 ton barque.

The great days of the wooden ships have passed. Boatbuilding with wood is confined more or less to fishing vessels and the comparatively small boats, small but of first quality. Witness the Bluenose. The Canadian output in 1934 of these wooden boats and canoes amounted to one million dollars.

This information comes from the Forestry Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics

No. 6. Tues. Oct. 6, 1936 -- The Bible

Today - the 400th anniversary of the martyrdom of William Tyndale is being commemorated. He paid his life as the price of giving the Bible to the English-speaking world in the vernacular of the people. More than all other translators combined he has shaped the religious vocabulary of the English language. His work was the basis of the Authorized Version of 1611.

He had to leave his native country and go to Germany to have his translations printed but, despite the bann, thousands of copies were smuggled into England. Finally in 1536 he was seized near Brussels, condemned for heresy, strangled at the stake and his body burned. He was 44 years of age.

The Bible is the most remarkable book in the world. No book approaches it in the extent of its circulation. The British and Foreign Bible Society states that it alone has distributed 464,000,000 copies. Last year that Society distributed about 11,000,000 copies.

Bibles, Testaments and portions of Scripture given out in 1935 in Canada and Newfoundland numbered 298,000 and, of these, 270,000 were in the English tongue.

The Bible has been translated into 705 languages and it is illustrative of the extent to which it is read by all peoples that there were over 26,000 copies distributed throughout Canada last year in 110 foreign languages.

This information comes from the Forestry Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 7. Wed. Oct. 7, 1936 --- Gloves and Mitts

Chemistry has given us something really new in gloves. It is called the "invisible glove". Unisghtly stains, skin irritation and cracked hands, so long accepted as a natural outcome of his occupation, are no longer necessary to the worker who must handle paints, oil and grease as part of his daily job. Chemistry has come to his aid by producing a cream which, when applied to the hands, acts as an invisible glove, keeping the hands clean and presentable.

The cream is applied by merely placing a small amount on the hands, rubbing it in well, especially around the nails, and letting it dry. There is no greasy feeling or "tackiness" to interfere with the handling of tools, and it remains on the hands as a shield against the worst of dirt and soil. "To clean up" it is merely necessary to wash the hands in warm water and off come the "gloves".

Doctors and nurses are said to recommend it and to the man who cleans his own furnace, it may prove a blessing.

We have long been used to rubber gloves as a protection for the hands in special occupations. We manufacture over 800,000 pairs in a year, at a value of \$166,000.

Leather gloves, gauntlets and mitts, extensively used in rough work are made chiefly from the hides of cows, horses, mules and deer. The finer leathers such as sheepskin, goatskin, kid and lamb skin are used for dress gloves. The yearly output of leather gloves in Canada runs to over six million pairs valued at over three million dollars.

This information comes from the Animal Products and General Manufactures Branches of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 8. Tues. Oct. 8, 1936 --- Tweed

Tweed is a soft, flexible, twilled woollen fabric. It is often made in two or more colours, the yarn being dyed before weaving.

Tweed was first made of the famous Cheviot wool in the district along the River Tweed, in Scotland, Hawick, Galashiels, Innerleithen and Selkirk being the original tweed making towns. The industry spread to Aberdeen, Ayr, Glasgow and Paisley and is now made in other parts of the world. Canadian tweeds are notable.

In its early days the production of Harris Tweeds was essentially a cottage industry of almost a primitive nature, carried out in its entirety by crofters in the Outer Hebrides of Scotland. This all weather cloth was made from the wool of the native sheep. Many of the vegetable dyes used produce a distinctive aroma. The distinctive deep red-brown colouring is obtained from crottle, a lichen which grows on rocks in moorland places or by the sea. Moss green comes from heather, black from the roots of wild iris and the common dock, as well as the bark of elder. Elder leaves give green and the berries a blue lilac. And so on. The "Harris Tweed" trade mark is the absolute property of the Islanders.

There are 66 mills in Canada which manufacture woollen cloth. Forty of these are in Ontario and 19 in Quebec. They have a capital investment of over \$20,000,000 and an output valued at close to \$18,000,000, according to the latest figures received. However, the manufacture of tweed is relatively small, and most of the tweeds that are used in the Dominion are imported. The value of the importations last year was considerably over one million dollars. Most of the tweed comes from the United Kingdom and there are small quantities from the Irish Free State, France, British India, Germany, Italy, Holland, Belgium and the United States.

This information comes from the General Manufactures Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 9. Fri. Oct. 9, 1936 -- Pilchards

The pilchard is a small fish of the herring family. Pilchards swim in shoals, spawn in summer and their eggs float on the water. They are caught in large numbers on the Pacific Coast and the enterprising fishermen of British Columbia have turned the rich, oily flesh of the pilchard to good account.

Pilchard oil has an extensive use and is in itself an important industry. The Biological Board of Canada tells us that an important Canadian paint manufacturing establishment is using pilchard oil in place of cotton oil previously imported for their purpose.

The Board states that pilchard oil dries more rapidly than linseed oil and yields substantial protective films. It has certain defects which are common to films of all drying oils but are especially pronounced in drying fish oils. However, methods for correcting these defects have been discovered by the scientists with the result that the product is regarded as superior to other drying oils in hardness, gloss and freedom from yellowing and blooming. This is just one more addition to the multitude of advances made by the busy scientist in his research labours.

There were over 900,000 cwt. of pilchards caught in Canada in 1935. Very few of them were used fresh, but a considerable quantity of them, some 27,000 cwt., were canned. Besides finding favour in the kitchens of the Dominion the canned product is relished in many other countries, notably Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies.

Pilchard meal is another product which runs to between eight and nine tons and has a value of about \$225,000, but the oil is the great product. Last year it aggregated over one and a half million gallons and was valued at \$360,000.

This information comes from the Fisheries Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 10. Sat. Oct. 10, 1936 --- The Fire Fighters

This is fire prevention week and it induces some thoughts that are interesting and perhaps instructive. There were fire brigades in Egypt 4,000 years ago and there was a very elaborate organization in Rome before the Christian era. They had hose pipes when Christianity was dawning.

Hero of Alexandria, the inventor of the first steam engine of which we have a record, about 150 B.C., describes what he calls a "siphon" used in his time to put out fires. This apparatus, in its essential ideas was identical with the common manual fire engine developed slowly during the centuries and still largely used today. It consisted of two cylinders with plungers.

The immediate precursor of the modern fire engine was the machine made by Richard Newsham, a London button maker who took out patents for his engine in 1730. In essential ideas this machine was on the lines of the form described by Hero. It threw a jet of water to a height of 160 feet.

The present generation of Canadians has seen important developments in fire-fighting. The spectacular full-gallop of great horses to the scene of a fire has given place to motor transport and the streams of water have been largely replaced by chemical extinguishers. Burning forests are sprayed from the air.

Fire-fighting is a highly organized and efficient business and those engaged in it play an important role in community life. All centres of population have their fire brigades and at the last census the number of those regularly employed as fire-fighters in Canada was close to 5,000. It is one of those few businesses in which no women were engaged.

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

No. 11. Sun. Oct. 11, 1936 --- Canada's National Wealth --- Who Owns It?

On this Day of Thanksgiving it is well to glance briefly at the financial aspect of our national possessions, our national wealth. The latest estimate of Canada's national wealth is approximately twenty-six billion dollars, or about \$1,800 per capita.

This vast wealth has been accumulated for the most part by the labour and saving of the Canadian people. Of course, this country started with a rich natural heritage of land, forests and mines, but these are only potential wealth until they have been worked by man. In most cases minerals can be obtained from the rock only at great cost and labour. Timber from the forests has to be cut by bushmen, hauled to a stream to be floated to the mill perhaps hundreds of miles away, and then cut and delivered where it is needed. Everyone knows how much work is required to make a farm a profitable enterprise.

Besides these primary industries, we have thousands of factories and stores, railroads, roads, bridges, houses, the churches we attended today. Such a vast accumulation of wealth has been created only over the course of generations and it would have been much less if people of other countries had not helped to build up Canada by investing money in it.

Other countries have invested nearly seven billion dollars in Canada. Of this sum, nearly four billion came from the United States, two and three-quarter billion from the

United Kingdom and the rest from other countries.

But when you put even such large borrowings from Abroad over against Canada's total national wealth, it is clear that Canadian wealth is predominantly owned by Canadians. Canadians own 73 per cent of it, Americans 15 per cent, Britishers 10 per cent, and others about two per cent.

This information is contained in reports issued by the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 12. Mon. Oct. 12, 1936 -- Tin Cans

Canned food is by no means a modern invention. When and where the first tin cans were used are facts lost in the ages but we do know that the early Romans coated copper vessels with tin to make them suitable as containers for food and drink. These were the ancestors of the present day tin cans which have influenced the economic and social life of the country. We know also that in 55 B.C., armoured legions of Rome were landed on the shores of Britain to secure tin from the mines of Cornwall, which were first worked by the Phoenicians of Tyre and Sidon. It is established in the writings of Pliny that the art of coating cast or wrought iron with tin was known prior to 25 A.D.

There was a tin plate industry established in Bohemia after the discovery of tin in that country in 1240, but it was in England that the manufacture of thin iron sheets by rolling was perfected and the success of the industry assured. Steel is now the base.

It is estimated that Canada uses between six and seven hundred million cans each year to take care of the packing of canned fruits, vegetables, salmon, etc. and for paints and other general purposes. Nearly all the cans are made in this country but most of the tin plate for making them is imported. Imports in 1935 totalled no less than 748,000 tons, practically all from the United Kingdom. Canadian production of tin cans is valued at about \$15,000,000 annually.

This information comes from the Mining and Metallurgical Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 13. Tues. Oct. 13, 1936 -- The Flattening of World Trade

The consistent decline in world trade from 1929 to 1934 was halted in 1935 and made a slight recovery. International trade in 1929 amounted to 68 billion gold dollars, according to a Review issued by the League of Nations. Last year it was 23 billion, or not much more than one-third of what it was six years before.

That presents a clear picture in figures of what happened to the world when the Great Depression struck it. The contraction of trade brought ghastly hardship in its train.

But it should be remembered by us with gratitude for our lot in life and a due appreciation of the structure of the builders, that the British Empire Countries, the great traders of the modern world, have not suffered so severely as some other countries. World trade dropped almost 66 per cent but the trade of the British people declined only 63 per cent. That is, we were three per cent better off than the rest of the world from a trade point of view.

Examined from another angle, there is even a more striking analysis. When the depression began in 1929, British Empire trade was in the aggregate 28 per cent of the total trade of the world. While it decreased, in common with that of other countries, yet it increased relatively and there is presented to our view the remarkable fact that Empire trade last year had increased to 30 per cent of world trade.

This succinct statement of the Empire's position in world trade is not the result of comparisons made within the Empire but comes from the League of Nations at Geneva to the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 14. Wed. Oct. 14, 1936 -- Canada's Trade with Ecuador

Ecuador is simply the Spanish word for Equator. That South American country was so named by the Spanish adventurers because the equator runs through it.

The former Kingdom of Quito was conquered by the Incas of Peru in the late fourteenth century. Some years later Pizarro's conquests led to the inclusion of the present territory of Ecuador in the Spanish vice-royalty of Peru, but the independence of the country was achieved in 1822 after a revolutionary war and a republic proclaimed. The area of 276,000 square miles is somewhat less than half that of Quebec. The population of two million is mostly the descendants of the Spaniards, aboriginal Indians and Mestizoes. The language is Spanish.

The Witchbroom disease, which appeared in 1921 in the cocoa plantations, has had a disastrous effect on the agricultural wealth of the country. The average yearly output dropped from one million cwt. to less than one-quarter in 1933. The chief products are cocoa, petroleum, rice, vegetable ivory, bananas, cotton, coffee, rubber and sugar.

Imports from Ecuador last year at \$76,000 were three times those of the previous year. The chief item was 950,000 gallons of crude petroleum, followed by 85,000 stems of bananas. There were some cocoa beans, raw rubber and straw hats. Our exports at \$160,000 were more than half accounted for by wheat flour. Rubber tires and paper were large items also.

This information comes from the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 15. Thurs. Oct. 15, 1936 -- Kitchen Utensils

To those who were familiar with the great kitchens of the homes before the present century dawned, the modern equipment is an amazing spectacle. Drudgery has been diminished and speed in the preparation of meals is a wonderment.

Yet there are regrets at the passing of old and much cherished things in the kitchen. The thick iron kettle with its round bottom and three short legs, the soup pot and the heavy iron frying pan have disappeared. The coffee beans were roasted on the latter and the boys had to do the grinding. The iron griddle that made the oat cakes and scones is no more. The copper boiler that was reserved for making jams and jellies is becoming only a relic and the little brass kettle that was said to boil the water better for a cup of tea from Cathay than any other, is finding its way into museums. Even the old ranges seem to be going out, in the cities at least, and on a cold winter day there is no oven door to open and toast one's feet comfortably.

The modern kitchen shows that we have got away from most of that. Aluminium and enamelled ware abound in the utensils. We switch on the electric current in a dazzling affair coated with enamel. Tea kettles, coffee pots and nearly everything else seem to be aluminium or enamelled ware, some in beautiful colours. Even the horn spoon that made a bowl of porridge taste so sweet has been replaced.

This change in the kitchen has developed a new and a great industry. Last year the Canadian people used two and a half million dollars worth of aluminium and enamelled ware, most of it aluminium and most of it to be seen around the kitchens of the people. It is enough to make the housewives of the iron kettle age lift their hands in dismay. Our imports last year were about \$136,000 but the bulk of the new ware is made in the Dominion.

This information comes from the Mining and Metallurgical Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 16 Fri Oct 16, 1936 Canadian Insurance Companies Abroad

Great buildings, much advertising and considerable canvassing make us familiar with the British and American, as well as other companies from abroad, which do insurance business in Canada. The extent to which British and Foreign life, fire and other insurance companies do business in Canada need occasion no surprise for the insurance business in general is one which has achieved a large measure of internationalization.

Insurance is a business which Canadians have internationalized to an extent far beyond the dreams or hopes of the pioneer builders of their institutions. While a large part of this business is in the British Isles and the United States, there are also Canadian insurance companies operating on every continent except Australasia.

Much of this business is carried on in the British West Indies and Latin America, but the names of such far away places as Shanghai, Siam, the Federated Malay States, Japan, China and India are included in the list in which Canadian insurance companies carry on business. To many people in countries remote from Canada, the names of Canadian companies are the symbols of security and protection.

The latest figures show that the value of the assets of Canadian insurance companies held abroad was over half a billion dollars. In addition to this, the foreign securities held in Canada by these companies were valued at over \$137,000,000.

This information comes from the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 17 Sat Oct 17, 1936 Canadians as Traders

There is one aspect of the balance of trade which enters largely into the reckoning when we attempt to value the ability and business enterprise of a people. When exports exceed imports, it may be because of an overwhelming production of a certain kind which no other country possesses, but which every country needs. The Falkland Islands is the most pronounced example. Its production of whales makes an enormous favourable trade balance.

But amongst the great trading countries the imports of raw materials and the export of the finished product after processing and manufacture are a very important consideration. This is the case with Canada.

In 1935 Canada was in sixth place in aggregate world trade, a remarkable position for a country of less than eleven million population, but in the amount of her commodity trade balance and commodity trade balance per capita, Canada stood first with a favourable trade balance of \$238,000,000 or \$26.31 per capita, leading New Zealand in per capita by 19 cents. This affords an excellent estimate of the progress Canada has made in the last quarter of a century for in 1913 this Dominion was seventeenth and the per capita trade balance was unfavourable to the extent of almost \$30.

It is remarkable that three of the British Empire countries lead the world with favourable trade balances per capita, Canada, New Zealand and the Union of South Africa, in the order in which they appear. New Zealand was in first place in 1934. Argentina was fourth in 1935, with Australia fifth and the United States sixth.

These figures are taken from reports issued by the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 18. Sun. Oct. 18, 1936 -- Bristles

There are nearly four million brushes made in Canada in a year from animal bristles. That includes everything from tooth brushes to clothes brushes, and household brushes generally, but not paint brushes which are usually made of hair. Bristles have become an important article of commerce.

These bristles are the long stiff hairs growing on the backs and sides of the hog and wild boar. In colour they are black, grey, yellow, silvery and white, the white being the most valuable.

It is said that the white bristles which go into the making of the daintiest hair-brush grow on the backs of the savage hogs that roam the woods of northern Russia, Siberia, Manchuria and northern China. France and Belgium are also large suppliers of bristles.

To the peasants in those northern areas pig spells bristles instead of pork and beans or ham and eggs as it does to us. Which is why the animals are allowed to live long and to run free and wild; they are raised for the sake of the hair upon their hides and not for the meat that is in them.

The boar sheds at the end of the winter and summer seasons and then the bristle harvest is gathered. So it comes that a beautiful brush on a Canadian lady's dressing table may contain bristles that were once worn by a ferocious boar in far away Siberia.

Canadian imports of animal bristles last year amounted to over fifteen tons. The import value was about a dollar and a half a pound on the average. These bristles did not all come direct from the country of origin but in the main indirectly from other countries.

This information comes from the General Manufactures and External Trade Branches of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 19. Mon. Oct. 19, 1936 -- An Ancient Industry Revived -- Cement

Modern cement-making is an industry, really an art, which was lost for ages but re-discovered in the middle of the 18th century by the famous Scottish engineer Smeaton, who built the first Eddystone Lighthouse that withstood the stress of wind and sea. It now

stands on the Hoe at Plymouth as a monument to the skill and enterprise of its designer. It was only removed to its present position when it was found that the rock upon which it was built was being eaten away.

The Egyptians, the Carthaginians and the Romans all knew about cement and used it. The Pyramids are a proof of this fact. The roof of the Pantheon is a concrete dome, and it is in excellent repair after two thousand years.

When the glory of Rome faded, cement-making seems to have vanished utterly and later builders were nonplussed to duplicate the enduring structures of the ancient architects until Smeaton, looking for some substitute for lime mortar which would set hard under water, hit upon it by burning impure limestone mixed with clay. So in a sense the Eddy-stone Lighthouse commemorates the return of cement to the world after a long absence.

Portland cement first appeared in 1824. An English stone mason, Joseph Aspdin, made it. He ground together a wet mixture of quicklime and a definite quantity of clay, dried it, then burned it in a vertical kiln at a high temperature. His cement was called Portland because it bore a fancied resemblance to building stone quarried on the Isle of Portland.

Everything that goes into the making of cement in this country is Canadian. There are nine plants operating and the output last year was over three and a half million barrels. The selling price at the plants in the last few years has been between five and six million dollars.

This information comes from the Mining and Metallurgical Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 20. Tues. Oct. 20, 1936 -- Tourist Trade of Canada

The importance of tourist trade is recognized by all progressive countries because it means the purchase of goods and services by visitors, and some have even adopted special currency measures for the convenience of tourists. Germany, for example, has a special "tourist" mark so that visitors from countries which are off the gold standard are able to purchase nearly on the same basis as they can at home. That means the Canadian tourist dollar in Germany will not be subjected to a severe discount.

Tourist trade in Canada is the third most important item in Canada's international transactions. During the last ten years tourist expenditure in the Dominion ranged from \$117,000,000 to \$309,000,000 while the similar Canadian expenditure abroad varied between \$51,000,000 and \$122,000,000. Canada as the Highway of the Empire is a favoured country with British travellers between the East and the West.

Ninety per cent of incoming tourists arrive by automobile and a record is kept by Customs officials. Expenditures are ascertained by asking them to give particulars by the confidential post card method, and there is complete co-operation in this matter between the United States Bureau of Commerce and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Enough replies are received to enable a fairly accurate estimate to be made. Somewhat similar methods are used for tourists travelling by rail and steamer.

This information is taken from reports on the subject issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 21. Wed. Oct. 21, 1936 -- Canadian Banks Abroad

Some idea of the strength and the enterprise of Canadian financial institutions and their management may be gathered from the fact that six of the chartered banks of the Dominion have 147 branches in other countries. These branches are largely concentrated in Newfoundland, the West Indies, Central and South America.

There are 32 branches of Canadian banks in Cuba and 41 in other islands of the West Indies. There are 26 in the Latin countries of Central and South America. There are 24 branches in Canada's British neighbour, Newfoundland, and 13 in the United States.

The remainder of the 147 branches are made up of seven in England, two in France, one in Spain and one in St. Pierre, that French island off the coast of Newfoundland.

The presence of Canadian banks abroad facilitates the financing of Canada's trade with the countries in which they have been established. Indeed the Canadian banks are important institutions in the economic life of some of these countries.

These Canadian banks abroad are doing a considerable business. On December 31, 1935, there were among the assets outside of Canada, over \$64,000,000 in call and short term loans, \$145,000,000 in other current loans and discounts, \$60,000,000 in foreign securities and \$112,000,000 due from foreign banks.

There are no foreign banks in Canada and only one British bank.

This information comes from the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 22. Thurs. Oct. 22, 1936 -- Canada's Trade with British Honduras

British Honduras is the only possession of the British Empire in Central America. It is a crown colony of 8,600 square miles, or less than half the area of Nova Scotia. The population is about 45,000, made up mainly of negroes, half-breeds and Indians. There are 600 whites. The climate is hot and humid, tempered by sea breezes. Belize, the capital, has 17,000 inhabitants. There is a large shipping industry. Numerous islands lie off the shore.

The colony was settled towards the close of the seventeen hundreds but it was not until 1836, just one century ago, that Great Britain firmly secured its possession.

The country consists chiefly of primeval forest, abounding in valuable cabinet and dye-woods. The interior is hilly. Five years ago a disastrous hurricane devastated the capital and nearly one thousand lives were lost. This small country sent 500 men to join the British troops in the Great War.

The best description of cacao trees grow wild in the bush. Sugar and rubber are raised readily as well as the usual tropical fruits.

Canada's trade with British Honduras, while not so large as it was a few years ago is still an important one. Our exports amounted in value to over one quarter of a million dollars, the main items being condensed milk, flour, canvas shoes with rubber soles, cheese, barrelled pork, bacon and hams, automobile parts, medicines, hosiery and a large variety of other articles. Our imports, amounting to over \$131,000, were chiefly chicle and grapefruit.

This information comes from the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 23. Fri. Oct. 23, 1936 -- Canadian Wheat in France

A great change has come over the wheat situation in France and it has affected the Canadian grower. France, which only four or five years ago was the second largest importer of wheat in the world, now actually needs none in order to feed her people. She was at that time second only to the United Kingdom as a buyer.

In 1931 France imported 87 million bushels and of that large amount Canada supplied 32 million. But France began to grow wheat for home consumption on a huge scale, with the result that last year she had a surplus for export.

Of course some is still imported for the purpose of making flour, but that is only allowed, provided an equal quantity is exported in the form of flour. It need not be the same wheat.

Last year, therefore, France imported less than nine million bushels of which close to eight million was purchased from Canada for the purpose of making that high grade flour for which the wheat of this Dominion is famous.

While all wheat raising countries have found their exports to France diminishing because of the national policy of stimulating home production, Canada has suffered the most severely as Canadian wheat was the favourite of the importing flour milling interests. Recent newspaper reports indicate that there have been conversations in Geneva and Paris between representatives of the French and Canadian governments on the wheat question.

This information comes from the Agricultural Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 24. Sat. Oct. 24, 1936 -- Blacksmith Shops

Surely there is no scene in the life of the village boy that recalls happier hours than those spent in the cosy warmth of the blacksmith shop. There, the beating of the hammers, the flying sparks and the glare of the red hot metal held us with a fascination so strong that errands were forgotten, chores, homework and other mundane things entirely neglected. These hours were well worth the chastisement that followed when home was reached.

To see a frightened young colt shod for the first time was a thrilling experience, and there were the evenings when the wandering strong man with his marvellous feats arrived at the village and challenged all and sundry to compete with him for a wager.

As we grew older and were taken to concerts there was no song sung by a basso-profundo that had a greater appeal than Longfellow's "Village Blacksmith" whose daughter was the idol of the village choir.

In view of the advent of the automobile and the farm tractor, it may seem surprising to learn that there are even now over five thousand blacksmith shops still operating in the Dominion, but such is the case, and the village boy still has an advantage over his less-favoured city cousin. In the cities of over 30,000 population there are only

300 of these shops, while there are more than 4,000 in the rural areas and over one thousand in the villages and small places.

The 1931 census showed that the receipts of the blacksmith shops aggregated over seven million dollars. In the main they were one-man concerns.

This information comes from the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 25. Sun. Oct. 25, 1936 --- Historical Names for Colours

Apparently we are to have official colours in connection with that approaching historical event, the coronation of His Majesty King Edward VIII. There are to be Coronation Red, Coronation Blue, Coronation Green and Coronation Gold besides St. James Rose, Holyrood Green, Marlborough Blue and Buckingham Violet. There is no special mention of Purple, so far as we have seen.

So from now until next year there will be a most careful mixing of colour dyes to bring out those shades, the names of which bear some historical significance.

For example, Coronation Red, the official crimson of the British Navy, has always been associated with rank and ceremony.

The making of colours is an ancient art -- how old nobody knows. From the primary colours, red, blue and yellow, we have developed countless shades and tints but to obtain them we have departed from the earlier use of vegetable dyes, such as saffron for yellow or orange, and the use of insects, such as kermes and cochineal, for red and scarlet. We are now requisitioning artificial or synthetic dyes. From common articles, like iron, sulphur and acids and a host of chemical reactions we have become colour conscious, even to the extent of having pink bread and green ice-cream.

We import dyes to the extent of about \$4,000,000 and we produce dyes in Canada valued at about \$226,000. These dyes are used in a variety of ways. In textiles alone, for instance, there were 23 million yards of material dyed, according to the latest figures.

This information comes from the General Manufactures and External Trade Branches of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 26. Mon. Oct. 26, 1936 --- Getting Meals in Restaurants

The Canadian people apparently like eating meals in a restaurant. Apparently also, the practice is growing and a philosopher explains it by pointing out that home duties are not so binding as they were. There are fewer children in the home to require attention and the heads of the household are freer to go and come.

Whether this is the correct psychology or not, the fact is that the Canadian people get a great many of their meals in restaurants. According to the last reckoning they are spending about \$112,000,000 in eating houses of various kinds. If the average price of a meal is 30 cents, which will not go very far in some restaurants but quite a distance in others, it works out that the Canadian on a per capita bases gets about 35 meals in a year in these cafeterias and tea rooms, etc. Not very many babies have dinner at a lunch counter, so if children under ten are omitted the average Canadian buys fifty meals in the year where the washing of the dishes is done by someone else.

There is an extraordinary variety of these eating places, from the dining car of a transcontinental train and a hotel restaurant to their little brother, the roadside soft drink stand. Some are to be found in antique shops and fish markets, variety stores and department stores; even news dealers and novelty shops sell food. The biggest revenue comes from those in which table service is provided, but the crowds are in the less expensive places, of course.

This information is contained in reports issued by the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 27. Tues. Oct. 27, 1936 -- Wooden Clothes

After November 1st, all underwear and stockings worn in Germany must, by decree, contain 16 per cent wood fibre. Canadians, although not forced to do so, are quite familiar with "wooden clothing". The wooden dresses, stockings, handkerchiefs, underwear, pyjamas, and even sheets and umbrellas were once swaying spruce trees in a Timiskaming or Restigouche forest. Because of scientific research, we are able to cover ourselves not with leaves as of old, but with the whole tree. This discovery is known as rayon.

Rayon is surely a truly Canadian product. The trees are cut from Canadian forests and floated down Canada's numerous rivers. The caustic soda is a product from Canadian salt mines. Canadian ingenuity has manufactured the sulphuric acid and Canadian plants give us manufactured rayon, commonly, although erroneously, called artificial silk.

The transformation is a miraculous one. The pulp arrives at the factory in white sheets looking like blotting paper. It is beaten and made into a damp fluffy mass which is treated with chemicals. Then the magic of science produces one continuous fibre from the porridge-like mass and out of liquid comes a thread which is the thread of rayon. It may be twisted and woven with other threads but it never loses its identity.

There are 29 establishments in Canada which manufacture silk and artificial silk products. Over nine thousand people are employed in the industry with wages and salaries amounting to over \$7,000,000. The production of artificial silk products in Canadian manufacturing industries amounts to about \$37,000,000.

This information is taken from reports issued by the General Manufactures Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce

No. 28. Wed. Oct. 28, 1936 -- Linseed Oil

Now that the cold, wet season is here bringing with it numerous sore throats and colds, some of us may be looking forward to a neckpiece of a brown, warm, sticky mass commonly known as a linseed poultice. Those little hard, brown, shiny seeds of the flax plant can be doctored to stick closer to a person than a brother. However, that is not their only use.

Linseed oil is obtained from crushing the seeds and extracting the oil. The seeds contain about 40 per cent oil, but usually 25 to 30 per cent only is extracted. The remainder of the seed is used to make linseed meal which is fed to young cattle for fattening purposes. The oil obtained is called "cold-drawn oil" and is a golden yellow with a slight odour but very little taste. If left exposed to the air it becomes

changed into an elastic varnish-like solid which is insoluble in most solvents. Because of this property, linseed oil is used in making paints and varnishes.

Oil obtained from heated or boiled linseed has its characteristics increased. The product of prolonged boiling is sticky and is used in printing ink. The elastic residue of boiled oil, after oxidation, is used for binding material in the manufacture of linoleum.

Linseed oil has its special use in pharmacy as "carron oil", a valuable remedy for burns, being a mixture of equal parts of raw linseed oil and limewater.

Last year from 215,000 acres, nearly one and a half million bushels of flax seed was produced in Canada. We imported about 800,000 bushels, chiefly from Argentina and exported about 18,000 bushels, although in some years the exports total over one million bushels. The output of linseed oil amounted to 3,213,000 gallons valued at about \$2,170,000. There were 25,000 tons of oilcake meal made at a factory value of \$722,000.

This information comes from the General Manufactures and Agriculture Branches of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 29. Thur. Oct. 29, 1936 -- Educational Statistics

The Canadian Education Association has been in convention at Regina. That association is recognized as the most representative assembly of Canadian Educationists, including Departmental officials, inspectors, teachers, principals, trustees, superintendents, university, college and normal school representatives. There are 83,000 school teachers in Canada.

So it may be timely to explain to the general public why it is that there should be an Education Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics which centralizes all available data and issues statistical reports upon education and educational problems, although education in Canada is entirely a provincial affair.

In 1917 the Canadian Education Association passed a resolution appreciative of a new departure in the Canada Year Book, namely the inclusion of a chapter containing statistics and other information regarding education in the several provinces. Next year the Association went further and recommended the appointment of an educationist to the Bureau. Eventually an Education Statistics Branch was created and the policy of the Branch was formulated to further the constitutional aim of the Association, that is, to promote the common educational interests of the several provinces of Canada, by bringing about a better understanding on the part of each province of the educational progress and educational ideas of other provinces.

Since that time, the Bureau has endeavoured to provide statistical and other information to fulfil these aims. The work is carried on with the complete cooperation and goodwill of the various Departments of Education. An annual survey of education is published, along with bulletins and monographs, from time to time.

This information is taken from a statement issued by the Education Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 30. Fri. Oct. 30, 1936 -- Cabbage

The cabbage is one of our most important vegetables. It is a native of Europe and is extensively grown in all temperate climates.

There are three main varieties of cabbage, white, red and crinkly-leaved or Savoy. The Savoy cabbages, while the best of all in quality, give a relatively light yield and hence are less extensively grown.

Most people of European origin have a predilection for cabbage. Walter H. Page, the celebrated United States ambassador to the Court of St. James during the World War, showed what he thought about it when he said there were only two kinds of vegetables and they were both cabbage.

Although we Canadians value cabbage highly as a dish, we have not exalted it as others have done. A French gallant may call his lady-love "ma petite chou" and she will be flattered, but if a Canadian of Anglo-Saxon origin were to call his girl friend in English "my little cabbage", the result would be melodrama. She would rather be called a rose or sweeter still, "sugar".

The production of cabbages in the Dominion is enormous. We use up about 50 million head in the year, over 40 million of which are grown at home and the balance imported from the United States and Bermuda. That makes about five cabbages per capita in the year.

Owing to the long dry spell, this was not a good year for the crop in Ontario and Quebec, where the bulk is grown, and so we had the unusual experience of Nova Scotian cabbages being shipped by the carload to the Montreal and Toronto markets. There were half a dozen cars in August alone.

This information comes from the Agriculture Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 31. Sat. Oct. 31, 1936 -- Canada's Trade with Australia

Hon. W. D. Euler, Minister of Trade and Commerce, expects to leave shortly for Australia, where he will confer with representatives of the Government of the Commonwealth on trade between Canada and that great British country on the other side of the world.

Australia may be regarded as the largest island in the world, or the smallest continent. Its greatest length, east to west is 2,400 miles. The area of nearly three million square miles is less than that of Canada by about 700,000 square miles. The population of about five and a half million people is approximately half that of this Dominion. There are 60,000 full blood Australian aboriginals. In religion the Anglicans are about one-half of the population with Roman Catholics next in number and Presbyterians third.

Sydney, in Port Jackson, has the finest harbour in the world and is surrounded by scenery of surpassing beauty. It is 6,840 miles from Vancouver.

The most important commodity we get from Australia is raisins. Last year the quantity was over 26½ million pounds out of a total of nearly 36 million pounds. The



value was over $2\frac{1}{2}$ million dollars. We got over $2\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds of worsted tops for the textile industries and this trade is growing. Raw wool is an important item, more so than appears on the surface for we get much Australian wool via other countries. Canned fruits, especially pineapple, are much in favour here, along with wines, fresh fruit, and sugar. We even import a good deal of Australian flour, although it seems like bringing coals to Newcastle.

The main items in our exports are automobiles, newsprint, lumber, canned fish, cotton manufactures, machinery with a great variety of other commodities.

This information comes from the External Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.
