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A FACT A DAY ABOUT CANADA

FROM THE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

AS SUPPLIED TO THE

CANADIAN RADIO BROADCASTING COMMISSION

DURING JULY 1936.

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.

James Muir,
Editor.

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

No. 278. Wed. July 1, 1936 - Flags

Dominion Day is one of our great flag-flying days. Every club and organization and almost every house has its bunting out of the cupboard. All over the country, from the Parliament Buildings at Ottawa to the humblest village, there is something to show that this is the National Day, the day when in 1867 the provinces swung into line and established a Dominion. Vessels at sea and in harbour join in the throng of rejoicing and dress ship with their international code flags.

Flags were known to the ancients, although the standard or symbol placed on the top of a staff, like the Roman eagle, was more common. National flags only evolved slowly. The English white flag with the red cross of St. George appears to have been introduced by Richard I on his return from the East, but it long appeared side by side with others, including the Royal Armorial banner.

The British national flag is the Union Jack, composed of the crosses of St. George, St. Andrew and St. Patrick on a blue ground. It is a land flag. The white ensign is a naval flag. The blue ensign designates the Naval Reserve, certain national service ships and some privileged yacht clubs. The red ensign is the mercantile flag and the distinctive Canadian mercantile marine flag has the armorial shield placed in the fly. The South African ensign is similar to the Canadian but the New Zealand and Australian ensigns are blue with stars in the fly.

The manufacture of flags and bunting runs to about \$50,000 in a year at factory prices, according to the Census of Industry of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 279 Thurs July 2, 1936 - Grocery Stores

The word grocer originally meant a wholesaler and is derived from the French term "en gros", meaning in bulk. Today the term is commonly used to describe a retail merchant dealing in tea, sugar, canned goods and other food products.

Grocery stores form the most important kind of retail business in Canada, whether examined from the viewpoint of number of stores, number of persons engaged, or value of sales. There were over 23,000 grocery stores in Canada at the last census in 1931, with annual sales of \$405,000,000 or over fourteen per cent of the total retail trade. In other words, one out of every five stores in Canada was a grocery store and almost fifteen cents out of every dollar passed over retail counters was spent in these stores.

The proportion of the total retail trade transacted in grocery stores had increased to almost 17 per cent by 1933, when the lowest point in the depression was reached. In 1934 the ratio was approximately 16 per cent.

It is evident, therefore, that grocery store business fell off to a lesser extent during the period subsequent to 1930 than did other lines of trade. In fact, while an exact comparison is not possible, information available indicates that practically the entire reduction in grocery store business since 1930 can be attributed to a decline in price levels rather than to a reduction in the actual quantity of food products consumed.

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

No. 280. Fri. July 3, 1936 - Canada's Trade with Uruguay

The story of Uruguay, the smallest republic in South America, is stirring and inspiring. It resisted all attempted invasions of the Portugese and the Spaniards until the beginning of the seventeenth century, and one hundred years later the Portugese settlements were captured by the Spaniards. In 1814 the armies of the Argentine annexed the Spanish province but subsequently it was annexed by the Portugese and became a province of Brazil.

In 1825 there came the thrilling heroism of the thirty-three liberators, whose names have been perpetuated in the name of a province and enshrined in the hearts of the people of Uruguay. Under their renowned leadership, the country threw off the Brazilian yoke. The war was settled by the mediation of Great Britain, and Uruguay was declared an independent state.

The country consists mainly of grassy and undulating plains, on which great herds of cattle thrive, and so our principal import from Uruguay is canned meat. Last year we got three and three quarter million pounds. The next largest item was flax seed. The total was valued at \$207,000. Our exports amounted to \$369,000, of which newsprint accounted for \$205,000 and farm implements \$64,000.

The country is only about one-sixth the size of Ontario and has a population of two millions. There is a small admixture of Indian and negro blood but the people in the main are of European origin, progressing today under advanced legislation.

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

No. 281. Sat. July 4, 1936 - The Romance of Coffee

We all know very well that the Canadian people are a nation of tea drinkers, that is, that they drink more tea than any other beverage. It is not surprising, therefore, to find from the latest statistics that, while imports of coffee have been increasing, the imports of tea have been increasing in a still greater ratio. During the past twelve months our imports of coffee have run up to thirty-five million pounds, an increase of three million pounds, but our imports of tea have risen to thirty seven million, an increase of seven million. It has to be remembered

also that a pound of tea goes much farther in our domestic economy than a pound of coffee.

There is a romance in coffee, intensified by the Italo-Ethiopian war. Abyssinia is the homeland of that beverage which a whole world loves. Even during the war our imports from Abyssinia kept up fairly well, although cut in half. There is an old story about an Arabian monk, driven from his home, wandering over the desert, finding that the berry made a potent brew, but no doubt the Ethiopians discovered it long before.

Brazil grows more than fifty per cent of the world's production of coffee, and fifty per cent of the world's production is consumed by the people of the United States. Canada of late has been getting her main supply from British East Africa, which is close to Abyssinia, the country of origin. The next largest quantity we get comes from Jamaica.

The Brazilians have been growing so much coffee that they have been destroying about ten million bags annually for some years.

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

No. 282. Sun. July 5, 1936 - Cedar

The name Cedar belongs properly to the Cedar of Lebanon and the Deodar or Indian Cedar, but the cedar wood in common use for making cigar boxes is Barbados Bastard Cedar, and cedar pencils are made from a species of Juniper.

Since its fragrance apparently renders the wood obnoxious to insects, it is used for lining wardrobes and chests. Australian cedar furnishes a wood used in place of mahogany for carriage panelling and other high class work.

Red Cedar is used in making lead pencils. It serves many other purposes, though for making pencils alone it has been estimated that about 150,000 trees are felled every year.

Western Red Cedar, also called British Columbia Cedar, is the largest cedar native to North America, occasionally attaining the diameter of fifteen feet or over and the height of two hundred feet. Eastern white cedar is found from Manitoba to the Atlantic. It is a comparatively small tree, generally about one foot in diameter and forty-five feet in height. Occasionally it grows to eighty feet. Its wood has a pleasant aroma. Yellow cedar, found on the Pacific Coast, is larger.

These are very durable woods and have a variety of special uses, such as boat building, fence posts, poles, shingles, greenhouses, cabinet work, drawing boards, battery separators, garden furniture, cisterns, clothes chests and closets, pencil slats, fishnet floats. Exports last year amounted to about \$600,000 and imports to \$75,000.

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

No. 283. Mon. July 6, 1936 - Per Capita Commodity Production

Net commodity production is the net value of new wealth put into the commercial economy of the Dominion by the people and as such represents the annual dollar return on the natural resources, the plant and equipment of the nation. It is distinct from the national income which includes, in addition to the net commodity production, the value of services, the utilities of time, place and possession, which, although somewhat intangible, are in their turn equally as valuable in the economic sense as the actual commodities produced. Thus it is evident that the net commodity production is not representative of the purchasing power of the people, but is only a part of it.

Net commodity production in Canada runs well over the two billion dollar mark, which has not very much meaning for most people, so perhaps it is clearer to state that the per capita production at latest figuring is \$220. Three of the provinces do better than that. Owing to its preeminent industrial position Ontario had a production of \$288, British Columbia ranking second with \$259 and Alberta third with \$232.

A recent advance in Ontario's position is due mainly to appreciable increases in mining and manufacturing, British Columbia to mining and forestry, Alberta to Agriculture and mining.

It is a fact worth noting that, while the estimate of the population of Canada in 1934 increased 1.3 per cent, the increase in production is increased 17.7 per cent per capita.

The foregoing is contained in a report issued a few days ago by the General Statistics Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 284. Tues. July 7, 1936 - The Staff of Life

"Bread which strengtheneth man's heart" Psalm 104

One of the anomalies in this Dominion is the weight of a loaf of bread. The weight not only varies in the provinces, but sometimes even within a province. For example, in Prince Edward Island the average weight is one and a half pounds, while in British Columbia there are loaves of sixteen, eighteen and twenty ounces.

In certain municipalities of Quebec the weight of the loaf is one and a half pounds but in others the bumper loaf of six pounds is on sale.

This goes to show that the weight of a loaf of bread in Canada is not standardized. In Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta the weight is regulated under statute by each province separately. The Nova Scotia statute states "bread intended for sale shall be made to the following weights respectively, and no other, namely, four pounds, two pounds, one pound, and eight ounces, and shall be marked in Roman characters with weight thereof."

Tourists who do their own purveying will find the budgeting of bread a problem.

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

No. 285. Wed. July 8, 1936 Furniture

Generally speaking, the furniture in a home is characteristic of the people in it. Some homes are furnished for comfort, others to please the eye. The choice and condition of the furniture in a dwelling usually reflect the philosophy of the dwellers.

Like everything else, there are fashions in furniture. In Europe for a long period prior to the seventeenth century, the French were predominant in furniture construction, and English workmen were content to copy or imitate the style of their continental contemporaries. Furniture from France was the thing.

However, early in the eighteenth century there grew up a school of outstanding workmen which included Chippendale, Sheraton and Hepplewhite, whose creations, characterized by delicacy of workmanship and grace, are eagerly sought by collectors. There were types or fashions, such as the Jacobean.

The styles of American colonial furniture were at that time as a rule determined by the racial origin of the Colonists, although some articles -- such as the high-boy chest and the low-boy dressing table -- are considered typical of Colonial design.

In Canada the sale of furniture forms a considerable part of the retail trade of the Dominion; the total at the last figuring amounted to over 50 million dollars. Sixteen million dollars of this amount was spent in the purchase of living room furniture while the sales of bedroom furniture totalled eleven million. Dining room furniture accounted for almost nine million dollars in sales and kitchen furniture, not including utensils or equipment, such as refrigerators, nearly five million.

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

No. 286. Thurs. July 9, 1936 - Oak

The oak is one of our most valuable trees. The typical species is the British oak. It is long-lived -- one at Welbeck in Yorkshire being estimated at 1,500 years old. It does not produce acorns until between sixty and seventy years old and it does not pay to cut it for timber until it is in its second century. Typical specimens are about 120 feet high, with a girth of sixty to seventy feet.

There are about three hundred species of oak in the world, two of the most interesting being the cork oak of Spain and the dyer's oak of North America, whose large leaves turn orange or dull red in the autumn.

Twelve species of oak are found in Canada. Several of these are so small, or are found in such limited quantities that they are of no commercial importance. In fact the total production of oak in Canada is not nearly sufficient to meet domestic requirements, so it is necessary to import considerable oak, principally from the United States. The best known native species are white oak, Garry, post, bur, chinquapin, chestnut, black, red, pin and scarlet.

White oak is very strong and very hard. It has a particularly pleasing figure when quarter cut. It is used more widely than any other wood for tight cooperage and particularly for containers of alcoholic liquors. The imports run between fifteen and twenty five million board feet.

This information comes from the Department of the Interior and the Forestry Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 287. Fri. July 10, 1936 - The Raspberry

This year's raspberry crop is now coming on the market and in practically all sections of the country gives promise of being well above average. The raspberry is our most widely distributed native fruit. It is found growing wild from the Atlantic to the Pacific and as far north as the mouth of the Mackenzie river. It is easily the most important bush fruit grown in Canada and last year the commercial crop of more than seven million quarts exceeded in value all other fruits with the exception of apples, strawberries and peaches.

In addition to the commercial production, large quantities of raspberries are grown each year in farm and city gardens where they do very well and provide an abundance of luscious fruit. Raspberries are cultivated in all provinces of the Dominion but the chief centres of production are in the provinces of Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia.

While much of the Canadian raspberry crop is consumed as fresh fruit, considerable quantities are used by the canners and jam manufacturers while a goodly number are "put down" by the housewives to reappear on the table during the winter months.

Some idea of the extent to which raspberries are being planted each year will be gained from the fact that last season sales of raspberry plants reported by commercial nurseries neared the million mark. In addition, there were many plants propagated and planted out by commercial growers and home gardeners so that if all the plantings were accounted for, they would make an impressive showing.

Amongst the popular varieties of raspberries grown, it is interesting to note that at least two of them, Viking and Herbert, are of Canadian origin.

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

No. 288. Sat. July 11, 1936. Paint

The purpose of painting is to embellish and preserve a surface. It prevents rust in minerals and preserves wood. Prehistoric man employed paint for ornamenting the body, living or dead, as well as for ritual and decorative designs. Among the mineral pigments first used were red and yellow ochres.

White lead is used as a base in many common oil paints and with pigments an ample colour range is obtained. As it is poisonous, it is often replaced by lithopone or zinc white.

Our supplies of lithopone are got mainly from Holland and the United Kingdom, zinc white from the United Kingdom, carbon black from the United States, Paris green from Germany, ochres and umbers from France and the United States, and so on.

Artists' and school children's colours come chiefly from Great Britain. We get putty from Belgium.

A great deal of paint is manufactured in Canada and sold in convenient form. It goes to many countries of the world, and especially to Great Britain. The value of the Canadian output is about six million dollars.

This information has been obtained from the External Trade Branch and the Industrial Census of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 289. Sun. July 12, 1936 - The Axe

The axe is the symbol of pioneering. The first settlers landing in America were met with the task of clearing the land, building log cabins, fashioning crude furniture and literally hewing homes for themselves out of the virgin forest. They used the axes with straight cutting edges and straight helms or handles that are still used in many parts of Europe. Following the pioneers, and largely recruited from their ranks, came the lumbermen and later the pulpwood operators, and the axe changed its form to meet each new requirement.

For the rapid felling and bucking of timber, carefully balanced heads with curved cutting edges and curved handles were found more efficient. During the height of the square timber trade in eastern Canada early in the past century the broad-axe was developed. Its general outline suggests the battle axe of our warrior ancestors or the axe of the mediaeval executioner. The broad blade was flattened on one side and the handle was shortened and curved and twisted to suit the exacting requirements of the master axeman whose motto was, "Hew to the line, let the chips fall where they may." The double-bitted axe is preferred by the Pacific Coast lumberjack and other axes and hatchets have been developed for other special purposes.

The woodsman's axe is probably the most universally useful of all the tools man has adapted to his uses down through the ages. It takes the place of a whole chest of carpenters' tools. With it an expert can do almost anything with wood, from felling a tree to sharpening a pencil.

Canada produces about half a million axes and hatchets a year valued at about half a million dollars and exports about a quarter of them. The imports are relatively unimportant.

In spite of substitution for wood in other fields the axeman still demands a wooden handle for his axe, preferably of second growth hickory. Canada produces over a million axes handles annually, most of which are imported in the rough form and finished in this country.

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

No. 290. Mon. July 14, 1936 - Alfalfa

To students of etymology, the word alfalfa presents an unusual case of symmetry of letters. The word is of Arabic origin and means "the best fodder". And good fodder it is, whether as a part of a "pasture mixture" or fed as cured alfalfa. It is highly nutritive and palatable.

Alfalfa is a perennial plant and secures its nourishment from the soil through a long tap root extending fifteen feet or more into the earth, enabling the plant to draw upon food stores beyond the reach of most field crops and to withstand extremes of drought.

But alfalfa does not draw its food from the soil without making a contribution in return. By means of nodules on the roots, highly valuable nitrates are placed in the ground for the use of subsequent crops

In 1911 there were 95,000 acres in Canada devoted to alfalfa. In 1935 the area was 762,000 acres, an increase of eight times the 1911 area. From these 762,000 acres, nearly two million tons of alfalfa were produced in 1935. Of this amount, Ontario produced 77 per cent, Alberta nine per cent and British Columbia eight. These three provinces contributed 94 per cent of the total Canadian production.

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

No. 291. Tues. July 14, 1936 - Canada's National Parks

The growth of Canada's system of National Parks has been one of the interesting developments of the past half century, and their inception almost coincided with the first transcontinental railway in 1885. The initial reservation of ten square miles was made in the same year. That area embraced the mineral hot springs at Banff, Alberta, and from this modest start grew Banff National Park.

Since that time the Federal Government has set aside in Alberta and British Columbia nearly 9,000 square miles as National Parks. This is equal to about two-thirds the size of Switzerland or nearly as large as Belgium.

To this exclusive territory must be added those National Parks established in Saskatchewan and Manitoba which have a combined area of over 3,000 square miles. Smaller National Parks have been created in Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the last two being known as Historic Sites.

The functions of National Parks are to conserve fauna, flora and landscape, to preserve and mark Historic Sites and to provide areas where people may withdraw for periods of rest and recreation wholly undisturbed by the distractions of city and town life.

Accommodation ranges from the modest campsite to the palatial hotel, depending upon the inclination of the visitor. Golf, tennis and fishing are among the many forms of recreation which may be had.

As time goes on, the popularity of our National Parks continues to increase. During the past five years no fewer than three million people have been registered. This represents an increase of more than 700,000 over the preceding five year period.

The foregoing is taken from a statement by the National Parks Branch of the Department of the Interior to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 292. Wed. July 15, 1936 - Canada's International Trade in Securities

The term international trade has become almost a household word in recent years. But it is not always realized how many different types of transaction fall within the international trade of a country. For example, the purchase and sale of securities between Canada and other countries is a very important part of Canada's international trade.

"Securities" may be described as the bonds and debentures floated by governments and corporations. In addition to the bonds of the Dominion, provincial and municipal governments, very large sums in Canadian corporation bonds such as rails, public utilities, pulp and paper companies, and other Canadian industries are continually being traded in internationally. Canadians also purchase and sell the bonds of foreign governments and corporations.

There is, of course, a widespread interest in Canadian stocks. Canadian mining stocks have been heavily purchased of late and some Canadian industrial stocks such as International Nickel are very important interlisted securities, being listed in all the important stock markets of the world, thus furnishing an important trading medium. Canadians also are heavily interested in the stocks of foreign corporations, particularly those of the United States.

During 1935 this trade in securities amounted to over \$552,000,000. This is made up of \$302,000,000 representing sales of securities to purchasers in other countries and \$250,000,000 representing purchases of securities from sellers in other countries by investors in Canada.

The trade in securities between Canada and the United States constituted the largest part of the \$552,000,000 in 1935, being over 84 per cent while the trade between Canada and Great Britain was about 14 per cent.

Although a large part of this trade in stocks, bonds, debentures, etc., between Canada and other countries is in Canadian securities, some of it is in British, United States and other foreign securities. These security transactions that have just been described do not include the new issues of Canadian securities which were floated in New York during 1935.

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

No. 293. Thurs. July 16, 1936 - Going Back to Vimy

This morning the Canadian Pilgrimage down the Saint Lawrence to France began. The Memorial at Vimy will be unveiled on Sunday, July 26. About 5,000 persons sailed today and more will go on following days and from other points. It will be a large Pilgrimage, but it is small compared with the great armada which sailed down the Saint Lawrence in October, 1914, carrying a Canadian Expeditionary Force of 33,000 and escorted by British warships across the Atlantic.

It was on April 9, 1917 that Vimy Ridge was captured by the Canadian corps of 170,000 men. Of these, over 97,000 were Canadians, the balance being mainly British field troops and artillerymen.

Ninety seven thousand is a great army. It was 30,000 more than Wellington had at Waterloo when with 67,000 men he defeated Napoleon who had 74,000. It

was more than three times the Scottish army of Robert the Bruce who with 30,000 men defeated 100,000 English. It was just equal to the combined Romans and Carthaginians at Metaurus when the troops of the victorious Romans numbered 50,000 and the Carthaginians 47,000.

The victorious French had 100,000 at Jena and the Prussians 70,000, while at Sedan the German victors had 200,000 and the French 150,000. At Gettysburg the Federals and Confederates had 75,000 men each. The British at Modder River had only 10,000 and the Boers 9,000.

One of the most memorable battles on record was at Marathon in 490 B.C. when 11,000 Athenians vanquished 100,000 Persians, almost entirely hand to hand.

It is to the present century that the really great armies belong. Modern transportation facilities and communications have made them possible. At Mukden in 1905, 370,000 Japanese defeated 350,000 Russians.

This information comes from the Department of National Defence and the General Statistics Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 294. Fri. July 17, 1936 - Canadians Who Went to War

It was stated last evening that 33,000 Canadians sailed down the Saint Lawrence in October, 1914 for England to take part in the Great War. Although that in itself was a large army, yet there were 425,000 Canadians who participated in the battles of that War. That was about one in every ten males in Canada, young and old.

However, these were not all who saw service. There were about 620,000 of all ranks and they included 2,854 nursing sisters.

Nor were these all who went from Canada to do what they could to bring victory to the Allies. Before even the Canadian Armada set sail eight weeks after the Declaration of War, there were thousands who had at once thrown down their tools or their pens and embarked for Europe. There were the reservists, principally French and British, along with some from the small country of Belgium.

There were approximately five thousand French reservists who went away at once, unheralded and unsung, and there were approximately 2,779 British reservists. It was a difficult task to make a record of them, for most of them simply said goodbye to their friends and were off on the first ship they could get.

These reservists do not include the young men who boarded out-going vessels, went over to Europe and enlisted there. These young men represented many nationalities, principally British and French. Therefore, the actual Canadian participation in the Great War was greater than the official records show.

These facts are contained in records of the Department of National Defence and communicated to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 295. Sat. July 18, 1936 - Canadian Born in the Canadian Army

One of the remarkable things about the Canadian Army in the Great War was the high proportion of the native-born. There were 620,000 men and women in the Canadian

Expeditionary Force, and considerably more than half of them were born in Canada. This was remarkable because the young man population of the country for a number of years prior to the outbreak of hostilities, had been receiving heavy additions, especially from the United Kingdom and British Empire countries. The immigration policy of 1900 to 1912 brought young men into the Dominion in hosts.

Another fact which made the high proportion of Canadian-born enlistment surprising was that Canadian youth was very largely engaged in agriculture, and the food requirements of the fighting forces made it imperative that the farms should be properly worked. Men who would have made effective combatants could not be spared from agriculture.

Ontario is the largest Canadian Province and has been the great feeding ground of man power for the Western Provinces and naturally led with enlistments. The Ontario-born in the C.E.F. numbered 153,000 and were recruited from all over the Dominion. About fourteen hundred of them were nurses. Quebec was second with 68,000, these signing up mainly in that Province. The little province of Nova Scotia was third with an astonishing 32,600 native-born. New Brunswick had 24,400 and Prince Edward Island did nobly with 7,200. The Western Provinces had small enlistments of native-born there. That was to be expected for the proportion of young men in the Western Provinces who had been born elsewhere was very high. Manitoba led with 18,400, British Columbia 7,100, Saskatchewan 4,800, Alberta 3,400, North West Territory 62 and the Yukon 19. The total was about 319,000.

These facts are taken from a statement compiled in the Department of National Defence and communicated to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 296 - Sun. July 19, 1936 - Other British-Born in the Canadian Army

Mention was made of the fact last evening that, as the result of a long period of active immigration policy prior to the Great War, there was in the Dominion an unusual number of young men, largely natives of the British Empire, who were capable of answering the call.

When the call for service was sounded the response was beyond all expectation. There were almost 238,000 Britishers in the C.E.F. who were not born in Canada. They came from every corner of the Empire. The English-born, of course, predominated with 156,700. The Scots were second with 47,400 and the Irish third with 19,300. There were nearly 5,000 Welshmen. Proportionate to population the enlistment of the Scots, Irish and Welsh was extraordinarily high.

Even more astonishing was the fact that there were 3,300 native-born Newfoundlanders in the C.E.F. who enlisted in Canada, 1,200 from Australia, 1,100 from British India, 450 from British South Africa, 400 from little New Zealand, 125 from British Guiana, 75 from outlying spots in British Africa, no fewer than 33 natives of the small island of Tasmania. There were close to 3,000 from other British Countries here and there throughout the rest of the world.

The tabulation of the birthplaces of those young men who fought in the Canadian Army, coming here from the far corners of the earth, - Fiji, Hong Kong, Isle of Man, Malta, Falkland Islands, Aden, etc., - is a splendid testimony to the adventuresome spirit that has built up this splendid Dominion.

The foregoing facts are taken from records compiled by the Department of National Defence and communicated to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 297. Mon. July 20, 1936 - Americans in the Canadian Army

Yesterday mention was made of the non-Canadian-born British who helped to swell the numbers of the Canadian Expeditionary Force in the Great War. There were also 30,000 Americans in the Force of 620,000. Many of them were young men in whom the spirit of adventure was strong and at the outbreak of war had crossed the border and offered their services. Many of them also were settlers, or the sons of settlers, who had come to Canada to make their home in the Dominion. It was as kinsmen they enlisted in defence of the realm of their adoption. The warm ties of blood and kindred were strengthened by their service and the memory of it is one of the many bright spots in the record of a century and a quarter of peace between the two countries. They were to engage in a war that was to end war.

There were about 900 of these Americans who became officers. Many of them rose to high rank. There were 65 American nursing sisters. There were one hundred Mexicans.

In addition to the North Americans, there were 250 natives of South American countries, exclusive of British and French Guiana, who joined the C.E.F. Every country was represented. More than seventy were from the Argentine Republic with which Canada has a large and sympathetic trade connection. There were fifty from Brazil, once a great Portuguese Colony, and twenty-one from Cuba. Twenty-three of these South Americans were given officer's rank, nine of them being Argentinians.

The foregoing facts are taken from statistics compiled by the Department of National Defence and communicated to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 298. Tue. July 21, 1936 - Cosmopolitanism in the Canadian Army

Today the Vimy pilgrims from Canada are disembarking at Le Havre and peregrinating on French soil and elsewhere until the unveiling of the Canadian Memorial at Vimy on Sunday. Setting foot in Europe recalls that the Canadian Army in the Great War, like most armies in military history, was very cosmopolitan. In previous evenings we have shown the numbers of Canadian-born, British-born and American-born who joined up but there were 23,000 natives of Continental Europe also in the Canadian Expeditionary Force. There were over 7,000 Russian-born and close to 6,000 Scandinavians, 2,000 from Austria Hungary and 2,000 from Italy, 1,500 natives of France, 1,300 Belgians, 400 Roumanians and 400 Greeks, 260 from Serbia and 245 natives of Germany. Eight of the German-born and eight of the Austrian-born were officers. Every country of Europe was represented in the Canadian army. There were over one hundred Turks.

There were 700 Asiatics in the Canadian army, 230 being natives of that progressive country of Japan, and over one hundred natives of China. Thirteen of the Japanese were officers. One of the nursing sisters was a Japanese lady and another was a Chinese lady. Seven of the Japanese veterans are in the Vimy Pilgrimage.

Then there were some from Arabia, Bhutan, Cochin-China, Siam, Siberia, Manchuria, British India, Ceylon, Afghanistan, Persia and the Straits Settlements. There were 32 natives of African countries other than British.

These facts were compiled from records of the Department of National Defence and communicated to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 299. Wed. July 22, 1936 - The Public Library in Canada

Canadians are justly proud of their educational institutions. In few countries of the world do children receive more schooling, and in few countries is as high a proportion of the population able to read and write. But a recent investigation raises the question whether Canadians exercise their reading ability as much as they might be expected to do. Their use of public libraries does not make it seem so.

The average Canadian counting men, women and children, borrows two books from a public library in a year; the average person in the United States borrows nearly twice as many. Ontario people are the only ones in Canada using the public library as much as the United States people do on the whole. And in California each person reads more than twice as many public library books as in Ontario.

The difference is not due to cost for it takes nine cents to circulate a book in Canada, and ten cents in the United States. Rather we get just about what we pay for. Libraries in Canada cost eighteen cents per person, in the United States, ~~20~~³⁸ cents.

Our total expenditure on public libraries in 1935 was considerably less than two per cent of what we spent for public schools, and a little more than ten per cent of what we spent for universities and colleges.

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

No. 300. Thurs. July 23, 1936 - Canada's Trade with Finland

Finland was the first country in the world to concede woman suffrage and representation and it is noteworthy that it was gained in 1907 without agitation. Finland was for some years a Prohibitionist country, the only one in Europe, but after popular vote was repealed in 1932. The Finns are noted as a sober people.

The Republic of Finland in Northern Europe has an area of about 144,000 square miles or a little more than half the size of Alberta. Lapland is in the north. The population is three and three-quarter millions. Helsingfors, the capital, is somewhat larger than Vancouver. The country was taken by Russia from Sweden in 1809 but in 1917 when the Russian Empire broke down, Finland seized the opportunity and declared herself an independent sovereign state. About ninety per cent of the people speak Finnish and ten per cent Swedish. Nearly all of the inhabitants are Lutherans. Socialism is now one of the greatest forces in the country. Most railways are state owned. The people live simply. The bath house attached to every farm is characteristic of the country.

There is no European country so rich in forests as Finland and lumber is the leading export. There is a good merchant marine and Finnish ships often visit Canadian ports. Our imports from Finland are not large, amounting to forty or fifty thousand dollars, chiefly stone, paper, hides and skins. Our exports are much larger aggregating around \$400,000, mainly wheat, flour and rubber tires.

There are 45,000 people of Finnish origin in Canada and they have the reputation of making splendid settlers.

This information is taken from reports issued by the Census and External Trade Branches of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

No. 301. Fri. July 24, 1936 - The World Wheat Situation

In spite of the continued paucity of world demand for wheat, the disposal of the Canadian surplus has proceeded smoothly during the past month. For the crop year ending July 31, world net imports of wheat and wheat flour will approximate 500 million bushels and Canada will have contributed about 250 million bushels or one-half of this amount. Such an export movement shows an increase of about 84 million bushels over that of the previous year and the carry-over will be reduced by a similar amount.

A higher proportion of the carry-over of Canadian wheat this year will be held in United States' ports, mostly sold for domestic consumption or subsequent export overseas. The exportable supply of Canadian wheat in the 1936-37 season will probably be the lowest since 1924-25 and will be at least 100 million bushels less than in 1935-36.

Another serious drought has ravaged the large central wheat area and, for the fourth consecutive year, Canadian wheat production will be far below average. As a consequence of North American drought, wheat prices have risen sharply on all markets. The reigning prices on the Winnipeg market are now well above the minimum prices of the Canadian Wheat Board, established last autumn.

The overseas and United States demand for wheat has been fitful during the past month but nervousness has induced heavy buying at times. The recent lull in price movements cannot be expected to continue as a 'weather market' will prevail for some weeks yet. The main damage to the Canadian crop of 1935 came after this date and, while the chances of repetition of serious rust and frost damage are lower, the whole crop cannot be regarded as safe until the second or third week in August.

This statement was issued today by the Agricultural Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 302. Sat. July 25, 1936 - National Parks and Tourists

The growth of the National Park idea, the conservation of outstanding scenic regions and the preservation of the wild life within their boundaries, has been one of the very interesting developments of the past century. More than ever before, the value of conservation is being stressed, and out of this need has been developed Canada's magnificent system of National Parks, which includes eighteen units with a combined area of more than 2,000 square miles or slightly more than half the area of Nova Scotia.

The scenic and recreational parks include Banff, Jasper and Waterton Lakes in Alberta, Yoho, Kootenay, Glacier and Mount Revelstoke in British Columbia, Prince Albert in Saskatchewan, Riding Mountain in Manitoba, and Point Pelee, Georgian Bay Islands and St. Lawrence Islands Parks in Ontario. Fort Anne in Nova Scotia and Fort Beausejour in New Brunswick are national historic parks, and Buffalo, Elk, Island, Nemiskam and Wawaskey parks in Alberta form sanctuaries for such interesting wild life species as the buffalo, elk, and pronghorned antelope.

Taking into account the scope, the variety and the steadily widening renown of Canada's scenic and other attractions, there is ample ground for the view that these natural assets will prove to be one of the major forces of Canadian recreational development.

Tourism has become one of Canada's major industries. It is estimated that the expenditures of tourists in the Dominion last year amounted to \$202,000,000. Over two and a half million cars with tourist passengers came into the country, while other people came by rail and steamer. Canadian tourists abroad are estimated to have spent \$79,000,000.

This information comes from the Parks Branch of the Department of the Interior and the Tourist Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 303. Sun. July 26, 1936 - The Cost of War

The Canadian War Memorial at Vimy Ridge which was unveiled today by His Majesty, King Edward, bears the names of 11,285 Canadians who were killed in action in France, but whose final resting places are unknown.

More than five times that number of Canadians were killed during the Great War. The actual number was 59,544. There were 138,166 wounded and 34,784 non-fatally injured, making a total of 232,494 casualties.

That was a heavy price to pay in man power for a country of so small a population as Canada. Nor does it tell the whole story. There was the aftermath of sickness and death, agony and wretchedness. During the period of hostilities, however, every second man who crossed the English Channel to France was killed, wounded or injured. The chance that he would come back to Canada physically fit was not fifty-fifty.

The financial cost is another side. In 1930 it was estimated that the total increase in the national debt of two billions between 1914 and 1930 was attributed entirely to the war. Under the heading "war and demobilization" Canada spent \$1,696,000,000 and in the fiscal year 1936 alone, the amount of money required for war pensions amounted to eleven per cent of the Dominion revenues while the care of returned soldiers took another three per cent. The two items together required one-seventh of the total moneys received in the year by the Dominion.

This information comes from the Department of National Defence and the General Statistics Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 304. Mon. July 27, 1936 - Hardwood Distillation

Distillation to the ordinary man suggests relationship with John Barleycorn, but there is a quite important distillation industry in Canada which has a very different end in view. It is hardwood distillation and the chief products of the six plants which report their operations are charcoal, grey acetate of lime and crude methyl hydrate, which is better known by its popular name "wood alcohol".

In one instance some grey acetate of lime was further processed to make acetone which was reported for the first time in some years. The crude wood alcohol was shipped to Montreal for refining and for making Columbian spirits and formaldehyde.

Most of the Canadian hardwoods are suitable for this purpose but birch, maple and beech are used to the greatest extent. The wood is purchased in cordwood lengths and treated in specially designed kilns by a process known as destructive distillation. At the present time in Canada charcoal is the main product of the industry, alcohol, the acetates and their derivatives being merely by-products. Fifteen years ago the reverse was true and charcoal was the by-product. At that time the total value of the products of the industry was about \$5,000,000. Last year the production was valued at about \$806,000. That is a large reduction but recovery has been apparent recently.

The burning of hardwoods in small kilns is an important local industry centered in Portneuf County in Quebec. Over fifty thousand dollars worth of charcoal is produced annually in these plants where no attempt is made to recover the by-products.

This information comes from the Forestry and Chemical Branches of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 305. Tue. July 28, 1936 - Electric Power in Manufacturing and Mining

So rapid are the changes in our industrial life these days and so crowded the new developments that things which would have appeared mountainous in our eyes not many years ago, are passing us by almost unnoticed, or at least unmeasured in our minds.

This is the thought engendered by a report just issued by the Bureau upon the use of electric power in the manufacturing and mining industries of Canada, the great home of hydro development. The evolution of power machinery toward electric drive, and particularly toward electric motors driven by power generated in central stations, is striking. With no coal mined in the chief manufacturing provinces of Ontario and Quebec and with so large a supply of water power within economic transmission distance in these and some of the other provinces, this trend has been more pronounced in Canada than in many countries.

During the last decade or so there has been an increase in water wheel, steam engine and internal combustion engine capacity of 23 per cent, but of electric motor capacity, 153 per cent. An outstanding example of an individual industry group is non-ferrous metals which in a few years has increased its electric drive by 350 per cent.

This information is contained in a report issued by the Public Utilities Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

No. 306. Wed. July 29, 1936 - Slate

Although school writing slates have been replaced by pencil and paper in most of the large schools of the Dominion, there are many of them still in use throughout the country. In fact their use has been increasing of late years in rural schools. There must be several hundred thousand of them around. The revival came in the early years of the depression for the purpose of economy. School slates to the import value of \$97,000 were imported in 1931 and slate pencils at \$6,000. Large supplies were built up in a year or two and last year the amount imported fell away to \$18,000 for the slates and \$700 for the slate pencils.

The equipment comes mainly from the United States but we also get school slates and pencils from the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Portugal, France and Czechoslovakia.

Slate is much used in European countries as a roofing for buildings, whereas in Canada wooden shingles are the most common covering.

Slate is also utilized in the making of billiard tables, cisterns and mantel pieces, but comparatively little of it is produced in Canada. The output last year was about 1,200 tons. The best slate appears to come from North Wales, but some also comes from Ireland, Scotland, the South of England and most other countries of Europe. Most of the slate is grey-black or blue-black, but some bright colours are got, notably green and red, and even mottled colours.

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

No. 307. Thurs July 30, 1936 - Fireworks

The making of fireworks is an ancient art that has never faded. Fireworks are today as much in vogue as they ever were. The season of exhibitions and fall fairs is approaching and there will be nothing more popular at these yearly gatherings than the brilliantly coloured plumes and stars that light up the sky over the grounds. The resounding cracks as they explode will provide a thrill. The displays will have many intricate and attractive designs.

Fireworks originated in the East and the Japanese and Chinese developed them to their present perfection. They were introduced into Europe by the Crusaders in the thirteenth century. Henry VIII had two foreigners make "fireworks or wild fire." The first books on fireworks were published in 1635. At the beginning of the century, the displays were expanded by the addition of pictures.

Certain historical events have been celebrated with outstanding displays of fireworks. In 1749, the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle was celebrated with an official programme in St. James Park. The marriage of the King and Queen of Portugal in 1886, the Tercentenary Celebration of Quebec in 1908 and the official Peace Day display at Hyde Park in July 1919 had outstanding fireworks displays.

Our imports of fireworks last year amounted to about \$35,000, over half of which came from United States. The next largest supply came from China but we got some also from Germany, Japan and the United Kingdom. The domestic supply is about double the imports.

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

No. 308. Fri. July 31, 1936 - An Industry with Many Tributaries

Construction work provides a striking example of an industry which requires a multiplicity of materials and supplies and the wide range of employment that these entail. From the architect who makes the plans to the painter and decorator who finishes the job, the intricacy of it all is marvellous.

Construction work of all kinds in 1934 involved an expenditure of \$186,000,000. The plumbing and heating industry got \$13,000,000 of that and the electrical work cost \$4,000,000.

Buildings erected in a city are usually on the site of other and older buildings and the first work done is by a wrecking crew, which is practically all labour. In 1934 this was valued at \$400,000. A vacant situation requires excavation and this cost about \$500,000 mainly labour. Next there is the foundation, and the concrete and cement work involved was close to \$3,000,000. Steel work amounted to \$1,760,000 and outside casing of stone, brick or other products, \$1,225,000. Roofing cost over \$2,000,000.

With the shell of the structure completed, work has really only commenced. Floors and walls must be laid, insulation board being used in walls to a greater extent year by year. Windows, doors, ventilators and skylights have to be installed. Lathing and plastering, electrical work, glazing, plumbing and heating, eavestroughing, sheet metal work, ornamental iron, tile and marble work, staircases, elevators, sprinkler systems, weather stripping, insulation and finally painting and decoration - the whole a vast variety of involved interests, which means varied employment.

This information is contained in a report on the Construction Industry, the first since 1920, issued recently by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

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