

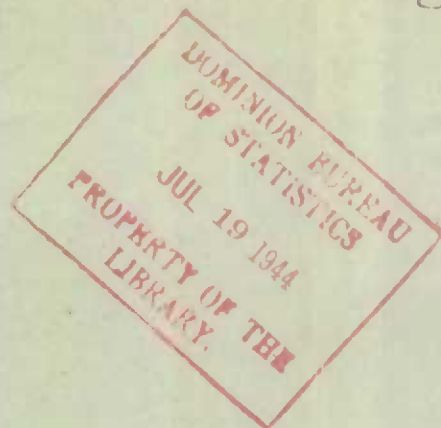
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DEPARTMENT OF
TRADE AND COMMERCE



CANADA



A FACT A DAY ABOUT CANADA

FROM THE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

TENTH SERIES

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James Muir,

Editor.

No. 184, Sat. April 1, 1944. War-Time Changes in Canadian Agriculture

Canada entered the war with relatively large supplies of the major foodstuffs in relation to the effective demand at that time. Prices were correspondingly low and during the early months of the war there was little incentive to increase production. Those who recalled the high prices of foodstuffs during the latter years of the last war and those immediately following looked for a sharp increase in the demand for food. However, this demand did not materialize along broad lines during the first two years of war. After the invasion of France, Norway and the Low Countries shipments of food to the United Kingdom from these sources were cut off but since the immediate concern was with the more direct implements of war rather than with food, shipping was a limiting factor in the export movement of farm products. The United Kingdom, however, did call for increased shipments of some products, particularly bacon and cheese, and Canadian farmers responded quickly with increased production of these items. There was also a good demand for wheat but with high stocks in Canada and other exporting countries it was not necessary to expand the production of this product.

With the entry of Japan into the war at the end of 1941 the situation again changed. Additional sources of supply to the United Nations were cut off and some products previously imported into Canada became difficult if not impossible to obtain. At the same time the increasing industrial activity and employment in Canada was resulting in a decided increase in the domestic demand for foodstuffs generally. These factors resulted in a strengthening of farm prices and there was a considerable expansion in agricultural production in 1942. Shortages of labour and farm machinery, however, acted as limiting factors on increased output. The first major change in Government policy in respect to agriculture came in 1941 when in order to encourage an expansion in the production of live stock and live stock products a scheme was introduced providing for payments to farmers for diverting wheat acreage into feed grains, grasses and summer fallow. This, combined with higher prices and in some cases government subsidy payments for live stock and live-stock products resulted in a rapid expansion of the production of cattle, hogs, dairy products, poultry and eggs, particularly in the Prairie Provinces. In order to encourage production of these products in eastern Canada and British Columbia, the Dominion Government introduced the policy of assisting in the payment of freight charges on feed grain moving into these areas.

In 1942 weather conditions were particularly favourable in almost all agricultural areas of the Dominion with the result that record crops of grains were harvested. This not only provided additional stocks of wheat but also substantial supplies of feed grains were made available. At the end of 1942 the Agricultural Supplies Board of the Dominion Department of Agriculture sponsored an interprovincial conference at which objectives for the production of all important agricultural products for 1943 were set forth. These objectives for the most part called for greater production in 1943 than in the previous year although a further reduction in wheat acreage was advised.

The 1943 growing season was much less favourable than that of 1942 and although acreage changes in the main corresponded with the desired objectives, low yields, particularly in the five eastern provinces, resulted in inadequate supplies of food in those areas to maintain the live stock population. Large quantities of feed grains have been moved to eastern Canada under the Freight Assistance Policy. Late in 1943 similar objectives were set up for agricultural production in 1944. Again the general tendency has been to ask for increased production but in the light of the labour situation the increases are expected to

be more moderate than those achieved in previous years. Wheat supplies are still adequate to meet all anticipated needs and an acreage similar to that of 1943 has been advised.

No. 185. Sun. April 2, 1944 Wood Fuel and a Warning

Despite the mildness of last winter and the improvement in stocks, Canada faces the possibility of a shortage of wood fuel next winter. To help prevent such a shortage every community in a wood burning area should examine the local situation at once, and, if necessary, take immediate steps to build up stockpiles. Every householder who burns wood should, if at all possible, buy his wood at once and store it for use next winter.

It must not be forgotten that last winter was the mildest in 70 years, and in spite of the mild weather, it was necessary to draw on Government stockpiles to the extent of 150,000 cords. So long as manpower is in great demand for the war program, wood fuel will be scarce. The fact that the supply position is easier than in 1943 may have lulled many into a false sense of security. Actually the total stocks of firewood throughout Canada are still below normal, and unless these stocks are built up during the summer and autumn a severe winter might find us in a serious position.

To guard against such a possibility, it is essential that every interested householder buy his wood fuel as soon as possible. Such action will do much to prevent the possibility of distress next winter. It will simplify the transportation of the wood fuel. It will enable the dealers to clear their yards and order more wood. And it will thus encourage immediate production.

No. 186. Mon. April 3, 1944 International Monetary Fund

The expectation is that, following the war, there will be established an International Monetary Fund to assist in solving the problems of international monetary co-operation. No government is in any way committed to the views of its experts but the policy is made public in order that there may be public knowledge of the progress made and informed discussion of the proposals before governments proceed further.

It is the concensus of opinion of the experts of the United and Associated Nations who have participated in these discussions that the most practical method of assuring international monetary co-operation is through the establishment of an International Monetary Fund. The principles set forth below are designed to constitute the basis for this Fund. Governments are not asked to give final approval to the principles until they have been embodied in the form of definite proposals by the delegates of the United and Associated Nations meeting in a formal Conference.

The Fund will be guided in all its decisions by the purposes and policies set forth below: -

1. To promote international monetary co-operation through a permanent institution which provides the machinery for consultation on international monetary problems.

2. To facilitate the expansion and balanced growth of international trade and to contribute in this way to the maintenance of a high level of employment and real income, which must be a primary objective of economic policy.

3. To give confidence to member countries by making the Fund's resources available to them under adequate safeguards, thus giving members time to correct maladjustments in their balance of payments without resorting to measures destructive of national or international prosperity.

4. To promote exchange stability, to maintain orderly exchange arrangements among member countries, and to avoid competitive exchange depreciation.

5. To assist in the establishment of multilateral payments facilities on current transactions among member countries and in the elimination of foreign exchange restrictions which hamper the growth of world trade.

6. To shorten the periods and lessen the degree of disequilibrium in the international balance of payments of member countries.

Member countries shall subscribe in gold and in their local funds amounts (quotas) to be agreed, which will amount altogether to about \$8 billion if all the United and Associated Nations subscribe to the Fund (corresponding to about \$10 billion for the world as a whole).

The quotas may be revised from time to time but changes shall require a four-fifths vote and no member's quota may be changed without its assent.

The obligatory gold subscription of a member country shall be fixed at 25 per cent of its subscription (quota) or 10 per cent of its holdings of gold and gold-convertible exchange, whichever is the smaller.

Those who desire to study the proposals in detail will find them in the Hansard report of the House of Commons debates on April 17, 1944.

No. 187. Tues. April 4, 1944 - Marvellous Catch of Pilchard

The Fisheries Department sends along an excellent story of a marvellous catch of pilchard one day last year off Vancouver Island. The story runs:

"In one set of their seine, Captain J. E. Clark and his 7-man crew of the British Columbia purse-seiner 'Western Mariner' caught a record-making 530 tons of pilchards, or an estimated 3,180,000 fish, as the boat went about its fishing operations off the west coast of Vancouver Island one day during the 1943 season. At \$6.25 a ton, the catch would be worth to master and crew about \$3,300. But getting the millions of fish to shore wasn't just as quick and easy a job as the bare recital of these facts and figures might seem to suggest. When the men 'pursed' or closed the seine after circling the fish in the accustomed seining method they found that they had far and away more pilchards than the 'Western Mariner' and its accompanying tender could possibly take on board. They summoned additional tenders by radiophone. The laden tenders plied back and forth between catch and shore but so big was the job that when the emptied net could be lifted back on board the seiner again 36 hours had passed since the 'set' was made. The 'Western Mariner', by the way, is one of the seiner-packers built in British Columbia yards in the past year or two under the plan carried out by Dominion Department of Fisheries to assist fishing vessel construction by means of subsidy aid."

As it happened, 1943 was a pretty fair year for pilchard fishermen generally in British Columbia waters, the only Canadian areas where pilchards are taken, but things don't always happen that way. In some years there's not much money for men in this branch of fishing. The runs of pilchards may fluctuate a good deal in size from year to year or, at all events, the seiners are much more fortunate in some

years than others in locating the fish in abundance. The '43 catch, for instance, as shown by preliminary reports to the Dominion Department of Fisheries, was 83,000 tons or a little more, while in 1940 the landings were less than 28,800 tons, and sometimes they haven't been that big.

The great bulk of the annual catch is used in the manufacture of meal and oil. However, substantial quantities of the fish are canned - a nutritious food product - and the cannery pack in 1943, roughly 30,200 cases of 48 pounds each, was the second largest in the history of the industry.

No. 188 Wed. April 5, 1944 - Hansard

Canadian newspapers like to publish extracts from Hansard, because people like to read them. Some of these extracts are of great importance, others are amusing.

Most people are aware in a vague sort of way that Hansard is the official record of the debates of parliament but the why and the wherefore of the name are not well known. Here is the story.

Luke Hansard was an English printer who died in 1828 at the age of 76. He was educated at Boston Grammar School, in Lincolnshire, England. When he finished his apprenticeship he started for London and became a compositor in the office of John Hughs, who was then printer to the House of Commons. He was quite a remarkable young man for in 1774 when he was but 22, he was made a partner and in 1780 the business came completely into his hands. He printed the Journals of the House of Commons from 1774 until his death.

The promptitude and accuracy with which he printed parliamentary papers were often of the greatest service to the Government - notably on one occasion when the proof-sheets of the report of the Secret Committee on the French Revolution were submitted to Pitt 24 hours after the draft had left his hands.

His son, Thomas Curson Hansard, began in 1803 to print the Parliamentary Debates which were not at first independent reports but were taken from newspapers. However, after 1889 the Debates were published by the Hansard Publishing Union Limited. That is how the official reports of the British parliament came to be called Hansard. We use the same cognomen in Canada.

There is a sidelight in connection with Hansard which will illustrate what might happen if legislation did not provide for it. More than a hundred years ago the Hansard firm in London was prosecuted by a man named Stockwell for printing by order of the House of Commons, in an official report of the inspector of prisons, statements regarded by the plaintiff as libellous. Hansard sheltered himself on the ground of privilege, but it was not until after much litigation that the security of printers of Government reports was guaranteed by Statute in 1840.

No. 189. Thurs. April 6, 1944 - Juvenile Delinquents

Juvenile delinquency in Canada declined during 1943 as compared with the previous year but remained at a higher level than in 1939, according to a report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The number of juveniles brought before the courts during 1943 was 12,225 as compared with 13,802 in 1942, a decrease of 11.4 per cent. The 1943 total was still 28.7 per cent greater than in 1939.

The number of juveniles charged with major offences decreased to 7,526 in 1943 from 7,939 in 1942, or by 5.2 per cent, while the number charged with minor offences decreased to 4,699 from 5,863 in 1942, or by 19.8 per cent. The number charged with major offences in 1939 was 5,939 and with minor offences 3,558, the wartime increase in major offences having been 26.7 per cent and in minor offences 31.2 per cent.

The total number of juveniles convicted in 1943 was 10,296 as compared with 11,758 in 1942, a decrease of 13.2 per cent. Convictions for major offences decreased from 6,920 in 1942 to 6,494 in 1943 or 6.6 per cent, while minor offences decreased from 4,838 to 3,802 or 27.2 per cent. While convictions in 1943 were lower than in 1942 they were still much higher than in 1939. Convictions in 1943 were 35.2 per cent higher than the 1939 total of 7,613, convictions for major offences increasing by 29.4 per cent over the 1939 figure of 5,018, and convictions for minor offences by 50.4 per cent over 1939.

In comparison with 1942 increased numbers of delinquents were brought before the courts in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia, these provinces recording increases of 28.8, 22.2, and 3.6 per cent, respectively. Alberta recorded a percentage decrease of 45.7, Manitoba 28.0, Quebec 21.3, Prince Edward Island 13.6, Saskatchewan 11.2, and Ontario 4.5.

Nova Scotia and New Brunswick had a greater number of convictions in 1943 than in 1942, recording increases of 38.2 and 22.6 per cent, respectively. The remaining provinces reported the following percentage decreases: Alberta, 46.5; Manitoba, 27.2; Quebec, 21.0; Prince Edward Island, 11.9; Saskatchewan, 9.7; Ontario, 4.9; and British Columbia, 0.5.

No. 190. Fri. April 7, 1944 - What the British are Doing

It is well for us to know something of what the British are doing in these years of strain and stress - how they have risen above anguish and suffering and are now marching to victory. Many Canadians have been participating in the great work that is being done. The Economist, a London weekly of considerable prestige tells the story briefly but with vigor, as follows:

If the process of mobilizing Britain's resources for war was largely completed in 1942, the past year has been one of sustained and total effort probably unequalled in its history.

The civilian sector of industry and trade had to give up such resources as it could still spare without depriving the population of the essentials of life. The minimum need for food, clothing and other essentials was met; this distribution was probably as fair as it could be made in times of war. Price control ensured that even the lowest income categories could purchase their share of the small supply of essential goods and services; efficient rationing ensured distribution according to needs rather than money demand.

The war sector of the British economy rose to new heights of achievement, in output as well as in flexibility. War production could not be raised by another 50 per cent as between 1941 and 1942, but it reached a record over the whole field of munitions.

As important as the total volume of munition output was the production of the types required in the proportions needed by the Services. During 1943, as Mr. Lyttleton, Minister of Production, has pointed out, the emphasis in production has

shifted more and more, in accordance with changing strategic needs, to the newest types of aircraft, weapons and devices of every kind. The fulfilment of changing demands called for a high degree of adaptability and flexibility on the part of workers and managers. The number of workers was increased by 203,000 in the manufacture of aircraft, and by 64,000 in naval construction and other Admiralty work, while the number engaged on the production of equipment for the Army was reduced.

The reduction in merchant shipping losses and the growing volume of ship-building in North America has ensured a steady flow of the raw materials required for the fulfilment of the production schedules of civilian goods and munitions. On the other hand, coal, the main home-produced raw material, was in short supply; production in 1943 was smaller than in 1942.

The stringency in manpower, which was already beginning to be felt in 1942, became more marked in 1943. Two measures in particular indicate the strain placed on labour resources: the extension of women's registration age to 50 and the decision to conscript men for the mines as an alternative to service in the armed forces.

The extent of mobilization at the end of the year can be seen from the following facts: Out of a total adult population of 33.1 million available for work (i.e., those aged between 14 and 60) 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ million were engaged in the Services or in vital employment. Of these, 15 million were men and 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ million women, while a considerable proportion of the remainder were housewives or engaged in voluntary service. There was a further expansion in the numbers of women employed. It was estimated that 90 per cent of the single women and over 80 per cent of the married women without children between 18 and 40 were engaged on work of national importance. Whereas in 1940 women represented only 12 per cent of the labour force in aircraft production, the proportion had been increased to 40 per cent in 1943. In munitions industries as a whole, including shipbuilding, about a third of the workers were women.

There were few changes in normal working hours, although less overtime was worked than in earlier years of the war. The general working-class cost of living showed little change, owing to the stabilization policy adopted by the Government.

Increased attention was paid during the year to industrial health and welfare. An important conference on Industrial Health was called by the Minister of Labour in April. By August there were 10,462 works canteens in operation, including canteens on docks and building sites. By the end of the year there were 881 colliery canteens, covering 96 per cent of the miners, although only about half this number provided full meal services.

Apart from their effect on recruitment for such jobs as domestic service in institutions and nursing, which were given high priority by the Ministry of Labour, these improvements have a long-term significance. Two other measures initiated during 1943, the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Bill and the Disabled Persons Bill, provide further evidence of the increasing attention which was paid during the year to the problems of the demobilization period and the transition from war to peace.

No. 191. Sat. April 8, 1944. - What the Canadians are Doing.

Having said a word or two yesterday about what the British are doing, it will be illuminating to glance a moment about what Canadians are doing and thinking. We

can steer away into the topic of trade as seen by the Commerce Minister, Mr. MacKinnon, and it is worth noting particularly for it is of necessity public policy.

Canada can never have too much foreign trade, he says. Cut down that trade, and you lengthen the lines of unemployment all across Canada. Surely that lesson has been burned into our memory and our conscience, by the tragic years of the depression. It is simply absurd to believe that Canada can be enriched by any policy which seeks to impoverish other countries. Those who preach such a misguided doctrine are guilty of something far worse than believing in an economic myth. They are building a highway which leads straight to economic disaster for all Canada.

I speak thus strongly about the importance of international trade, both now and after the war, because it is not sufficiently realized how vital a contribution to Canada's war effort is being made today by our expanding volume of foreign trade.

Last year our total foreign trade reached the unprecedented figure of nearly five thousand million dollars, and we have now a total export trade that has been running for some time at a level of roundly three thousand million dollars a year. It may help us to appreciate the size of this trade if we recollect that in the twenty years from 1919 to 1939 there was not a single year when the value of Canada's exports reached or even closely approached one half of the present figure. The curve is still rising. Canada is now the third largest trading nation in the world.

The magnitude of this achievement has been reflected at once in every economic barometer used to measure national prosperity. Why has Canadian employment been sustained at peak levels? Why has our national income increased to a point thought impossible a few years ago? And why has the distribution of bond holdings and bank savings among Canadians of all classes established the highest records in our history? The answer is unmistakable. It is that Canada found markets overseas, to an extent never before experienced, for the products of her agriculture, her industry in all branches, her mines, forests, and fisheries.

We are manufacturing goods and equipment never before produced in this country. We have enlarged our agricultural production by at least 50 per cent.

It is deeply regrettable that it took such a terrible calamity as this war to emphasize and demonstrate the close connection between expanding trade and increasing prosperity. It will be our hope and ambition, when peace comes, to see that the markets of war are replaced in the largest possible measure by the more enduring markets of peace.

No. 192. Sun. April 9, 1944. - About Economic Warfare

Many Canadians will remember with sad hearts the Great Depression which began in 1929. It was the inevitable result of the battle of tariffs and the plan of many countries to make themselves self-sufficient. This is what Mr. MacKinnon has to say about Economic Warfare and our sheet-anchor market:

I have never been able to subscribe to the view that trade is a form of economic warfare. Surely it is based on the spirit of co-operation. It covets no narrow or exclusive advantages. It thrives in an atmosphere of good-will. It can do much to cleanse the stricken world of its grief and suffering. When the glad day dawns on which our soldiers will no longer need to cross boundaries on missions

of war, our goods must cross them on missions of peace.

But what of the future? What awaits our people in the coming years? Are there any lessons to be gleaned from the tragic and tremendous years through which we are now passing that can help us chart a wise course of future progress?

It must be remembered that, in the ten years before the war, more than three-quarters of Canada's fifteen billion dollars worth of external trade, both imports and exports, was done with the United States and the United Kingdom. We had during this same period a valuable international trade elsewhere -- with other Empire countries and with foreign countries. But it was our trade with the United Kingdom and with the United States that made Canada a really great trading nation.

We hear a great deal of talk these days about bilateral trade and multilateral trade, and perhaps too little about the trilateral trade with the United Kingdom and the United States that has been the dominant feature of Canada's participation in international commerce.

When the war is over, can we expect to fall back again on the corner-stone that supported the main structure of our trade prior to the war -- that is, the triangle of Canadian-British-American commerce that worked out so greatly to our advantage over so many years?

The question cannot be answered in detail today. But certain issues must clearly be recognized. The British people, after the war, will face many problems. British exports will have fallen to a low level. There will probably be a reduction in the earnings of British shipping. And there will certainly be a very heavy decline in the return from British investments abroad, due to the extent to which it has been necessary to liquidate those investments during the war.

How will all this affect the Canadian people? What impact will these problems make on our own foreign trade and export policy?

From 1929 to 1938 we sold the British people about \$2,800,000,000 worth of goods. We purchased less than half that amount from them. In each of the seven years prior to 1939 the United Kingdom was the greatest single buyer of Canadian exports. In other words, and this is the salient fact, we had a customer who was able to buy from us without regard to the amount that we bought from her, and who was able also to pay us in cash of a kind that we could readily convert and use anywhere we wanted to use it.

The United Kingdom's trade policy, therefore, particularly as it affects imports, may radically concern the degree to which we are going to be able to sell our goods in postwar years, in the country that has been literally the sheet-anchor market for many of the products by which the economy of both Western and Eastern Canada has been sustained.

No. 193. Mon. April 10, 1944. -- Our British Trade Connections

As a trading country, continued Mr. MacKinnon, we would be getting the worst of both worlds if there were to be postwar barriers in the way of our trade with the United Kingdom, and no material progress in the lowering and removal of barriers elsewhere. We have everything at stake to spur us on to do all in our power to promote conditions that will facilitate our commerce in every direction without weakening it in any way with the United Kingdom.

The British market has been for so long the mainstay for such an important part of our export business that I could not, myself, contemplate its possible loss to us, in any substantial measure, without deep misgiving. I think everyone will agree with me that in our commercial plans for the postwar period, nothing should take precedence over our effort to find ways and means of preserving, even in the face of the new conditions that will prevail, the greatest possible outlet in Great Britain for the products of Canadian agriculture and industry.

At the same time, Canada also has the strongest self-interest in supporting all international agreements which, we are satisfied, are of a kind that will hasten the day when we again can do business with the United Kingdom, the United States, and all other countries with stable, freely-convertible currencies, and with world wide release from restrictive measures of every type. While I emphasize the primary importance of our British and American trade, I do not in any way discount the fact that Canada has an immense stake in commerce with all countries. Our postwar objective must be to do everything in our power to restore a world in which the markets of Western Europe, of the Orient, and in fact of all quarters of the globe will be open to Canadian exporters on a good competitive basis.

The best estimates that we have been able to make indicate that about 80 per cent of the export business we now are doing belongs in the category of temporary, abnormal, wartime trade, with about 20 per cent in the category of normal and permanent trade.

None the less, this remaining 20 per cent is very important. It still amounts to about \$600,000,000 a year despite the stress of wartime restrictions. It still plays a vital role in sustaining the agricultural and industrial life of this country. It is even more important as the basis on which, when the war is finally ended, we shall have to rebuild the whole structure of our export trade for the future.

I have been a consistent advocate of the policy of maintaining at least token trade of a non-war nature, wherever possible, with other countries. If we permit the flow of goods in the channels of ordinary trade to dry up entirely, the task of renewing that trade after the war will be made immensely more difficult. On the other hand, if we keep up this minimum amount of commerce, we will begin by having a useful advantage in competing for important markets when normal times return.

This is particularly true of Latin America. There lie some of Canada's most promising fields for future trade development. My visits in recent years to Central and South America as head of trade missions from this country have revealed Canadian trade possibilities of a very practical and substantial kind.

Canadian manufacturers and exporters have not been able to enter into these markets to the extent they would like, due to the special conditions imposed by the war. But I found a tremendous amount of good-will towards Canadians and Canadian products wherever I travelled in Latin America. I found that Canadian goods enjoyed the reputation of being high-standard and of excellent quality. The steady growth in our trade with Latin-American countries is a happy augury for the expansion of markets that we can obtain by remaining alive to the opportunities that are opening up for us in that rich part of the world.

At the end of 1943, the gold and foreign exchange reserves of sixteen Latin-American countries had been built up to almost three thousand million American dollars, representing an increase of fifteen hundred million American dollars over the previous year's figures. The most spectacular increases in this growing volume

of Latin American purchasing power took place in Argentina, Brazil and Mexico, in that order.

This surplus of foreign exchange assets in the countries of Central and South America provides a clue to the prospective flow of international trade after the war. It symbolizes a tremendous amount of purchasing power, capable of being used to satisfy the hunger for goods.

No. 194. Tues. April 11, 1944. Canadian Trade in the Orient

Mr. MacKinnon warns Canadian traders not to forget the great opportunities which await us in the Far East which is Canada's Near East. China, the senior combatant of the United Nations, has gone through a grim ordeal. Her country has been ravaged; her towns and industries laid waste. But the splendid spirit of the Chinese people has never faltered or failed. They deserve well of all who cherish freedom.

China will face peculiar problems of her own when victory has crowned our cause. She will need many urgent supplies, including medical stores, without delay. Cut off for a number of years from her normal heritage of trade with the rest of the world, China has to repair many gaps in an economy tested and strained by the pressures of war. Here is a field of enterprise to appeal to the imagination and compassion, as well as the practical spirit of helpful commercial intercourse, of the Canadian people in general and of those interested in export trade in particular.

While stressing the importance of trade, I must not omit a necessary word of caution against undue haste in picking up again the threads of our commercial exports.

We must be absolutely certain that the diversion of materials to ordinary trade channels does not involve any premature let-down in the industrial war effort. Secondly, we must not give any member of the United Nations just grounds for thinking that Canada is attempting to get away to an unfair head-start in a commercial way.

The only other thing that need be said on this point is to make it clear that, while Canada has no intention of trying to get away to an unfair early start in resuming the export of civilian goods, we are going to be equally careful to make sure that we are not holding back while other countries are getting their own export plans well prepared and actually under way. The formation by the Canadian Government in the past few days of an inter-departmental committee to foster conditions conducive to the widest measure of international trade is an earnest of our alert attention to the problems with which we will have to deal in the transition period.

No. 195. Wed. April 12, 1944. Ploughless Farming

It will occur to people who are not farmers and even probably to a vast number of farmers themselves that ploughless farming is some sort of a joke. But it is not, and skilled men in the Department of Agriculture, as well as the statisticians in the Agricultural Branch of this Bureau are well acquainted with the fact. This is what they say:

Ploughless farming is not a new idea as there are many farms in Western Canada on which a furrow has not been turned in years. This does not mean that the plough is becoming obsolete. There are conditions of soil and climate where

the plough will prepare a seed bed more cheaply and more efficiently than any shallow tillage implement. Furthermore it has been demonstrated that on certain soil types ploughed land which is not worked down and left in the rough is more resistant to soil drifting than that receiving any other cultural treatment. On the other hand, ploughless farming under certain soil and climatic conditions may be possible and advisable where exclusive grain growing is practiced.

Shallow tillage will reduce the cost of summerfallowing by one-half and at the same time more efficiently control most of the annual and perennial weeds. Shallow tillage or ploughless farming has also shown its value in the case of crops grown on stubble land. Experience has shown that, where it is possible to work stubble land with shallow tillage implements in such a way that two to three crops of weeds are germinated and destroyed before the crop is seeded, cleaner and better crops are produced than if the plough is used in preparing the seed bed.

Circumstances may occur which make it impossible to follow shallow tillage and delayed seeding of an early maturing variety. A late spring may make it impossible to shallow till the land before seeding. Under such conditions, the plough has proved to be the best implement to use in preparing stubble land for a grain crop.

There are arguments both for and against ploughless farming. Many farmers have tried ploughless farming and are going back to the plough. Shallow tillage and ploughless farming have proved best in the drier areas of the prairies, and their use is gradually increasing in areas favoured with more liberal rainfall. It is doubtful, however, if the plough will ever be discarded in areas having sufficient rainfall to produce forage crops and where sod has to be broken. The plough is still an essential implement in a diversified farming program.

No. 196. Thurs. April 13, 1944. Losses Caused by Rats

Some months ago the story was told in these pages of the damage caused by rats in India. It was in connection with the Calcutta famine. The destruction of ten per cent of India's grain crop was attributed to rats. Supreme importance was attached to the belief that all animals were entitled to their share of the earth's increase, with the result that rats, parrots, monkeys, wild pigs and jackals do immense damage.

We think differently in this country and we try to eliminate pests. Our experience, similar to that of India, is that of all animals the rat is the most undesirable. It is the most voracious destroyer of agricultural products, and no branch of agriculture is more open to attack by rats than the poultry industry. Rats undermine the foundations of poultry houses, invade, and over-run the interior, kill chickens, destroy eggs, and consume large quantities of expensive feeds. What they cannot eat, they spoil. Their presence, particularly at night, is a danger to the health of the hens by depriving them of much-needed rest, and what is worst of all, rats are carriers of deadly diseases.

Everybody knows that the elimination of rats is a very difficult undertaking owing to the rapidity with which rats breed. Killing rats is helpful, but rat-proofing is more important. Even with the best known means of destruction, hunting, trapping, gassing, and poison, some rats escape, and unless there is effective rat-proofing in the poultry house and all other farm buildings they come back. Unprotected feed supplies, whether in the feed room or in the hopper

in the pen, are a constant invitation to rats to return.

The use of concrete on floors and lower walls, metal flashings where required, and the covering of all necessary openings with wire screens are effective means of rat-proofing.

No. 197. Fri. April 14, 1944. - Commercial Failures

Commercial failures in general are a guide in picturizing the progress or otherwise of a people. When there are fewer bankruptcies than normal it means that there is more money around and that the man in business has more cash customers. There have been many commercial failures simply because in hard times the business man had to give credit and the risks proved his destruction. Perhaps he was too soft-hearted for his own good.

Well, so far as that angle is concerned, there are more people able to pay their way than probably ever was the case in Canadian story. Commercial failures seem to show that anyway. In 1942 there were 737 bankruptcies while in 1943 the drop was to 314, which was considerably more than 50 per cent.

This downgrade has persisted in 1944. During the first quarter of this year business failures were at a lower level than in the same period of any other year since the records were first tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The number of fatalities at 76 in the first quarter was a new low point and was the fifth consecutive decline.

Also the defaulted liabilities for the first three months were decidedly lower at \$1,075,000 as compared with \$2,062,000 for the first quarter of 1943.

No. 198. Sat. April 15, 1944. - Canada's First Treaty With China

Canada has concluded her first formal treaty with China which is a long step forward in Canada's international diplomacy. This treaty involves the relinquishment of extraterritorial rights and other special privileges which, under treaty provisions, Canada, together with other nations, has hitherto exercised in China.

The treaty is similar in its terms to the British extraterritorial treaty concluded on behalf of the United Kingdom, Northern Ireland and India on January 11, 1943, and to the United States treaty with China, concluded on the same day.

Upon the coming into force of the treaty, all international agreements which authorize any British or Canadian authority to exercise jurisdiction in China over Canadian nationals are abrogated. The Government of Canada agrees to co-operate with the Government of the Republic of China, to the extent that any Canadian interest may be involved, in arrangements for the abandonment by foreign Governments of special privileges hitherto held by them in Peiping, Shanghai, Amoy, Tientsin and Canton.

The relinquishment of extraterritorial rights does not affect existing rights of Canadian nationals with regard to real property in China. It is agreed that Canadian property in China will be subject to Chinese laws concern-

ing taxation and national defence. Real property held by Canadian nationals in China may not be alienated to the Government or nationals of a third country without the consent of the Government of China. The Chinese Government agrees to apply this restriction on alienation in an equitable manner, and undertakes to take over the property in question and pay adequate compensation therefor, if the right to transfer is refused.

Canadian nationals in China are to be accorded the right to travel, reside and carry on trade in China. Each country is to endeavour to accord to nationals of the other treatment not less favourable than that enjoyed by its own nationals in regard to legal proceedings, the administration of justice and the levying of taxes.

Consular officers of each country may reside in such places as are agreed on. They are to have the right to interview and to communicate with nationals of their country, are to be informed whenever any such nationals are under arrest, and may visit such nationals and receive communications from them.

The treaty provides that, not later than six months after the cessation of hostilities, the two Governments will enter into a comprehensive modern treaty of friendship, commerce, navigation and consular rights; meanwhile, questions affecting the rights of Canadian nationals in China and questions affecting the sovereignty of the Republic of China, which are not covered by this or previous treaties, will be decided in accordance with generally accepted principles of international law.

No. 199. Sun. April 16, 1944. - Hydro Electricity in Scotland

Scots in Canada, as well as all Canadians with our hydro-electric complex, will be interested in a report on a hydro-electric scheme for the industrial development of the Highlands, which has been forwarded by the Canadian trade commissioner. The scheme apparently has official approval, and a committee has been set up to safeguard the scenery and fishing interests of the country. Apparently many Canadians overseas have been taking an active interest in the development.

The experts have found that there is enough waterpower available in the North of Scotland to produce 6,274,000,000 units of electricity annually instead of the 4,000,000,000 previously estimated, enough to meet requirements until the end of this century.

By late autumn of this year the Board hopes to begin work on the site of its first construction scheme. Surveying and planning of a number of these developments are already well advanced, particularly in Argyll, Dumbartonshire, Invernessshire, Perthshire, and Ross and Cromarty.

The establishment of many light industries, particularly in the West of Scotland, has long been advocated. The Clyde Valley and adjacent areas in particular have been mainly dependent upon the heavy industries (coal, shipbuilding, marine and other heavy engineering, steel and iron) the prosperity of which has been largely dependent on exports to overseas markets. They are thus the first to feel the impact of a slump in world trade and the last to recover. The establishment in this area of more light industries, including light engineering, dependent mainly on the home market, would, with existing industries, provide a more balanced industrial structure, which would reduce unemployment in times of depression.

While the West of Scotland in particular has long been associated with the heavy industries, a number of light engineering industries have been successfully operated for many years. Typical products include commercial motor vehicles, binoculars, electric motors and switch gear, domestic hardware, laundry machinery, and sewing-machines.

No. 200. Mon. April 17, 1944. -- Canada as a Mercantile Nation

What a change has come over Canada in these years of war ! It seems like a great dream come true, yet we have scarcely realized the importance of it. Long ago Canada was a great maritime power, her clipper ships sailing the seven seas, her sailors known and liked in every important port of the world. Her shipbuilders went to other countries, particularly the United States where MacKay, the Nova Scotian, built many of the most famous ships that sailed. We lost out to other nations.

Now we are coming back fast. Read here what the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, has to say on the subject:

I feel very definitely that Canada should have a merchant marine fleet operating after the war to protect and foster our trade and to provide shipping requirements for national security. By that I do not mean that our cargo-carrying fleet should necessarily be a large and extensive one or that it must be operated by the government.

But Canada is now the third greatest trading nation and her ship-building industry has grown to such proportions during this war that we will find this country inevitably ranking also as one of the great maritime nations of the world. A factor contributing to this development of course is the almost certain elimination of Germany, Italy, and Japan from shipping competition for a long period to come.

Canada normally exports to world markets a high proportion of low-cost, heavy-bulk goods on which freight rates are of primary importance. The possession of a merchant marine by this country would ensure that Canada would be consulted, would have an effective voice in the formulation of international shipping control arrangements.

I am not trying to examine this complicated subject in detail, but I do wish to stress its importance and to invite candid and constructive study of the whole problem as one vital to Canada's status as a progressive commercial nation. We already have a large stake in our merchant marine. The value of cargo ships built in Canada has risen from \$1,700,000 in 1941 to over \$198,000,000 under the 1944 program. The number of Canadians employed in the shipbuilding industry has risen from 15,600 in 1941 to 79,000 in 1943.

I must emphasize, however, that any policy looking to the creation of a Canadian merchant navy should not be indifferent to the effect it may exercise upon the exchange position of countries that purchase Canadian products on a substantial scale.

As in the field of foreign trade in general, so in matters of shipping policy, the only wise or prudent policy is one based on fair competition. Reckless competition in merchant marine building and operation can be as ruinous as competition in a tariff war.

No. 201. Tues. April 18, 1944. - A Beneficent Organization

There is much of historical interest connected with the 40th Annual convention of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association to be held at Saskatoon, in June. It was in June forty years ago that the name "The Canadian Seed Growers' Association" first appeared. For the genesis of the Association one has to go back to the Christmastide of 1898, when the late Dr. J. W. Robertson, then Commissioner of Agriculture for Canada, was seated before a glowing grate fire in his home in Ottawa, watching his baby daughter playing on the rug. His thoughts went to the hard lot of less fortunate children on the farms and pictured the fight they would have when they reached manhood waging an unequal battle on prairie and bushland to gain a meagre harvest.

Seed at that time was where it could be got. Good seed, Dr. Robertson had always declared, was the basis of good crops and good harvests. At that moment in his home, he conceived the idea of teaching and encouraging boys and girls on the farm to grow better crops from better seed. His idea took definite shape in the following spring when he put aside a modest \$100 as prizes for boys and girls who collected the best 100 heads of wheat and barley on their fathers' farms. The response was so spontaneous and whole-hearted that Dr. Robertson determined to enlarge the idea. Money was needed for a larger plan, and the late Sir William Macdonald of Montreal at once donated \$10,000 when the subject was explained to him.

The competition thus made possible in 1900 was named the Macdonald-Robertson Seed Competition and became an extensive enterprise. In 1905, the name was changed to the Macdonald-Robertson Seed Growers' Association, and on June 15, 1904, the name was again changed to The Canadian Seed Growers' Association. Of the original 87 members, 26 attended the organization, or first, meeting of the C.S.G.A., as it soon began to be called. Of the 26 members, six are now alive.

At the present time the C.S.G.A. gives service to over 3,000 seed growers and has on its records more than 2,500 active members. The many advantages that have accrued to Canada through the C.S.G.A. seed and other policies are too many to recapitulate but it may be mentioned that in 1943, registration service was provided for registered seed, the highest quality seed obtainable, on 257 varieties of field and garden crops. The Head Office is in Ottawa.

No. 202. Wed. April 19, 1944. - Expanding Use of Plywood

Plywood is coming more and more into general use and the following taken from an English newspaper shows how extensive the market in the United Kingdom is becoming for Canadian production. It says:

Before the war the consumption of plywood was steadily growing, imports into the United Kingdom between 1932 and 1937 rising from about 5,000,000 to 15,000,000 cubic feet and, in view of the developments which have taken place during the war, a marked expansion in its use may confidently be expected in the future.

Bulk for bulk, laminated wood, by reason of its structure, is stronger than solid timber and is subject to less dimensional change from atmospheric conditions. Further, no sawdust and planer chips are produced in the manufacture of laminated boards, as the timber is almost invariably rotary cut or guillotined. In the process of laminating beams, however, from fairly large scantlings of sawn timber

for building or engineering construction, which must not be confused with the manufacture of sheet material, the sawdust produced represents a loss of material, but this loss is largely compensated by the gain in strength, while the dimensions of a beam of laminated timber, for example, carrying a given load are smaller than those of a beam of solid wood used for the same purpose. It is possible, indeed, to produce from the same volume of timber a section of laminated wood possessing double the strength of a solid section.

Again, when logs are converted into sawn timber, there is a wastage of 55 per cent, bark accounting for 13 per cent, sawdust for 13 per cent, slabs, edging, and trimming for 20 per cent, carelessness in manufacture for 2.5 per cent, and loss in seasoning for 6.5 per cent. By peeling or slicing the log into laminations, the wastage is reduced to 40 per cent. Of particular importance, too, is the fact that short lengths of timber can be used to produce laminations, and thereby an outlet is provided for grades and sizes of timber which are not popular in the timber trade.

The manufacture of laminated wood, however, calls for more labour than the production of sawn timber. It also requires skilled workmen. On the other hand, bent sections can be produced more quickly in moulded plywood than in solid wood. It is claimed, too, that moulded plywood can be tooled more cheaply and more speedily than metal, is comparatively free from fatigue, and weight for weight is stronger than metal.

Before the war, softwood, as a rule Douglas fir, was used in the United States and Canada to make plywood, birch and alder in Russia, Finland, and Poland, Gaboon mahogany and Obechi wood in France, Germany, and Czechoslovakia, beech in Yugoslavia, and figured oak and sen in Japan. During the war, production has been expanded in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

Of special importance in connection with the future development of the Colonial Empire is the suitability, now established, of hard woods for the manufacture of plywood. In a number of the colonies there are abundant resources of hardwoods, and it is well known in the trade that they have proved of great value during the present conflict -- for example, hardwood ply mills have been erected in West Africa and in Ceylon. In the interests of the colonies themselves, it is clearly preferable for them to export timber in the form of veneers or, where practicable, as plywood rather than as logs, and it may well be that the manufacture of the simpler forms of plywood will be developed in parts of the Colonial Empire after the war. As to the future of the plywood industry in the United Kingdom, it is highly probable that it will tend to concentrate on the production of the more specialized types and higher grades of laminated wood.

No. 203. Thurs. April 20, 1944. -- Rubber Rings for Canning

What about rubber rings for canning? Ever since the Japanese seized the principal source of natural rubber it has been an extremely scarce commodity. In order to provide sufficient for the fighting forces use in civilian manufacture has been curtailed. The technical officers of the Department of Munitions and Supply in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, the National Research Council, and the manufacturers have looked into the matter of rubber rings for canning jars and several months ago developed specifications which will provide satisfactory rings.

So far, technical difficulties have made it inadvisable to use synthetic rubber for this purpose. Experiments are being conducted and these difficulties may yet be overcome. Meanwhile, the highest grade reclaim obtainable is being used.

Last fall complaints were received and through the co-operation of housewives actual jars of fruit, sealers, rubber rings and screw tops were examined. All these exhibits were carefully tested, and in some cases investigators went into the homes and made tests on other cans of fruits and vegetables. As a result of these careful investigations, it was determined that only a fractional percentage of the spoilage could be attributed definitely to faulty rubber rings. There are many factors which enter into successful canning and often it is impossible to ascertain the precise reason for failure.

To assist women in employing the most modern home canning methods, the Dominion Department of Agriculture has issued a booklet entitled "Wartime Home Canning of Fruits and Vegetables" which can be obtained without charge from the Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

No. 204. Fri. April 21, 1944. - Weed Control in Lawns

There has rarely been a more conspicuous infestation of crab grass in lawns in some parts of Eastern Canada than appeared during the summer of 1943. The very wet season may have induced the germination of an unusual number of crab grass seeds. Whatever may have been the cause, many lawns were made unsightly by this grass.

Finger weed is another name, and a very descriptive one, for crab grass. When it comes into head, usually about the middle of July, its spikes, which are a purplish colour, spread out like the fingers of an open hand.

Crab grass or finger weed is an annual plant and like other annual weeds can be effectively controlled in lawns by dusting with calcium cyanamid at the rate of 6 pounds per 1000 square feet of lawn.

This herbicide should always be applied on wet foliage. It requires moisture to start its action. It is advisable to apply this dust late in the evening or early in the morning on grass which is wet with dew. In the absence of dew the lawn should be well watered before applying cyanamid.

Even distribution of the correct amount cannot be over-emphasized when applying cyanamid or any other herbicide to kill weeds in lawns. The aim, of course, is to kill the weeds and save the grass. Several species of weeds in lawns can be killed by certain herbicides without killing the grass, but this is possible only when great care is used in the application. This is an instance where a good thing can be overdone. Uneven distribution of cyanamid will make an unsightly lawn.

In order to secure uniform distribution it is advisable to apply cyanamid with a blower type of duster. The next best method is to shake the dust through three or four plies of cheese cloth.

As cyanamid is also a nitrogenous fertilizer it stimulates the growth of grass, and if nitrogen is lacking in the soil it gives the grass a healthier green colour.

No. 205. Sat. April 22, 1944. Nine Year Old Canned Mackerel Good

Nine years after the fish had gone into the tins, canned mackerel which had been stored at room temperature were examined by the Atlantic Canned Fish Inspection Laboratory, conducted at Halifax by the Dominion Department of Fisheries, and were found "perfectly edible". And nine years from sea to table is quite a length of time !

No householder would keep food on hand for anything like as long as nine years but the case of these canned mackerel will interest anybody who has wondered whether commercially canned fish may be kept for an extended time and still remain good. On that point of lay conjecture, the federal laboratory says that canned fish, if sterile, should remain fit for use even if stored indefinitely, though that is not to say that the laboratory means that there would never be any deterioration at all. Some kinds of canned fish do undergo deteriorative changes if held long in storage, the laboratory people say, but the changes are in appearance and flavour, and the fish remain fit for human consumption.

Of course, if tinned fish held in storage had, by any chance, not been properly processed in the first place, and the can contents were not sterile, spoilage would take place. The best storage methods in the world could not make a poor product into a good one.

Incidentally, anybody intending to hold canned fish in storage for a long period should keep two points in mind. In order to restrict deteriorative changes to a minimum, says an inspector on the laboratory staff, the fish should be held at the lowest possible temperature above freezing and, second, it should be held in a dry atmosphere so that rusting of the can exterior may be avoided.

No. 206. Sun. Apr. 23, 1944. The Feeding of Europe

"Here is bread which strengtheneth man's heart and therefore called the staff of life," wrote Matthew Henry in the 17th century. These words bear a special significance to the millions of people whose fertile grain fields have fallen into the hands of the enemy. As a result many are going without bread. On the eve of the invasion which it is hoped will liberate Europe from the Nazis and greatly enlarge the flow of relief food shipments, the wheat supply position is of major importance.

The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Act estimates that post-war rehabilitation of Europe will require shipments from all sources of 45 million tons of foodstuffs, feeds, oils, fats, chemicals, fertilizers, rubber, wood, paper, hides, leather, clothing, coal, metals, minerals, machinery, vehicles, seeds, drugs and hospital supplies. Present indications are that Canada's major contribution will be food, particularly wheat. Canadian wheat makes excellent flour.

At the present time a forty per cent reduction in the Canadian wheat carry-over is in prospect for July 31, and the outcome of the 1944 harvest is dependent almost entirely on rainfall received during the spring and summer months. Production of an average crop on the Prairies this year, together with the prospective carry-over at the end of July, would provide sufficient wheat for all purposes during the crop year 1944-45 and leave a sizeable reserve stock on July 31, 1945.

The winter wheat crop in the United States was seeded under most unfavourable moisture conditions but spring rains have been bountiful and prospects for the

1944 winter wheat harvest are now bright. The official estimate of production was 662,000,000 bushels. This is approximately 132,000,000 bushels more than was harvested in 1943.

Crop news from Europe, sketchy though it is, continues to reflect favourable conditions in most countries. The exceptions are Portugal, Spain and parts of the Balkans, where drought and delayed spring seeding have reduced prospects. The permanent damage to crops will place both countries on a basis of substantial imports during the next crop year. Roumania appears to have the least promising prospects of the Balkan group.

The crop outlook in the United Kingdom is quite promising although the wheat acreage is expected to be smaller than it was in 1943. The wheat acreage objective of 700,000 acres has not been attained in Eire, latest reports indicating no change from the 507,000 acres planted for the 1943 harvest. India's wheat crop is now estimated at 387,000,000 bushels compared with almost 410,000,000 last year, while the wheat crop in New Zealand is reported to be 9,630,000 bushels compared with 7,400,000 a year ago. Australian and Argentine farmers are now planting their new wheat crops and in both countries an increase in acreage is expected.

No. 207. Mon. April 24, 1944. - Bread Not Rationed Here

It would be difficult to imagine the average Canadian family sitting down to dinner without bread on the table, but such is the case in many sections of Europe where bread rationing has been very stringent, and the bread that is procurable is of very inferior quality. Although certain foods have been rationed in Canada, such as sugar, condensed milk, tea and coffee, there is no shortage of bread. Our golden fields of western wheat assure an ample supply.

In Europe, potato flour, barley meal and other ingredients have been made to supplement the wheat flour supply and quality standards have fallen as a consequence. Some of the occupied countries, and particularly Belgium, Norway and Greece, have suffered considerable hardship, but some relief has been afforded the Greek people by the gift of 500,000 bushels of Canadian wheat monthly.

Bakeries all across the Dominion produced 1,153,839,000 pounds of bread in 1942. On this basis the average Canadian consumed 99 pounds in 1942 - the heaviest annual consumption on record. This was an increase of 11 pounds over 1939. During the 14 years preceding the outbreak of war the average Canadian consumed an annual average of 86½ pounds of bread.

Due to the restrictions in the use of sugar by the Canadian bakery trade the quantity used in 1942 declined by 8,109,000 pounds, in spite of an increase of 18 per cent in the value of pies, cakes and pastries produced. To offset this deficiency in some measure, larger quantities of substitute materials were used. For example, the quantity of glucose used increased from 584,000 pounds in 1941 to 2,111,000 in 1942. In addition to this bakers used 775,000 pounds of corn syrup and 512,000 pounds of honey.

The total value of products made by the Canadian bread and other bakery products industry in 1942 was \$104,089,000, including bread to the value of \$62,863,000; pies, cakes, cookies and pastries, \$32,744,000; and buns \$7,411,000.

No. 208. Tues. April 25, 1944. - Statistics Go to War - 1.

In Canada's capital is a large office building which houses some 1,100 persons employed in gathering and interpreting statistics and compiling great resources of pertinent facts from them. This is the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, commonly and rather affectionately referred to in Ottawa as "D.B.S." Whatever the information sought - whether it be the number of persons who claim Irish origin, the amount of milk consumed daily by each Canadian, or figures on the national income - D.B.S. can give it, either immediately or on short order.

The average citizen answers the questions put to him once in 10 years by the census taker and little realizes what happens to his answers and to those of 11,500,000 other Canadians, yet the bureau covers most of the social and economic aspects of his national life. Under its roof are compiled the quinquennial as well as the familiar decennial census, the annual industrial census including forestry, fisheries, mining and manufacturing; external trade statistics, social analyses, unemployment insurance, balance of international payments and capital movements, national income, institutions, criminal statistics, transportation and public utilities, prices, including retail, wholesale and cost of living; merchandising, government finance, construction, education, agriculture and vital statistics, etc.

Twenty-one years of comprehensive statistical development since the passing of the Statistics Act in 1918, which established the Bureau of Statistics, placed Canada at the outbreak of war in 1939 in an infinitely better position than in World War I in the matter of information readily available as a guide to policy in the conduct of the war. Although Marshall Foch's statement that statistics won the last war is undoubtedly an exaggeration, statistics have been an indispensable factor in the present war effort. Admittedly Canada's organization for the present war is much superior to that for the last one. Economic and financial controls have been instituted which were not possible then. These permit the nation to organize for an all-out effort and are aimed, in part, to prevent some of the disastrous after-effects of World War I - such as inflation.

Since war began, the functions of government in Canada have increased enormously, so that there are now few businesses in the country and few individuals who are not affected in some way by the far-reaching system of government control. For this control to be exercised wisely and efficiently, so that Canada may make its maximum effort in this total war, facts and more facts on a great variety of subjects are in constant and urgent demand. The function of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics is to supply most of these facts.

The vast amount of data existing in the Bureau has been utilized by every department and agency of the government engaged in directing the war effort, and there also has been an increased demand during the war from non-war departments and from the general public. To meet these increasing demands the Bureau has had to reorganize the work of many of its branches. Apart from the statistical data furnished, it has been able to assist war departments by lending the services of trained statisticians to do special jobs or to take charge of their statistical work.

+ This and the following five facts are taken from the monthly magazine "Canada at War" published by the Wartime Information Board.

No. 209. Wed. April 26, 1944. — Statistics Go to War 2

One of the first special war tasks undertaken by the Bureau was the compilation of the National Registration taken in 1940. This compilation, by the census branch of the Bureau, was made available in a readily usable form from the individual registration cards covering nearly 8,000,000 adults. It included analyses by racial origin, birthplace, nationality and occupation and supplied interested departments with some 1,800,000 names and addresses of persons between the ages of 16 and 69 possessing special skill and available for employment in war industries.

The question of manpower is of paramount importance in wartime; hence the 1941 census of population was used extensively to furnish information on this subject to interested war departments. For example, special tabulations were made to supply the directorate of recruiting of the army, directorate of manning of the air force, and National Selective Service with information on age, occupation, industry and employment status of the population by military districts and R.C.A.F. recruiting areas. This included data on the education and family responsibilities, etc., of women. National War Services and later National Selective Service required data on the ages of the population for guidance concerning mobilization. Selective Service was supplied with compilations on occupations, industries, earnings, etc., to assist in reorganizing the civilian population for the total war effort. The Department of National Defence was given information showing by districts the location of the foreign-born population, together with other data, such as occupations.

Other phases of census data were also urgently required in connection with the war effort. Preliminary tabulations on the earnings of wage earners were made to assist the war finance program. Special tables were prepared for the Reconstruction Committee on the subject of occupations, dwellings, and households. The Demobilization and Rehabilitation Committee required information to assist in the demobilization of the forces after the war.

Cost-of-living statistics have attained much prominence. In 1938 the Bureau made a special cost-of-living survey on the basis of which a new index was constructed. Actual family budgets collected in it furnished the materials for a scientific weighting system. The new index became the official measure of changes in the cost-of-living in Canada, and when the government's labour policy was instituted the index became the basis on which the cost-of-living bonus was calculated.

Because of the importance which this index occupied in the price stabilization scheme and public mind, the prices staff was increased considerably to achieve the highest possible degree of accuracy in the collection and compilation of the basic data. In addition, statistical offices were opened up in several principal cities for the purpose of checking schedules of prices furnished by reporting firms.

The merchandising statistics branch of the Bureau took the second complete decennial census of wholesale and retail trade, results of which are now being published. It also covers this field in monthly and annual reports.

When the Wartime Prices and Trade Board decided to license retail, wholesale and manufacturing establishments, it requested the assistance of the merchandising statistics staff of the Bureau as having expert knowledge of the field. This licensing scheme occupied the time of a large section of the Bureau's regular staff for six months, and 350,000 firms were licensed.

There was set up eventually for the Prices Board a mailing list (on addressograph plates) classified by "kind of business" and so coded and filed that firms selling certain groups of commodities or particular commodities could be circularized. A machine-room was established containing graphotype, addressograph, folding, inserting and sealing machines. Since this organization was set up there have been mailed for the Prices Board from 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 pieces of mail a month, consisting of orders, instructions and general information vital to the carrying out of price control. As licensed firms have to report change of address the lists are kept up to date. When the work was organized on a routine basis it was taken over by the Prices Board's officers, though a nucleus of Bureau staff was lent to the board to assist. Much use has been made by other departments of the lists and mailing facilities of the licensing division. Thus this organization has made economies possible because it centralizes the distribution of an enormous amount of information.

No. 210. Thurs. April 27, 1944. -- Statistics Go to War -- 3

Balance of international payments statistics, including statistics of capital movements, tourist trade, etc., are of vital importance for the administration of foreign exchange, and since the establishment of the Foreign Exchange Control Board this branch of the Bureau has worked in close co-operation with it. Some of its staff now work in the board's premises, where the mutual interests of both the board and the Bureau can best be served.

Heavy demands have been made on the industrial census branches of the Bureau. The mining, metallurgical and chemical branch has worked in close co-operation with various controllers in the Department of Munitions and Supply. Special surveys for war purposes included one concerning the supply, consumption and stocks of the principal metals and minerals used by Canadian industry. Another was a war materials survey which covered the consumption and stocks of the most important minerals, ferro-alloys, chemicals, oils and waxes.

Because of the critical labour situation in the coal mines, a system of reporting employment statistics weekly by telegram was instituted. A large number of special monthly reports are supplied to various war agencies covering production and, in some cases, shipments of metals and metal products.

War demands have changed the food situation from one of apparent abundance to one of actual scarcity. The Bureau's agricultural statistics branch was called on to develop more frequent and more comprehensive reports on many food commodities. The importance of coarse grains as feed for expanded livestock production led to the issuing of quarterly reports on the coarse grains situation. The production of flax seed was expanded greatly to meet wartime demands for oil, and the oil and fats administration of the Prices Board was supplied with information on the subject. To meet the needs of the Bacon Board, the Dairy Products Board and the food administration of the Prices Board, the Bureau's information on the production and distribution of livestock products has been augmented and speeded up. Special work has also been undertaken for the Prices Board in regard to cold storage statistics.

At the outbreak of war, statistics were being compiled on the cash income from the sale of farm products on an annual basis. Requirements of the Department of Finance, the National War Finance Committee and the Department of National Revenue (income tax) necessitated the supplying of these figures on a monthly basis.

As was to be expected, the Bureau's external trade branch has had to make many special investigations, requiring the personal scrutiny of thousands of customs entries and invoices, for war agencies such as the Prices Board. Shortly after the outbreak of war the publication of trade reports was prohibited. Nevertheless, trade information was urgently required by various war and planning boards in Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom. To meet this need it was arranged eventually to issue a monthly rotoprint report on trade of Canada. A report on imports is ready 28 days after the end of the month and on exports within 15 days. Because of censorship regulations these reports are available on a confidential basis to an official list of only 75.

In the Bureau's transportation and public utilities branch special reports had to be devised by the shipping priorities committee on vessels and cargoes. A record of vessels departing from Canadian ports in convoy was instituted. Many additional enquiries have been answered for war boards and other war units. Monthly reports are being made to the transport controller on car loadings.

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The Bureau's employment statistics branch also has experienced a heavy increase in the scope of its work. Prior to 1939 statistics of employment were collected wholly for the purpose of indicating current trends in industries and geographical areas. Since then it has been necessary to provide entirely different specific and detailed information. On these data have been based important decisions connected with wartime policies - such as location of wartime industries, the transfer of labour to areas of special stringency, the curtailment of non-essential production, the determination of the extent of rationing required for certain commodities in short supply, the necessity for the imposition of rent control in certain areas, the granting of wage increases under wage-freezing regulations, etc. Thus the statistics, while continuing to function as a barometric, have been developed and adapted so as to serve also in an administrative capacity.

In addition this branch has experienced a very heavy demand for special statistical compilations for war departments and boards. Special confidential data are furnished monthly for more than 2,000 individual establishments to the Department of Munitions and Supply and the Department of Labour. Special tabulations also are made regularly for various branches of the Prices Board and Department of Munitions and Supply, etc.

It was generally recognized before the war that statistics of earnings were required to complement the current statistics of employment. In 1940 the collection of the payroll data was requested by the Departments of Labour and Munitions and Supply as a war measure in order to obtain information essential in the wartime regulations of wages and prices and in the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes. The collection of these statistics of payrolls more than doubled the work of the employment statistics branch. Some idea of the increase in the work of this branch is furnished by the fact that, though the number of reports tabulated monthly has increased only by 16%, yet the number of indexes calculated monthly rose from 200 in 1939 to 1,000 in 1943. Weekly per capita earnings are published monthly for more than 70 industries for the Dominion, for economic areas and for leading cities.

A special enquiry was made on sex distribution to furnish needed information for wartime departments. The press described the results as "the most

comprehensive survey yet made of the extent of the female invasion of industry."

Since the outbreak of war, the Bureau's financial statistics branch has been reorganized along very comprehensive lines, in order to bring its statistics of Dominion, municipal and provincial finance into line with those collected for the Sirois Report. This work, while not complete, is far advanced, and is of great importance from the point of view of post-war reconstruction and rehabilitation. When the war ends, the need for a clear and up-to-date statistical picture of debt structures and financial requirements is obvious.

Very heavy demands have been made on the education statistics branch of the Bureau as a direct result of the war. The naval education service, the education section of the R.C.A.F. directorate of personnel, directorate of army education and the Canadian Legion Educational Services all have drawn heavily on the time of the branch for assistance in organizing educational programs for the armed forces.

The interest of departments or services of the Dominion government in the work of schools has multiplied many times over since the war began, and much of the time of the education branch has been occupied in satisfying their enquiries. Calls from the armed services take first place. The educational qualifications of men in this war are a matter of first importance, and requests are continually coming for information, for example, on the number of men in the population of military age with specified educational qualifications or for a list of educational institutions in certain categories. These kinds of requests increase with the growing number of wartime controls and with the increased planning for the post-war period of rehabilitation and reconstruction.

A special handbook of Canadian universities and schools has just been completed to bring before students in Central and South America educational opportunities offered in Canada. Since European universities and schools are not available to such students at present, much increased interest has been shown in Canadian educational facilities. At present the branch is engaged in preparing a joint Canadian University Calendar (correspondence courses) for prisoners of war, with credits interchangeable among all universities. A similar task was undertaken previously for high school courses.

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The social analysis branch of the Bureau has undertaken some large, special tasks directly associated with the war effort. When war broke out, studies regarding reserves of labour and its utilization were instituted. Subsequently the enumeration of the so-called "corpus" of the Unemployment Insurance Commission was undertaken by the Bureau. This involved gathering data respecting each person under the coverage of the act - showing personal attributes, such as age, sex, industry, occupation and place of work.

These statistics were valuable in the initial stages of setting up manpower control. Further information of a very detailed and comprehensive character was required. It was decided not to set up a new organization to deal with this need but to build on the foundations already laid down in the Bureau respecting the "corpus" of the Unemployment Insurance Act. In co-operation with the Department of Labour, schedules were drawn up and administrative machinery, already existing in connection with the administration of unemployment insurance, was utilized.

Some 3,000,000 forms were received at the Bureau and compilations made respecting every employer in Canada. These have been used by both the Prices Board and National Selective Service. The compilations include data answering numerous questions concerning the numbers in each occupation and each industry in Canada. At the same time data were collected regarding dependents, language spoken, marital status, nationality, military service, physical defects, and other personal characteristics, covering more than 3,000,000 persons, both insured and non-insured. The work involved employment at the Bureau of Statistics of a maximum staff of 600 during the summer of 1942. In addition to this work on manpower inventory, the branch prepared many estimates and statements for the air force, army and National War Services Department.

The business statistics branch in its monthly review of business statistics and various press releases has kept the public informed as to the growing volume of production which has characterized the war years. The greatest task has been the gathering and compiling of information on the national income. The urgent need for the most comprehensive and accurate figures of national income which can be obtained - to assist in the solution of war problems and to furnish a background for reconstruction problems - has directed the activities of the branch in a large measure. Considerable progress has been made in this difficult field.

The war brought greatly increased responsibilities to the Canada Year Book branch of the Bureau. This publication mirrors current changes in the economic and social structure of Canada. The growth of the wartime functions of government and wartime controls inevitably increased the work of the editorial staff in maintaining contact with all national activities from Halifax to Vancouver.

A special task was assigned to the Year Book division to meet war needs in connection with the 1941 census. This involved the charting and mapping of the census data to serve as a basis for the study of post-war rehabilitation projects, as well as for general research. A specially trained staff had to be created for carrying out this highly technical task. Those maps which have been completed to date have been used in research projects, special reports and in committee work connected with current war and post-war plans.

There has been a marked development in the demand for the Official Handbook ("Canada" series) since the war. In 1941-42 a special edition of 25,000 copies in Spanish, for distribution in Latin-America, was produced. Its primary purpose was to stimulate trade between Canada and South America - this being one of the few remaining sections of the globe where channels of trade remain relatively open. The success of this edition in advertising Canada throughout Spanish America was so great that a demand arose for an edition in Portuguese for distribution in Brazil and contiguous countries. Fifteen thousand copies were printed in 1942-43.

Another special edition was printed in 1941-42 at the request of the Royal Air Force for distribution to members of the force before leaving England for training in Canada. This proved to be so valuable that in the next year the order was renewed for 5,000 copies.

For wartime publicity purposes, the Official Handbook has been of great value for distribution in the United Kingdom and United States.

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Many other special wartime undertakings fell to the lot of the Bureau. In the autumn of 1942 it was asked to undertake a manpower accounting and the organization of statistical records in the 13 divisions of National War Services. When mobilization was taken over by selective service the work was continued. It required that members of the Bureau's staff be sent as supervisors to the offices of divisional registrars throughout Canada. It was completed in the fall of 1943, and each new division is now supplying monthly statistics to the director of mobilization in Ottawa on the new system. Since they furnish an up-to-date picture of the situation in each mobilization division they are used as a basis for formulating policy.

To the recent report on health insurance prepared by the Special Committee on Social Insurance for the Department of Pensions and National Health the Bureau was called on to make a large contribution.

It now rests upon the Bureau to prepare itself for the statistical needs of the post-war period. If a condition of full employment is to be the objective, statistics of the highest quality will be required as a guide to policy. Some improvements in the Bureau's organization are planned so that even more complete and accurate statistics can be furnished in certain fields than there are at present. These will include a more thorough and comprehensive survey of the national income, a greater integration and analysis of existing statistics and improvements in statistical technique. It is hoped that the use of the sampling method can be extended considerably. This would permit of the filling in of certain statistical gaps which cannot be accomplished by complete enumeration because of the cost. It would also make possible some economies in the collection of existing statistics.

An inter-departmental committee on statistics has been set up recently at the instance of the Bureau so that the statistical needs of the various government departments and agencies may be discussed. The question of statistical units in war departments is being studied with a view to the Bureau using the information collected by them and to centralizing in the Bureau the collection of their information, the continuance of which may be necessary after the war.

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