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DEPARTMENT OF  
TRADE AND COMMERCE



CANADA

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OF STATISTICS

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## A FACT A DAY ABOUT CANADA

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James Muir,

Editor.

No. 93 — Sat. Jan. 1, 1944 — The New Year

A New Year has begun. There is much handshaking and people are wishing one another the best things for 1944. The one wish that appeals to us all is that this year will end this terrible war and that the boys and girls who have so bravely offered their all for our sakes will be back again with us when 1945 begins its course.

The world we live in is very old. How old it is we do not really know. Scientists tell us that it is thousands of millions of years old. They also tell us that there have been great changes geographically. For example, the United Kingdom was at one time joined by land with the Continent of Europe; now it is an island. Tradition says there was once a great island in the Atlantic Ocean called Atlantis, but in a great disturbance it sank beneath the waters leaving no trace behind it.

The year 1944 is simply a date in the Christian Era computed from the year in which Jesus of Nazareth was born. So we talk of 1944 A.D. (anno domini, in the year of our Lord) and years before A.D. as B.C., that is Before Christ.

There are other peoples who have other calendar years. The Jewish calendar has it that we are at present in the year 5704, while the old Chinese calendar declares that we are in 4600. However, in China there is a new computation, for when the Chinese Republic came into being in 1912 it was called "Year One", so that now we are in the year 32.

Then there are the Mohammedans. They start their calendar with the year in which Mohamet or Mahomet as most people call him, fled from Mecca to escape the clutches of his enemies. That was 1362 years ago.

Records have been found of kings of Babylon and Egypt who lived more than 7,000 years since, yet in India where there are several calendars and the country is very ancient, most of them began less than 1,500 years ago.

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No. 94.— Sun. Jan. 2, 1944 — Slime in Paper Manufacture

In the manufacture of paper, a substance called slime is created by innumerable microscopic organisms entering mills in the vast volume of water used. When not diverted it slows down production. As often as once a day paper mills have been forced to shut down in order to wash out clogged machines and pipes. It not only lowers mechanical efficiency and thus slows down production, but it also causes the tearing of paper sheets.

Although an important ingredient in the production of glass and pottery, it lost its value for the manufacture of these two commodities on the outbreak of war when production was limited to the barest essentials.

Previous to the war, large quantities of chlorine more or less controlled the situation in the paper industry. Chlorine, however, was required for other war uses. Thus a very real need was thus created for a substitute. This was recently filled by the chemical "lignason" discovered by Du Pont, and already it has accounted for a 10 per cent increase in paper output. Lignason retards the formation of slime and a few ounces added to ground wood pulp stored for making newsprint prevents deterioration due to mould and bacteria for over a year, thus acting as a preservative.



The advantage is evident when we realize that 30 days are usually sufficient in warm weather to cause spoilage.

One mill operator reports excellent slime control of the paper machine as a result of putting five ounces of this new chemical in a paper bag and tossing it into a ton of pulp in the beater. With its use mills have been known to go as long as six weeks without halting for a cleaning.

Lignason, mould-destroying chemical, has been used for several years to prevent the objectional "blue stain" in freshly sawn lumber, but it has come into use only recently for the prevention and control of slime developed in pulp and paper mills. Not only does it decrease the formation of slime but it plays a most significant part in the preservation of pulp and the releasing of vital cellulose for gunpowder. Anything that will increase the volume and speed up the production of paper is of inestimable value, particularly in Canada where this commodity has assumed such an important role not only in the war effort, but also in modern industry generally.

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#### No. 95 — Mon. Jan. 3, 1944 — An experiment with Ensilage

The scientists of the Department of Agriculture never seem to let up in their quest for knowledge, and the Agricultural Branch of the Bureau of Statistics, with commendable zeal for the spread of that knowledge, passes the findings along. The latest of this kind will interest a vast number of people and help to allay the anxiety of many farmers. The lads overseas, some of whom are farmers, and those who hope to go into agriculture after the war will appreciate it.

Several years ago the Kapuskasing Experimental Station took up the question of determining whether heifers could be grown successfully without silage. Silage is not readily available in the district. This is what the Department says officially:

Over a period of five years, a total of 68 heifers averaging 14 months in age and 640 lb. in weight were used in this experiment. They were divided into two groups, one being fed approximately two and one-fifth pounds per head daily of a farm grain mixture composed of two parts oats and one part of barley, by weight, and all the timothy and clover hay they would consume, which was almost 16 pounds per head daily. The second group was fed no grain but all the silage, oats, peas and vetches they would consume and then what mixed hay they would clean up. The average daily feed consumption per head for this group was approximately 20 pounds of silage and nine and one-third pounds of hay.

The five year results indicate that: 1. - The hay-silage ration tends to produce more growth (10 per cent) while the hay-grain ration produce more gain in body weight (20 per cent). No other differences (health, etc.) were noticed.

2. - The grain fed group consumed 1,474 pounds of hay and 200 pounds of grain, while the silage group consumed 1,073 pounds of hay and 2,291 pounds of silage per 100 pounds live weight gain. One hundred pounds of silage in this experiment was equal to 17.5 pounds of hay and 8.73 pounds of grain. Using the long term (17 years) average cost of production of oats, barley and hay at this Station, the silage in this experiment had a feed value of \$4.76 per ton but on the other hand, the 17 years' average cost of production of silage at this Station is \$6.41 per ton.

This experiment has shown: That silage although a good feed for growing heifers is not essential and can be replaced satisfactorily by hay and farm grains though this latter ration is a little more fattening. This can be corrected to a certain point probably by the use of a protein supplement in the grain mixture. Further silage is a costly feed to produce in the Northern Ontario district, unless some cheaper way of producing silage is developed.

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No. 96 — Tues. Jan. 4, 1944 — Train Rides

A few years ago the Canadian Pacific Railway revived the memories of some of the grandfathers and grandmothers of Vancouver children about the first railway train arriving from Montreal. The "anniversary train" came into Vancouver running on the same schedule as the one used in 1886. The following day, at Port Moody, an old wood-burner engine, the "371", pulled in a string of six wooden cars, under the directing hands of the engineer and a conductor who had been on the memorable trip.

The old "371" has long since been succeeded by engines four times as heavy and designed to run 110 miles an hour, their tenders having a capacity for 12 tons of coal. They are known as the "3000" series. Recently, in Montreal, the world's largest streamlined steam locomotive appeared — Canada's first streamliner — No. 6400. The design was selected after an exhaustive series of wind-tunnel and other tests carried out by the National Research Council at Ottawa and the Motive Power Department of the Canadian National Railways. The speed is estimated at 100 miles per hour and the tenders carry 20 tons of coal.

Whether travelling behind the "3000" series or the "No. 6400" these days, the journey is not a lonesome one. People are travelling about more and more every day. There were over 433,000 more passengers carried on Canadian railways in 1943 than in 1942, according to a report issued by the Transportation and Public Utilities Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

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No. 97 — Wed. Jan. 5, 1944 — Picture Shows

How many picture shows do you think there are in Canada? How much would you say the average person spends on this type of entertainment in a year? Sounds like a quiz program doesn't it? However, it is not meant to be. But it does open up a most interesting field of investigation.

Altogether there were 1,251 motion picture houses operated in Canada during 1942. There were 183,500,000 admissions, with receipts totalling \$46,461,000 not including Federal and Provincial amusement taxes which amounted to \$11,713,000. Figured out on a per capita basis we find that the average Canadian spent about \$4.00 on this form of entertainment during the year, exclusive of amusement taxes.

These motion picture theatres, plus the 96 itinerant operators, reported an increase of 13 per cent in admissions and 12.3 per cent in revenues over 1941. Even at that only about 22 per cent of the total available seating capacity was used. Had all motion picture houses been filled to capacity at every performance, admissions in 1942 would have amounted to 566,638,000 instead of the 183,500,000.

Exactly one-third of the theatres used double feature programs exclusively during the year. These theatres accounted for 49 per cent of the total admissions and 43 per cent of the receipts. In Quebec, double feature programs accounted for 76 per cent of the theatre admissions and their receipts amounted to 68.5 per cent of the total for the province.



Residents of British Columbia spent on the average a little more than \$6.00 on motion picture entertainment during 1942 — the highest figure in the Dominion. Ontario was in second place with \$5.44, followed by Nova Scotia with \$4.55, New Brunswick, \$2.88, Quebec "2.76, Saskatchewan \$2.08, and Prince Edward Island \$1.93.

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No. 98 — Thurs. Jan. 6, 1944 — Novel Unemployment

A rather novel form of unemployment appears on the extreme northern shores of this continent.

Eight years ago what was recognized as the greatest herding feat in history was satisfactorily accomplished. There had always existed in the far north a very real need for some natural source of food and clothing, and to fill the requirements reindeer were migrated from Alaska. Some 2,300 of them were brought over uncharted waste lands to the delta of the mighty Mackenzie.

From this original herd of 2,300 we have an increase to 10,000 animals and they have most successfully provided a dependable source of food and clothing for natives and whites alike. The idea was to utilize what was in the country and could thus be relied on in all seasons not to be affected by the rigours of extremes of temperature and weather.

Of this 10,000 or rather over and above this amount, some 3,000 animals have been lost, some through natural death, some have been slaughtered, some have strayed to join wandering bands of their first cousins, the caribou, which migrated from the Siberian plains during the time of the Aleutian land bridge. The cross between reindeer and wild caribou produces excellent beef and hides.

It is for the purpose of carrying this potential supply of food and clothing from the Arctic metropolis of Aklavik, farther eastward that the question of unemployment has arisen. There is a pressing need for native herders to do the job, as it is considered unlikely that whites could withstand the cold and hardships. The Northwest Territories Ministration, in cooperation with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, missionaries and others are making a concentrated effort to obtain young Eskimos from the Coronation Gulf area to be trained in the herding and marketing of deer, in a district where such facilities are of a much more difficult nature.

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No. 99 — Fri. Jan. 7, 1944 — What are Bank Debits?

Every month, there appears in the business section of your morning newspaper, and perhaps evening newspaper as well, a statement from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics about Bank Debits. What are bank debits really, asks a bewildered correspondent. This was referred to the Business Statistics Branch, and the explanation given is as follows:

In advanced industrial societies, the great bulk of monetary transfers are now made through the banks, money being regarded as merely the "small change of commerce". It has been estimated that from 80 to 90 per cent of the business transactions in Canada are financed by cheques, actual money being used only for a relatively small proportion. It follows that the aggregate amount of the cheques paid through the banks and charged to accounts, within a given country, constitutes an almost complete record of the volume of transactions.

Statistics regarding these payments were at first secured through the clearing houses, or meeting places for representatives of the various banks. There they daily presented for payment the notes of other banks, and the cheques drawn on other banks which had been cashed at their institutions. Clearing houses are now operating in 33 leading Canadian cities, the first having been established at Halifax in 1887.

Since 1935, the clearing-house system has been connected with the operations of the Bank of Canada. Each chartered bank maintains a balance with the Bank of Canada, at Ottawa, which is considered sufficient to settle its clearing obligations. These balances are distinct from the five per cent reserve against deposit liabilities which the banks are required by statute to maintain at the Bank of Canada.

Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver are settlement points for the clearing houses in their respective zones. The debit or credit balances of the banks at the clearing-house centres are transmitted by the clearing-house manager to the local agent of the Bank of Canada. They are then relayed to Ottawa by telephone or telegraph. The central clearing balances maintained by all the banks at the Bank of Canada in Ottawa can thus be daily adjusted.

In January, 1935, the Canadian Bankers' Association collected the grand total of all cheques charged to accounts at all branch banks throughout the Dominion, thus obtaining the first adequate measure of the full volume of Canadian cheque transactions. The results showed that transactions outside the clearing-house cities totalled 12½ per cent of those within the centres. By regions, the corresponding ratios were as follows: Maritime Provinces, 104.2 per cent; Quebec, 8.9; Ontario, 13.5; Prairie Provinces, 8.4; and British Columbia, 16.7 per cent.

In four of the main economic regions, therefore, the total bank debits in the clearing-house centres is a fair measure of the grand total of business transactions. This is definitely not the case in the Maritime Provinces. In this area there is no single banking centre which occupies the dominant position that Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver hold in the other four areas, respectively. Also Charlottetown and the important mining centres of Sydney and Glace Bay are excluded. The ratio of 12½ per cent obtained for all Canada, however, shows that the banking centres omitted are of secondary importance in compiling the cheque transactions for the country as a whole, and this ratio seems sufficiently small to be used in future estimates without a large margin of error.

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No. 100 -- Sat. Jan. 3, 1944 -- Supreme Court of Canada.

Sir Lyman Poore Duff has retired from his position of chief justice of Canada and the new chief justice is Mr. Justice Thibault Rinfret. Sir Lyman served in this capacity for nearly forty years.

The Supreme Court of Canada had its origin in the British North America Act of 1867, which, in Section 101, enabled the Dominion Parliament to create two courts -- The Supreme Court of Canada and the Exchequer Court of Canada. Sir John A. Macdonald introduced a Bill in the Canadian Parliament providing for the establishment of a Supreme Court in 1869, but it was not until 1875 that the Statute creating the Court was passed.

The Court consists of the chief justice and six puisne or junior judges, two of which must come from the Bench or Bar of Quebec. The judges must reside at, or within five miles of, Ottawa, where the sittings of the Court are held. They can only be removed from their positions because of misbehaviour and then by the



Governor-General on an address to both Houses of Parliament.

Three sessions a year are held, the first Tuesday in February, April and October. The duty of the Court is to entertain appeals from the decisions of the provincial courts, whether such decisions are based on provincial laws or laws of the Dominion. Appeals put before the Supreme Court must have been the "final judgment" of the highest provincial court.

Criminal appeals heard and disposed of during 1942 by the Supreme Court numbered three, one for murder and two for breaking Defence of Canada Regulations. Two of the appeals were dismissed and the third conviction reversed. Three other appeals were waiting judgment in the following year; one for offences against the Opium and Narcotic Drug Act, one for perjury and the third for false pretences.

These figures were taken from the 1942 report of the Judicial Statistics Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Criminal appeals are but a small part of the work of the Court.

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#### No. 101 - Sun. Jan. 9, 1944 - The Vimy Memorial

On several occasions and once just recently the Press has re-assured us that the Vimy Memorial is intact. Through some fortunate circumstance it has escaped the full fury and devastation of the war. Is this a happy omen?

Remembering!

The structure itself is an example of Canadian sculpture at its purest and best. It was designed and executed by Walter Allward of Toronto, and stands on 200 acres of what is now Canadian soil, being France's gift to the Dominion of Canada. It is called the Park of Peace.

The memorial weighs 50,000 tons and rests on a bed of 15,000 tons of concrete. It rises to a height of 235 feet. Constructed on the famous Grange Tunnel it overlooks Arras and the plain of Donai. The material used came from an ancient Roman quarry near Trieste on the Dalmatian coast in Yugo-Slavia. This had not been worked since the 4th century when stone was taken from it for the palace of the Emperor Diocletian. Over 8,000 tons were shipped to France for our memorial.

The monument took fifteen years in the making and has been called a "sermon on the futility of war". Conflict plays no part in the portrayal of its theme; there is no flag, no uniform, no drums; no bugler stands to utter the call of triumph of the avenger. The mouths of the guns are covered with laurel and olive.

Two huge pylons represent Canada and France. Commanding and dominating the entire edifice stands a sorrowful, brooding Canada in the form of a cowed woman. Twenty sculptured figures including Peace, Justice, Truth, Knowledge, Faith, each double life-size, are commanding in their simplicity and perfection. There are two groups of defenders; one shown breaking the sword, the other symbolic of the sympathy of Canada for the helpless.

Below the pylons is the spirit of sacrifice who giving all throws the torch to his comrade, depicting a superb heroism, the constancy and fearlessness of a great western people.

The whole structure seems to actually live and breath a "quiet beauty, the beauty of sacrifice, the strength of suffering and daring hope". Allward has with



the incomparable touch of genius moulded into the whole something of the vastness that is Canada. The glory and majesty of her mountains; her mighty rivers and strong sweeping prairies. The purity and stern, healing quiet of her blue-white snows.

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No. 102 -- Mon. Jan. 10, 1944 -- Polishing Things Up

It takes a lot of real money to keep the Canadian home all shined up, not to mention the old car and the fancy shoes. Whatever else the war has done it has pepped us up in this respect, for we have been buying polishes at such a rate that, to keep up with the demand, the industries that manufacture these commodities, have been increasing their output by about one million dollars a year. In 1942 the total value of these polishes was around six million.

When the housewife invites some of her lady friends to come and drink a cup of tea -- bring your own tea-bag, please -- there is a wild time in the morning, what with the dust-sucker and then the floor polisher. The Master of the house -- he is still called that now and again -- is told to have lunch down town. When he does turn up he is enjoined to step on the rug and keep off that beautiful hardwood floor.

It is not such a very hard job to polish a floor nowadays. The main shiner used to be elbow-grease, but today, what with waxes and varnish and what not, it is not so exhausting. So they tell us over the radio anyway.

The factory cost of the paste floor wax was about two million dollars. That was the outstanding product. Liquid floor wax and polish was second at one and a half million, but shoe polishes and dressings were well up at nearly one million. That shows how tidy mere men are becoming for there don't seem to be enough swains in the country to use up so very much of that when they want to charm the eyes of their sweethearts. Maybe the armed forces are most responsible for this fast-growing use of shoe polish, for they are certainly very spruce when not dashing through Italian glawr, which the Scot calls mud and slime. It sounds like a better word to describe what we read about under foot during the peregrinations of the allied warriors.

These polishes are manufactured only in three provinces. There are 36 factories in Ontario, 16 in Quebec and four in British Columbia.

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No. 103 -- Tues. Jan. 11, 1944 -- What is Penicillin?

What is Penicillin? Where does it come from and who discovered it? Is there a real foundation for the curative properties attributed to it?

Aren't these the questions a good many people have been asking since Penicillin first made its rather spectacular appearance?

We know now that Penicillin is a salt, one of a number of natural compounds which promise great possibilities in the future and which are given off in the form of tiny pearl-like droplets in the life process of the common bread and cheese moulds.

Little is known as yet of its chemical composition and exhaustive study will be required before it can be manufactured synthetically, but even then it is

extremely doubtful whether such manufacture will be practical in view of its cost. However, we are assured of ten times as much during 1944 as was available in 1943 and, as its natural production is a relatively simple matter, there is every reason to believe that the supply will be sufficient to fill the demand.

It was first discovered by Dr. A. Fleming, St. Mary's Hospital, London, England, in 1929. Following closely upon its discovery, came the fact of its therapeutic value as a bacteria-killing agent which was established by Prof. H. W. Florey, Dr. E. Chain and collaborators of Oxford University in 1940 and 1941. Later in the same year it was used to treat disease in man with satisfactory results. In fact so startling were the cures that the new wonder drugs, the sulfas, were forced to give ground in certain instances. For example, to date Penicillin has been proved entirely non-toxic to men. Further, we know that germs become immunized to the sulfas, as also they do to Penicillin, but in the case of the latter, the germs lose to a great extent their virulency.

In treating blood poisoning, wound infections and germ diseases it has effected amazing cures and has a much wider field of operation than the sulfas. To date, we know of several hundred patients who have been successfully treated with this amazing discovery and the extent of its possibilities is to date unlimited.

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No. 104 -- Wed. Jan. 12. 1944 -- Canadian Wheat for Calcutta Famine

The Prime Minister of Canada has announced arrangements for sending wheat to India to relieve famine conditions. A gift of 100,000 tons, or over three million bushels, will be transported as soon as shipping space is available. A freighter on the Great Lakes carries about 450,000 bushels. From this some idea of the transportation problem in wartime can be visualized.

The causes of the famine in the Bengal Province at this time are many. Probably the chief being the cyclone in 1942 and a flood in July of 1943 which devastated the rice crop. People from outlying areas flocked into Calcutta in hope of relief. The loss of Burma meant a decrease of 200,000 tons of rice and the soldiers stationed in the area caused an extra drain on food supplies.

Farmers in India are not farmers in the sense we use the term. A man rents a piece of ground from a landlord and raises just enough for his family and to pay his rent. The age-old laws of giving every heir a piece of each field constantly decreases the size of his holdings. Then again, the lack of standard weights and measures add to the confusion, the producer being at the mercy of the owner, the tax collectors, merchants and petty officials.

In some areas, the farmer doesn't even attempt to raise all he needs for himself. The caste system controls what a man may raise and what he may not. Furthermore, supreme importance is attached to the belief that all animals are entitled to their share of the earth's increase. As a result, rats, parrots, monkeys, wild pigs and jackals do tremendous damage. The destruction of ten per cent of India's grain crop is attributed to rats.

Canada, which is one of the greatest wheat producing countries in the world, is and will be called upon to relieve famine conditions all over the war-scarred countries. Our requirements at home are estimated at 175 million bushels for 1943-44. This leaves over 720 million bushels for export or carry over, of which over 100 million bushels have already been exported. Figures on the wheat situation are prepared by the Agricultural Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.



No. 105 -- Thurs. Jan. 1944 -- Sunflowers as a Grain Crop

Apparently a reference to the production of vegetable oil from sunflowers which was made recently has aroused some interest, and an enterprising young farmer wants to know more about sunflowers as a grain crop.

Interest in the sunflower as such arose largely because of the shortage of edible vegetable oils soon after the outbreak of the present war. Until that time the production of the sunflower in Canada was restricted chiefly to its use for ensilage in areas not suited to the production of corn, and to a lesser extent in the garden where it served to provide seeds which were eaten much as peanuts are, or as a border flower.

War conditions have increased the importance of oil producing crops in Canada and sunflowers have for years been tested at the Lethbridge Experimental Station, on both dry and irrigated land.

After considerable research two outstanding varieties have been developed, the "Sunrise" and "Mennonite" which are semi-dwarf in habit of growth and early maturing. They can be easily harvested by ordinary farm machinery and meet required oil content and oil quality standards.

In 1943 about 30,000 acres were grown for grain in the prairie provinces with a yield of about 18 million pounds of seed which would be productive of four and a half million pounds of high quality edible oil and more than 2,250 tons of high protein oil meal suitable for stock feed. There will be an abundance of seed available to meet the 50,000 acre objective set for 1944, most of which is expected to be sown in Southern Manitoba where a new co-operative processing plant is under construction.

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No. 106 -- Fri. Jan. 14, 1944 -- Cleaning Clothes

Since war began, the women of Canada have put their shoulders to the task of victory with energy and determination. Almost 40,000 have donned uniforms of the services to release men for action. One of every four persons employed in making war munitions in Canada is a woman. On the farms, in business and industry, in increased governmental staffs and in the many organized voluntary services women have stepped into the breach caused by shortages of manpower.

The sharp increase in the number of women employed, both married and single, has no doubt had much to do with the fact that since the war clouds burst over Europe there has been an especially marked increase in the work done by dry cleaning and laundry plants in Canada. After a long day at the office or industrial plant the tired business woman has little inclination to come home to the family wash; naturally she would rather send it out.

Whilst some cleaning and laundry plants have been closed down, this loss has been more than offset by a number of new ones, together with an expansion of those which already existed. The revenues of these plants in 1942 were almost \$40,000,000 representing an increase of more than five million dollars over the preceding year. This was the highest yet recorded since 1927 when statistics of this nature were first compiled by the Bureau.

More than \$19,000,000 of the total receipts were paid out to employees and there was an overhead of nearly \$24,000,000, which included salaries and wages

paid, plus cost of materials; while the total cost of fuel and electricity used amounted to nearly \$2,000,000. There were approximately 2,400 delivery trucks in service, and the cost of collection and delivery amounted to about \$2,100,000.

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No. 107 -- Sat. Jan. 15, 1944 -- Toilet Preparations

If a soldier wishes to acquire that "extra well-groomed" appearance while on furlough, or feels like adding a dash of glitter to his hair or perhaps use a bit of after-shave lotion following the heat of battle, he has to dig down into his own private stock, for they are not part of the regular army issue. Their demands for these comforts are being met, however, for our exports to the battle areas of such items as hair dressings, shaving creams, tooth pastes and powders last year alone amounted in value to \$1,400,000.

Next time you purchase any kind of toilet preparations, whether it is tooth paste, hand lotion or lipstick, take a look at the label. The chances are that you will find it has been made in Canada, for our imports of these preparations are under import license and have fallen away since the war started. Our domestic production has increased by \$4,500,000 to a total of \$13,500,000 in 1942.

Actual tests have proven that our own products compare favourably with those imported from the most famous laboratories in the world. The quality is here; we have a well established domestic market and every reason to expect a sizeable export trade following the cessation of hostilities.

A point in favour of its continued growth as an industry representing considerable source of revenue is the fact that the ingredients, with the exception of a few such as cocoanut oil, are to be found in abundance right here in Canada and of course there is no lack of cheap electric power for manufacturing purposes.

Much of the progress in this industry has been accomplished through the efforts of private enterprise. Whole new lines have been experimented with and worked out in laboratories of chemical plants and universities. It is through such efforts and the ability to enlist the aid of established industry that new and important sources of revenue are created.

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No. 108 -- Sun. Jan. 16, 1944 -- Dinosaurs Et Cetera

Whenever possible the educational training of our young people includes frequent visits to the nearest museum where they may see for themselves the remains of prehistoric animals that once roamed at large over the earth. Most museums have well set-up skeletons of dinosaurs, ichthyosaurs, plesiosaurs, the batlike pterodactyl and many other creatures of early times. These are frequently supplemented by carefully prepared pictures which graphically illustrate prehistoric life.

Science proves that the land and air creatures of early times originated in the sea. Fossils to substantiate these theories are to be found in limestone and sandstone deposits.

Naturally, the areas richest in this material, are the beds of early seas and lakes. One particularly important spot in North America is the site of the inland sea, known as Lake Agassiz, which, it is believed, covered the greater part of the northern half of the continent. In the province of Manitoba just outside the city of Winnipeg is a section of land containing a good deal of fossil deposit.



Walking through the quarries it is possible to chip off bits of rock which are literally full of fossilized remains. Excellent examples also appear on the walls, interior and exterior, of the Legislative Buildings in Winnipeg, which are constructed of this stone.

Some of these creatures were infinitesimal, others attained an enormous size, being nearly forty feet in length. When they first came out of the sea unto dry land, they were called amphibians. They were quite grotesque in their fearful ugliness. They were the fore-runners of our modern frogs, toads and salamanders.

As we know them today, there is something rather cheerful and rollicking about a frog or toad hopping along the beach or across a country lane, and they have proved themselves of inestimable value in controlling insect plagues.

Frogs and toads attain a considerable size in some countries. Yet the largest come nowhere near the giant amphibian mastodonsaurus, remains of which were found in Germany in 1824. Other skeletons have also been excavated in Europe and Asia, some of which have skulls four feet long. This ponderous beast had short legs and an enormous body with scanty means of self-defense. Their life-span was comparatively short.

No. 109 -- Mon. Jan. 17, 1944 -- Eskimos

The Far North never ceases to interest us, and the stories of the Eskimos, the inhabitants of that vast hinterland, will always hold our attention. These peace-loving people are said to have originated from the same racial stock as the Indians—from the Great Mongolian races that predominate throughout the eastern and northern parts of Asia. The name 'Eskimo' is a Cree word which means "eaters of raw meat". A generation ago the word was spelt Esquimaux.

The 1941 Census tells us that there has been an increase in our Eskimo population during the past ten years. In 1931 they numbered 5,979 and by 1941 they had increased to 7,205. They live principally on the northern fringe of the mainland and on islands in the Arctic Archipelago and in Hudson Bay, although in the Baker Lake-Chesterfield Inlet area on the west side of Hudson Bay there are bands of Eskimos who are essentially an inland people, and who subsist chiefly on caribou.

The administrative care of Eskimos devolves upon the Lands, Parks and Forests Branch of the Dominion Department of Mines and Resources, which by regulative measures, conserves the natural resources necessary to their subsistence. Contact with the Eskimo is maintained through permanent stations in the eastern, central, and western Arctic, at a number of which medical officers are located, and by means of the annual Canadian Eastern Arctic Patrol by steamship.

Law and order in all regions in Canada inhabited by Eskimos is maintained by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

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No. 110 -- Tues. Jan. 18, 1944 -- Yams and Sweet Potatoes

Science always has surprises in store for us and research is continually presenting us with a whole series of new and interesting facts and possibilities.

A sweet potato used to be, well, just a sweet potato; for those who had acquired a taste for them, really quite a tasty dish and that was that! But now,

we know there is a great deal more to the matter. For instance, we now know they have a greater ability to change starches into sugar than corn and have excellent reason to believe that they will shortly appear in a score of different forms of food and confections.

Twenty products already are obtained from them including delicious taffy, or candy, an excellent cereal-like product, a flour used as the basis for milk-shakes and pastry, a sandwich spread, a garnish for ice cream. They are good used in combination with products such as pecans, peanuts, coconuts, pineapples, fruit juices and other sweets. They are useful in the production of syrup, alcohol, rubber, cattle feed and, when dried or dehydrated, can be commercially exported. In other words sweet potatoes represent a very real source of income to any country so situated as to be able to raise them.

A tuberous, climbing perennial, they are a semi-tropical plant and have flowers borne on long stalks in loose clusters or cymes. The blooms are funnel-shaped, white or rosy tinted and are similar to the English bindweed. Some investigators say that it was this variety rather than the ordinary white potato that Sir Walter Raleigh and Sydney Hawkins took back with them to England. It was another hundred years before white potatoes put in an appearance.

They have been grown experimentally in Canada but it was not until last year that it was established beyond doubt that they could be raised profitably in this country. This was accomplished in the foothills of Alberta in what is known as the Taber district.

Results from the first test made in 1939 were encouraging and consisted of samples of both sweet potatoes and yams. The latter are quite different in that they are shorter and more round in appearance, the flesh having a darker cast. In comparison, the sweet potato is about seven or eight inches in length, more or less streamlined and a much lighter yellow.

Other tests followed and in 1943, as soon as all danger from frost was past, the plants were put out in plots  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet apart and ridged up. A check of this crop by the Director of Experimental Farms, Ottawa, revealed good healthy plants. The project certainly had definite possibilities. Growth was steady and harvesting was commenced on the 20th of September. An excellent crop was placed in a room prepared for "curing" much the same as tobacco is cured for a period of about two weeks. The experiment can now be pronounced a success. Sweet potatoes can be grown in Canada.

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No. 111 -- Wed. Jan. 19, 1944 -- One Hundred Years of Living

Today, January 19, 1944, Sir William Mulock celebrated his 100th birthday. What a busy and fruitful century it has been! Canada's history has been greatly affected during his life. Canada really grew up.

He was born in Bondhead, Ontario, and attended Newmarket Grammar School. He won the Gold Medal in Modern Languages at the University of Toronto at the age of nineteen. At 27 he had an M.A. degree and at 50 the LL.D. He also attended the Royal Military School in Toronto. A brilliant political life followed his university years.

Of the many great things he did, one was to establish a two-cent postage rate from Canada to all parts of the Empire. This, incidently, resulted in a credit side to the postal department rather than the annual debit.



While attending an informal conference in 1898, in London, England, between representatives of Imperial, Australian and Canadian Governments, he proposed a financial scheme for laying a deep sea cable between Australia and Canada. It was not until 1901 that legislation was put into motion for the proposed plan, and shortly afterwards, the Pacific cable was constructed between Canada, New Zealand and Australia. Another link in direct communication was established under his hand when a steamship connection was made between Canada and South Africa and Mexico.

Sir William's policy of building up the educational facilities in Canada has brought him into active participation with many of our universities. His interest in boys' work, the St. John's Ambulance Association and the Peace and Arbitration Society give some idea of how varied are his interests. One of the honours given him was an invitation to the Coronation of King Edward and Queen Alexandra in Westminster Abbey in 1902.

There are a good many Canadians celebrating their 100th birthday this year of whom we have no definite information. However, the Census Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, informs us that in 1941 there were over 1,400 people 95 years of age or over. More than half were women.

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No. 112 — Thurs. Jan. 20, 1944 — Manufacturing Whereabouts

It must have occurred to a great many people in Canada that we have begun of late years to talk about billions. We understood, or thought we understood what millions meant, even when the Minister of Finance was announcing and explaining his annual budget to the Commons. But we have left the millions behind us and now we are in the billion dollar age.

What is a billion? In Canada and the United States we say it is one thousand million, or the numeral one with nine noughts behind it. In England it is different. To the English people a billion is one million million and our billion is to them a milliard.

Well, our manufacturing industries, considered in bulk, are talking about billions quite freely nowadays and following is an illustration. These industries, according to the latest figures received at the Bureau of Statistics, turned out commodities with a factory-valued total of \$6,076,308,124. What a string of figures that is! What the retail value is, you can discuss with your favourite merchant.

Not often in these facts do we bother readers with many figures, but the geographical distribution of the industries, or at least the provincial distribution, gives a very clear insight into the manufacturing centralization and is brought out by the appended table as it appears for 1941:

Ontario .....	\$3,121,756,568	New Brunswick .....	\$ 111,433,726
Quebec .....	1,841,088,523	Saskatchewan .....	96,020,975
British Columbia ..	412,957,807	Prince Edward Island	4,649,476
Manitoba .....	211,534,751	Yukon and N.W.T. ..	341,377
Alberta .....	142,651,493		
Nova Scotia ....	133,873,428	Total for Canada ..	6,076,308,124

We shall have more to say about the geographical distribution of these manufacturing industries later on.

No. 113 — Fri. Jan. 21, 1944 — Canada a Country of Urbanites

Canada has become a country whose majority population is urbanites. It is difficult to comprehend that, for since long ago we have boasted about our far flung farm lands, our vast Prairie wheat country, and we have rejoiced in our immense agricultural exports. It was no mere boasting, for Canada had become the greatest wheat exporting country in the world and still is. Our pictures of Jack Canuck portrayed a rugged, bronzed out-door man. Definitely we were a ruralite people. Our census figures proved it.

Today it is different. In the main we have become urbanites, and the change came in a very few years after the First Great War. The early 1920's saw the last of the domination of the rural dwellers over the urban dwellers. By domination is meant numbers, of course, because we like to think that in this domination there is no class or sectional domination. It is simply a statistical fact produced by the Census of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Here are the figures. At the 1921 census the rural people exceeded the urban dwellers by 84,000 in round numbers, but in 1931 the urban people were 768,000 in excess of the rural and by 1941 this excess had risen to 998,000, or almost one million. The urban dwellers totalled 6,252,000 and the rural 5,254,000. The urban population increased in the ten-year period by 680,000 and the rural by 449,000, for a total increase in the population of 1,129,000. Our urban communities accounted for 60 per cent of the total increase and the rural 40 per cent.

No doubt the present war has advanced the number of urban dwellers largely, but that is not normal and need not be touched upon here, save to say that abnormal things often have a habit of becoming normal as time goes on.

The following table shows Canada's total population from 1871 to 1941, as well as that for rural and urban areas. It will be noted that in 1871 the rural population exceeded the urban by slightly more than 2,244,500, but by 1941 our urban population exceeded the rural by 998,177.

Population of Canada, 1871-1941

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rural</u>	<u>Urban</u>
1871 .....	3,689,257	2,966,914	722,343
1881 .....	4,324,810	3,215,303	1,109,507
1891 .....	4,833,239	3,296,141	1,537,098
1901 .....	5,371,315	3,357,093	2,014,222
1911 .....	7,206,643	3,933,696	3,272,947
1921 .....	8,787,949	4,435,827	4,352,122
1931 .....	10,376,786	4,804,728	5,572,058
1941 .....	11,506,655	5,254,239	6,252,416

No. 114 — Sat. Jan. 22, 1944 — Metropolitan Areas

In yesterday's *Fact a Day* it was shown how, down through the years, Canada's urban population has increased at a faster rate than our rural. Here is what has happened during the past 70 years. In 1871 the rural inhabitants outnumbered the urban dwellers by slightly more than 2,244,500, but by 1941 the urbanites exceeded the ruralites by 998,000.



It should be pointed out that for purposes of the census, the population residing in cities, towns and incorporated villages has been defined as urban and that outside of such localities as rural. On this basis, urban communities absorbed 60 per cent of the total increase in the population between 1931 and 1941. Out of every 1,000 persons in the Dominion, 457 were resident in rural areas in 1941, and 543 in urban communities as compared with 463 in rural and 537 in urban communities in 1931.

Canada has eight cities each with a population of 100,000 and over in 1941. The population of these cities, when added together, totalled 2,644,000, representing more than 42 per cent of the total urban population of the Dominion. Montreal, with a population of 903,000 was Canada's largest city, Toronto being in second place with 667,000, followed by Vancouver with 275,000, Winnipeg 222,000, Hamilton 166,000, Ottawa 155,000, Quebec 151,000 and Windsor 105,000.

Further, some of our larger cities have in their neighbourhoods "satellite" towns or densely settled areas in close economic relationship with the central municipalities. These are referred to as 'greater' or 'metropolitan areas'. The population of these 'greater' cities in 1941 was as follows: Montreal 1,140,000, Toronto 900,000, Vancouver 351,000, Winnipeg 291,000, Ottawa 215,000, Quebec 201,000, Hamilton 176,000, Windsor 121,000, Halifax 92,000, London 87,000, Victoria 75,000 and Saint John 66,000.

The population of these 'greater' cities, when bulked together, totals 3,715,000, representing almost 59 per cent of our total urban population in 1941.

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No. 115 — Sun. Jan. 23, 1944 — Silk Stockings

The story of silk goes away back beyond the record of time. To the Chinese we owe its discovery and we do know that it was woven in that country five thousand years ago. The legendary beginning is that Si-Ling-Chi, the Queen Consort of Hoang-Ti, Emperor of China, studied the activities of silk worms and invented the processes necessary to turn silk into cloth. She developed the use of silk for clothing to provide industrial employment for Chinese women.

Silk culture spread from China to India and Japan about 200 B.C. The tradition is that two Chinese Princesses married an Indian Prince and a Japanese Prince and as their dowry gave their husbands the secrets of silk culture. Silk, of course, is produced by the silk worm in forming a cocoon inside of which to transform itself into a butterfly.

Carefully guarded in the East, the secret of silk worm culture was brought to Europe about 552 A.D. by two Nestorian monks who smuggled out of China a quantity of silk worm eggs concealed in hollows of their pilgrim staffs. Italy is the only European country to produce any quantity of silk.

Now about silk stockings, which have made an amazing advance in popularity amongst the women of the world during the past two decades. Readers of history will recall how proud Queen Elizabeth of England was of her silk stockings more than three centuries ago. Women of Canada are just as proud of them today — when they can get them. In the 1920's they cost \$3.00 a pair. In 1926 only about 835,000 dozen were manufactured in Canada. This grew in a few years to about 2,500,000 dozen pairs.

Then the war came and the production dropped to about 113,000 dozen in 1942 and these were "chiefly silk". However, artificial silk came into the picture and the production of stockings of that material grew into the millions again.

Nylon is out of the question at present because of war needs and the ladies can only hope for its release when battle ceases. It is the favourite now because it is the most durable, pure silk ranking behind it for durability.

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No. 116 — Mon. Jan. 24, 1944 — A Big Whale

The biggest whale caught in British Columbia waters last year was a female Finback which measured 64 feet in length. The runner-up to the champion was one of her Finback sisters measuring 62 feet. The biggest male taken, also a Fin, was 60 feet long.

Manpower reduction and other wartime factors cut down the scale of British Columbia whaling operations during the year — it is only off British Columbia that there is Canadian whaling — and that's the main explanation why only 90 whales were taken, as against 163 in 1942, with an inevitable accompanying sharp reduction in the output of whale products — industrial oil, meal, and fertilizer. Oil production was about 1,300,000 pounds, or over a million pounds less than in the year before. Sixty-one tons of meal were manufactured, or not quite half as much as in '42, and fertilizer output was 85 tons as against 205 tons. The 1943 figures are still subject to revision but there are not likely to be more than minor changes in them, at the most.

Of the 90 whales taken during the season, which ran from June to some time in October, 69 belonged to the Sperm species, the biggest of the Sperms measuring 54 feet, by the way. Fourteen Finbacks were captured and seven Humpbacks. The most productive single week of the season was in the latter part of June when the whalers brought 13 Sperms and five Fins to the whaling station at Rose Harbour in the Queen Charlottes for processing.

The whaling industry has suffered from the lack of man-power since the war began. In 1938 the catch on the British Columbia coast had amounted to 310 whales; by 1940 this had dropped to 219 and last year the total catch was only 90. Although a very large whale, the 64 footer that was caught last year was by no means a record. In 1940 there was a Sulphur whale caught that measured 83 feet which was a record for recent years. We have no information as to the size of whales that were caught in Atlantic waters before whaling shifted from the North-East coast to the British Columbia coast.

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No. 117 — Tues. Jan. 25, 1944 — Canada's Trade with Alaska

Why does a part of the American continent north of the 49th parallel belong to the United States rather than to Canada? To answer this it is necessary to go back to 1784, or even farther, to 1680. In the latter year, Vitus Bering was born in Hørssen, Denmark. He joined the Russian navy established under Peter the Great and in 1725 was chosen to command an expedition in the sea of Kamchatka. On his first voyage he proved that Asia and America were not united by land and on the second expedition reached the coast of Alaska.

The valuable furs brought back by Bering's men created excitement and a Russian colony was established in 1784. The sovereignty of Russia continued for slightly over eighty years. The United States Government purchased the country for \$7,200,000 and the fixing of definite boundaries was apparently not given much attention. In 1825 Russia and Great Britain had agreed that Russia should have "ten marine miles inland" northward from Prince of Wales Island. What was meant by "ten marine



miles" was a matter of interpretation. No difficulty occurred over this vague agreement until gold was discovered in the Klondyke in 1898 and then miners had trouble crossing American territory.

An international commission settled the dispute in 1903 and the new boundary runs about half way between what was claimed by Great Britain and what was claimed by the United States.

Alaska has proved itself a land of wealth. Seals from the Pribilof Islands have been harvested to the amount of 50 million dollars since 1867. The fisheries in one year (1929) were valued at the same amount. Reindeer herds are of commercial value. Alaska produces almost all the valuable minerals known to commerce and only 35 per cent of it has been geologically surveyed, yet the estimate of coal runs to several billion tons.

Canada received \$462,000 worth of imports from Alaska and sent to Alaska \$246,000 worth of exports. The imports consisted chiefly of gasoline and other petroleum products, probably for war needs in the Northwest Territories. Included in the exports were quantities of food. Nearly 59,000 dozen eggs in the shell went to the boys in Alaska.

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No. 118 -- Wed. Jan. 26, 1944 -- The Spruce Budworm

There is much anxiety among the foresters and in industries that depend upon Ontario and Quebec forests regarding an insect menace that is playing havoc. It is the Spruce Budworm. It also attacks balsam. During the last few years the Spruce Budworm has done inestimable damage to the forests of Ontario. It is now spreading eastward into Quebec and westward around Lake Nipigon.

In the areas most heavily attacked, most of the balsam and much white spruce is dead. This area comprises 12,000 - 15,000 square miles of forest. In addition, severe damage is threatened on a further area estimated at around 30,000 square miles which has been attacked more recently. Over much of this territory the attack is still increasing but in some places, such as the western portion of the Parry Sound district, the outbreak has subsided without doing much damage except in a few small stands. In general, however, there seems little probability that parasites or other natural control factors will bring the outbreak under control in time to prevent further serious damage.

The Scientists of the Department of Agriculture are worried over the situation and the following note issued by the Department portrays what is being done to halt the menace:

"The alarm felt over the spread of this pest has extended not only to the Canadian pulp and paper industry and provincial forestry organizations but the northern United States. At a recent meeting in Montreal, representatives of the Federal and State entomology and forestry services discussed the matter with officers of the Division of Entomology of the Dominion Department of Agriculture; the Dominion Forest Service and the Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick Departments of Lands and Forests. The United States officials studied the necessity for taking precautionary steps in case the insect continues to spread toward their territory and a tentative plan for co-operation between the various Services was discussed".

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No. 119 -- Thurs. Jan. 27, 1944 -- Speeding the Mails

Wartime conditions have brought a continuing and enormous expansion of postal business of all kinds throughout Canada; war industries, governments, and private citizens are utilizing postal facilities as never before. This is revealed by the gross postal revenue, which has increased from \$42,896,000 in the fiscal year 1938-39 to \$59,175,000 in 1942-43. In the latter year, money orders to the amount of \$233,004,000 payable in Canada and \$3,922,000 payable in other countries were issued, together with postal notes to the value of \$22,246,000.

Today, with the emphasis on speed in war production, the Trans-Canada Air Mail System -- now operating twice daily each way from the Atlantic to the Pacific over 3,300 miles -- is proving an invaluable asset, and air-mail volume continues to increase, almost 279,000 pounds being carried during the last month of the fiscal year 1942-43. Swift connections are made with the United States and other air-mail networks of the world.

The Canadian Postal Corps was originally recruited from executives and personnel of the Canadian Post Office in 1939 and is serving all branches of the Armed Forces. The Base Post Office in 1942-43 despatched overseas the record volume of over 21,300,000 pounds of parcels, 524,000 pounds of letters and 1,597,000 pounds of news-matter to the fighting services. Members of the Armed Forces overseas, including Auxiliary Services, have been allowed free mailing on letters to Canada and special reduced rates on gift parcels mailed from Canada.

New facilities have been established to expedite correspondence with the Armed Forces in the form of Airgraphs -- letters on film that travel by air -- and the Armed Forces Air Letter -- a combined lightweight letter and envelope operating at the low postage rate of 10 cents. Special arrangements are also in effect for communication with prisoners of war interned abroad. Since December, 1942, flying fortresses have carried mail to the Armed Forces to speed up mail delivery to Italy and North Africa.

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No. 120 -- Fri. Jan. 28, 1944 -- Bedbugs

Bedbugs have become an increasingly serious problem in many parts of Canada. The entomologists of the Department of Agriculture know their business, everybody admits, and they say that this is so. Cecil R. Twinn, one of the leading scientists, gives the reason. It is one of the problems of a shifting population due to war.

In control work against the bedbug, a knowledge of its life history and habits is of material value. While human beings are preferred, the bedbug is what is known as a non-specific parasite and will feed readily on a number of animals and birds, including mice, rats, guinea pigs, rabbits, fowls and canaries. Cockroaches do not eat bedbugs, but mice will do so, presumably as a method of self-protection.

Bedbugs are normally active at night and hide during the daytime in cracks and crevices in the infested room or its furniture, and under or behind objects that afford concealment, such as loose wall paper. Their greatest activity occurs just before dawn, and most of the bugs return to their hiding places after daybreak.

When very hungry, they will feed in subdued light in the daytime, especially in theatres and other public gathering places in which the furnishings have become infested.

Best results in control work are obtained by fumigation or by a liquid insecticide that penetrates easily. Fumigation by gas should be undertaken by experienced



operators. In some cities, the law requires that only registered operators may use gas for fumigation. Sprays containing pyrethrum extract in a refined kerosene type oil have given satisfaction. However, owing to the increasing use of pyrethrum for the protection of the armed forces overseas, it is not now obtainable for general use, but there are substitute insecticides now available which are being widely used, details on the use of which can be secured by writing to the Dominion Entomologist, Ottawa.

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No. 121 -- Sat. Jan. 29, 1944 -- Breakfast is Ready

There is an old saying which is largely disappearing because of the changes that have come about in our breakfast menus. "A long lie and a tea breakfast" referred particularly to Sunday morning and, except on the farm where livestock had to be attended to, weary workers could relax until there was just time to get to church. In those days oatmeal porridge had to boil for about half an hour and the iron pot had to be scraped. So the good wife often passed up the porridge and regaled the family with ham and eggs instead, all well washed down with tea.

Today it is different. We have gone in for prepared breakfast foods in a big way, and this remark must not be construed as favouring them more than oatmeal, the outstanding breakfast dish, for that is not our business. We are dealing here only with what are described as prepared breakfast foods.

Production in Canada in 1942 was estimated at 67,000,000 pounds, including corn flakes, bran flakes, puffed grains, shredded wheat, muffets, force, etc. The value was nearly \$10,105,000. It is interesting to note that soya beans, important for their high nutritional value, are now being used in this industry -- to the extent of some 8,000 pounds in 1942.

There were 34 establishments producing breakfast foods as their main products in 1942, and of these, 14 were located in Ontario. In fact the industry is practically confined to Ontario, for this province accounted for a very large percentage of the total output in 1942. There were six establishments in Manitoba, three in Alberta, six in British Columbia and one in Quebec. These concerns represented a capital investment of nearly \$7,000,000 and employed about 725 persons who received salaries and wages amounting to about \$1,200,000.

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No. 122 -- Sun. Jan. 30, 1944 -- New Chapter in Wheat Story

With the live-stock population in North America consuming wheat, bushel for bushel, with the human population a new chapter is being added to the story of wheat. It will tell of the all-out war effort on Canadian and United States farms to produce maximum supplies of food for the United Nations, and the part played by wheat when stocks of feed grains fell short of requirements. This bread grain, hitherto the preserve of human beings, has been pinch-hitting for oats, barley and other feedstuffs and has made possible the maintenance of record numbers of live stock on North American farms.

It is estimated that a total of 590,000,000 bushels of wheat, will be fed to animals on this continent during the crop year 1943-44, while the civilian and home military requirements of Canada and the United States may total only 580,000,000 bushels. It would take Canadians about thirteen years, on the basis of pre-war bread consumption, to get rid of the amount of wheat that live stock will consume in the current crop year, while the civilian population of the United States would

need at least fifteen months to digest the flour product of 590,000,000 bushels of wheat.

Animal consumption of wheat in the United States is placed at 500,000,000 bushels for the twelve months ending June 30, 1944. This compares with about 108,000,000 bushels fed to live-stock in the crop year 1939-40. In Canada, the use of wheat for live-stock feed in the year ending July 31, 1944 is expected to be two and a half times the quantity fed during the crop year 1939-40. But Canadian wheat is moving in large quantities to the United States to be used there as live-stock feed, so that the quantity of Canadian wheat fed to animals in both countries might easily reach a total of 215,000,000 bushels. Transportation will be the chief determining factor in the ultimate figure.

Since the big crop of 1942 was harvested, a large volume of Canadian wheat has been jammed up on farms in the three Prairie Provinces due to a combination of circumstances, but it has recently been decided to draw off some of this wheat during the current crop year. It was the original intention of the Government to take delivery, through the Canadian Wheat Board, of only 280,000,000 bushels of western wheat, representing a maximum delivery of 14 bushels per "authorized" acre in the west. The maximum delivery quota has now been raised to 18 bushels and this will permit the delivery of approximately 360,000,000 bushels during the crop year 1943-44.

In the event that the maximum delivery of 360,000,000 bushels is realized, stocks of wheat remaining on prairie farms at the close of the crop year will be down to almost normal proportions, but on the basis of current estimates of domestic and export disappearance the Canadian carry-over of wheat is expected to exceed 400,000,000 bushels next July 31. The United States carry-over may fall to 250,000,000 bushels compared with 618,000,000 bushels on July 1, 1943, so that the prospective surplus in North America is 650,000,000 to 675,000,000 bushels, despite the enormous quantities of wheat fed to live-stock.

The indicated carry-over means a reduction of between 45 and 50 per cent from the record North American carry-over of wheat at the close of the 1942-43 crop year, but this reduction is significant only if the feeding of wheat to live-stock is to be continued beyond July, 1944 at the current rate, or if the present outlook for wheat production in Canada and the United States in 1944 shows further deterioration. Both countries experienced an unusually dry fall in 1943, though some improvement has taken place the past two months in the United States winter wheat belt.

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No. 123 -- Mon. Jan. 31, 1944 -- Bread for the Nations This Year

Seed-bed conditions for spring wheat are unfavourable in both Canada and the United States, but there is ample time for rains to remedy this condition, in part at least, while the increase of about 10,000,000 acres in the winter wheat acreage in the United States may offset to some degree the unfavourable moisture situation at seeding time. No increase in Canadian wheat acreage in 1944 is being sought officially, but spring wheat farmers in the United States have scope for increasing substantially their wheat acreage in line with the official objectives set for 1944, which call for an over-all increase of 14,000,000 acres in the United States.

The statistical position of wheat in the southern hemisphere countries is still very favourable, despite a recent lowering of the Argentine estimate. The out-turn in Australia is now placed at 110,000,000 bushels and the Argentine crop at approximately 261,000,000 bushels. Both countries had a substantial carry-over of old crop,



and while each is expected to show improved export shipments during 1944, the supply can be considered ample. It is the announced intention to increase wheat acreage in Australia for the next crop and, no doubt, a larger acreage will be seeded also in Argentina.

Crop news from Europe is largely favourable in character. A large acreage has been seeded to winter wheat, and moisture conditions are reported to be very satisfactory. A mild winter has produced rapid growth and there is some danger of damage in the event of a cold spell during the next month or so. Shortage of fertilizer continues to be a hazard of production, but at the moment, from the standpoint of moisture, European crops hold the edge on North America for the second successive year.

It has now been confirmed that acreage seeded to wheat in the United Kingdom for the 1943 harvest showed an increase of 700,000 acres over the previous year, and while a further increase for the 1944 harvest appears to have been the objective there is some doubt about this being attained. In common with a number of other European countries, the 1943 wheat crop in the United Kingdom was the largest since the war, unofficial estimates placing the outturn at 135,000,000 bushels. Some phenomenal yields were obtained, and according to information recently published by the Ministry of Agriculture for Scotland 80 bushels per acre have been obtained in a number of cases during the war, and in one instance a crop of 96 bushels per acre was threshed.

Portugal appears to have been the orphan of the European continent in 1943 and following the production of its poorest wheat crop in many years is again reporting a very unfavourable outlook for 1944. The crop outlook in Switzerland is also reported to be unfavourable, but news from the Balkans and from Turkey is of a generally optimistic character.

Drought was the principal factor in Portugal's crop losses in 1943, and the same condition appears to be developing this year. Recent advices point to the dry weather extending into Spain and complaints of damage from both countries are becoming quite numerous. Colder weather has been experienced in some parts of south-eastern Europe, but so far there is no indication of serious damage.

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