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**WARTIME ACTIVITIES
OF THE
BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

1940?

WAR TIME ACTIVITIES

- of the -

BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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INTRODUCTION

It will be generally admitted that 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 in the last War. These permit us to organize for an all-out effort, and are aimed, in part, to prevent some of the disastrous after-effects of World War No. 1 - such as inflation. The fact that Canadian statistics have become so highly developed since 1918 is one factor - and an important one - which has made this achievement possible.

Since this War began, the functions of Government in Canada have increased to an unprecedented extent, so that there are now few businesses in the country - and, indeed, few individuals - who are not affected in some way by our far-reaching system of Government control. For this control to be exercised wisely and efficiently, so that Canada may make her 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.

There is no branch of the Bureau which has not been called upon during these War years to bear an increasingly heavy burden in supplying statistical data for use in the War effort. Not only has a large number of statistical enquiries been instituted which break new ground, but the regular peace-time investigations have been given a new orientation; so that it may be said that, in a very large measure, our statistics have been reorganized to meet wartime needs. Indeed, the Bureau may be truthfully described as a WAR UNIT - as will be seen from the description which follows of its WARTIME ACTIVITIES.

THE CENSUS

The War brought an increased and urgent demand for Census data. In Washington, the Bureau of the Census was declared a War Department prior to the United States becoming an active participant. In Canada, the Census Branch of the Bureau of Statistics has been inundated with requests for Census data - with War needs in mind - from many Departments of the Dominion Government, Provincial and Municipal Governments, Manufacturers, Universities, etc.

Listed below are some of the more important War jobs accomplished by the Branch:

1. Planning and carrying out a series of Census tabulations and preparation of tables and bulletins designed to supply the Directorate of Recruiting of the Army, Directorate of Manning of the Airforce, and National Selective Service, with basic Census data on Manpower. These tabulations contained information on age, occupation, industry, employment status, with further details for women, with regard to education, family responsibility, etc., by military districts and R.C.A.F. recruiting areas.
2. A preliminary tabulation and report on earnings of wage earners from the 1941 Census was made at the request of the Department of Finance in connection with the War Finance Program. A more elaborate special tabulation of earnings by occupation was made for the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.
3. Assistance was given the R.C.A.F. in devising a code for civilian occupations of enlisted men, in carrying out a "Survey of Scientific Laboratories in Wartime."
4. A classification was made of population and of workers in various branches of industry at the request of a group of manufacturers in the Rubber industry, to assist them in estimating the amount of Rubber required in the production of essential civilian needs in wartime.
5. Special tables were prepared for the Reconstruction Committee on occupations, dwellings and households.

THE CENSUS - Cont'd

6. Tabulations for National War Services (and, later, National Selective Service) on the ages of population, for guidance concerning mobilization.
7. Tabulations for National Selective Service on occupations, industries, earnings, etc., to assist in reorganizing the civilian population for the total war effort.
8. The results of the Agricultural Census were urgently required by National Selective Service, so as to make it unnecessary to take a new registration of farmers and agricultural labour. At the same time, this work had to be held up to some extent, in order to supply the Demobilization and Rehabilitation Committee with information to assist in the demobilization of the Forces after the War. Lists of abandoned farms, and of elderly farmers who have no obvious successors, have been compiled, to facilitate the placement of returning soldiers who desire to settle on the land.
9. In order to meet some of the urgent demands for information for War purposes, many tabulations had to be made on a sample basis. For example, a special compilation by provinces, on a sample basis, was made of the earnings of the wage earners gathered in the Census.
10. The Department of National Defence was supplied with information, showing, by districts, the location of the foreign-born population, together with other data, such as occupations.
11. Lists of farmers, who keep sheep, were prepared for the Department of Agriculture - for the purpose of urging them to keep more sheep and add to the Wool crop.
12. Early in the War the Census Branch had to undertake a very large task of a special nature. National Registration, taken in August 1940, was compiled in the Census Branch. In order to accommodate the large staff required, a new wing was added to the Bureau building. It compiled in a readily usable form - from the individual registration cards numbering nearly 8,000,000 adults - analyses by racial origin, birthplace, nationality and occupation, besides supplying the Government with some 1,800,000 names and addresses of persons between the ages of 16 and 69 possessing special skill and available for

THE CENSUS - Cont'd

employment in War industries. It also arranged the 8,000,000 cards in alphabetical order.

INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

This Branch contains three Divisions - all of which have had greatly increased duties and responsibilities connected with the War effort.

Prices and Cost of Living

Shortly before the War, the Bureau made a special Cost-of-Living Survey, on the basis of which a new index of the cost of living was constructed. Actual family budgets collected in the Survey furnished the materials for a scientific weighting system. The new index superseded the one previously constructed by the Bureau and another which had been published by the Department of Labour. It became the official index of the cost of living in Canada; and, when the Government's labour policy was instituted, the index became the basis upon which cost-of-living bonus was calculated.

Owing to the importance which this index occupies in the price stabilization scheme, and to the position which it fills in the public mind, the prices staff was augmented considerably to attain 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.

It was necessary, also, to establish close co-operation with the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, which makes a great deal of use of the information collected in the Branch. Special statistics have been collected for the Board. The Chief of this division has acted as technical adviser to the Board's Research and Statistics Division.

INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH - Cont'dCensus of Merchandising and Service Establishments

This Division of the Internal Trade Branch took the first complete Census of Wholesale and Retail trade - the results of which were published in Volumes X and XI of the 1931 Census. 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 staff of the Bureau, since this staff had expert knowledge of the field. This licensing scheme occupied the time of a large proportion of the total staff of the Internal Trade Branch for six months, and about 150 extra clerks. 350,000 firms were licensed. This work entailed the following steps:

1. Mailing of application forms.
2. Editing them when returned.
3. Coding according to a 700-item code system.
4. Allotting licence numbers.
5. Making addressograph plates.
6. Mailing of licences and decalcomanias.
7. Sorting plates in trays - according to "kind of business" and "commodity" codes.

There was thus set up for the the Board a mailing list (on addressograph plates) classified by "kind of business," and so coded, and filed, that firms selling certain lines of particular commodities could be circularized. A machine-room was also set up, containing graphotype, addressograph, folding, and inserting and sealing machines. Since this organization has been created, there has been mailed for the Board from one to two million pieces of mail per month. As licensed firms have to report change of address, the lists are kept up-to-date.

The volume of this work for the Board was so great that a new building (Temporary Building No.7) was erected adjacent to the Bureau.

It has become known to other Government Departments that these addressograph plates are in existence; consequently, they are now being used for mailing data from other Departments, as well. They have been used for War Savings Certificate campaigns, for mailing circulars and other material for the Department of Munitions

INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH - Cont'dCensus of Merchandising and Service Establishments - Cont'd

and Supply, and others. Thus, the creation of this organization has been a real economy, since it saves much labour, and centralizes a good deal of distribution.

There have been several other developments in the Merchandising Division of Internal Trade due to the War. The Coal situation in Canada gave rise to a need for statistics which were not available when War started. This information is required by both Munitions and Supply and the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. A special section (consisting of 28 clerks) has been created - which compiles statistics of Coal stocks, Consumption, and Prices. It covers the Wholesale and Retail trade, Industrial Consumption, and Dock Operators. These statistics are co-ordinated with those collected in other branches of the Bureau, and are the basis of numerous statements furnished to the Coal Control and Administration.

The Merchandising Division also instituted the collection of statistics of Hides and Skins, and Leather, and obtains inventories from Retail stores. Both these activities are for the benefit of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

There has been an urgent demand, on the part of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, for the results of the 1941 Census of Merchandising. These have been rushed along with all possible speed, and are being compiled in much shorter time than they were in connection with the 1931 Census.

Balance of Payments Division

This Division compiles, in peace time, the Canadian Balance of International Payments - including statistics of Capital Movements, Tourist Trade, and so on.

These statistics are of vital importance for the administration of foreign exchange, and, since the creation of the Foreign Exchange Control Board, this Division of the Bureau has worked in very close co-operation with it. Some of our staff now work in the Board's premises, where the mutual interests of both the Board and the Bureau can be best served.

One of the innumerable effects of the War on Canada has been to achieve improvements in certain statistical fields, which - though long overdue - might have been delayed for a considerable time but for the wartime urgency for the most accurate information obtainable. Statistics connected with the Balance of

INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH - Cont'dBalance of Payments Division - Cont'd

International Payments have been affected by these circumstances to a marked degree.

Great improvements have been made in the statistical recording of two of the most important items which appear in the Balance of Payments Statement - viz., those relating to Tourists and Foreign Trade. As a result of the recommendations of an Inter-Departmental Committee, the co-operation of the Customs Division of the Department of National Revenue, and the Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources, the following developments took place.

Statistics of Imports and Exports

Customs forms B1 and B13 were changed in such a manner as to provide that, for Exports, the actual amount of money received, or to be received, for Exports (exclusive of freight and other charges) was to be declared. This permits of a more accurate record of the monetary value of Canadian exports. Previously, there was lack of uniformity in the basis of declared values - thus making the valuation unsuitable for balance-of-payments purposes.

For Imports, the form B1 was changed so that the actual amount of money paid for Imports could be ascertained. For balance-of-payments purposes, previous figures included over-valuations.

Tourist Statistics

A reorganization took place in the collection of Tourist statistics. The work of compilation, hitherto carried on at customs ports, was transferred to the Bureau of Statistics. Methods of securing samples of tourist expenditures were so improved that, for some important parts of the field, samples representing as much as 90 per cent of tourists were obtained. This compares with samples of around 1 per cent obtained previously.

A new Tourist section was set up in the Bureau for this work.

VITAL STATISTICS BRANCH

Many extra demands have been made on our Vital Statistics Branch. The information gathered by it on Communicable Diseases has been made more effective in the weekly reports on that subject. The increased hazard of communicable diseases, caused by the abnormal concentration of population in the large cities and towns - which if left uncontrolled might seriously affect the work of National defence, both in the Armed Forces and in Industry - led the Vital Statistics Branch, for the duration of the War at least, to undertake the analysis of the week's reporting within twelve days of the close of the week. Charts are maintained which enable the Bureau to locate, quickly, any marked increase in the evidence of disease. In cases which justify prompt epidemiological investigation and control, the information is telephoned immediately to the Department of Pensions and National Health for their information and action.

Through the courtesy of the Surgeon-General of the United States Public Health Service, an exchange service (by airmail) of the evidence of communicable disease was instituted between the United States and Canada. This important information is supplied to the Province, thereby affording the Provincial authorities first-hand information as to diseases which might spread across Provincial borders.

The question of overseas casualties is one of great importance. Early in 1940 arrangements were completed, whereby the three services of the Department of National Defence undertook to report all deaths of personnel on Active Service, outside of Canada, to our Vital Statistics Branch.

Information is supplied (in duplicate) on the death registration forms of the Province of Residence of the deceased prior to enlistment. Both forms are then sent to the Province for completion. Certain information required for statistical purposes is not contained in the files of the Department of National Defence; and, as the Provinces desired to obtain particulars regarding their own residents, the Registration officials undertook to secure the missing particulars from the next of kin.

VITAL STATISTICS BRANCH - Cont'd

The Provincial Registrar retains one copy of the completed death registration for his files, and returns the other to the Bureau for the purpose of the Dominion tabulation. A special tabulation is made by the Bureau - the data not being included in the regular tables of Vital Statistics.

The Vital Statistics Branch has co-operated with the National Selective officials of the Department of Labour in the maintenance of the National Registration of 1940. One Province in particular found it impossible to supply the personal particulars concerning deceased persons over sixteen years of age. This procedure is necessary to the effectiveness of the National Registration, in order that the active records of such persons may be removed from the record. With the consent of the Province, the following information was made available on a special card covering each death:

Name of deceased.
Address at time of death.
Date of birth.
Age.
Sex.
Marital status.

The Branch is co-operating with the Department of Pensions and National Health, and the Department of National Defence, in setting up the record and statistical system for Canada's combined active service and civilian venereal disease programme.

Sections of the Vital Statistics Instruction Manual - which is in course of preparation - have been used extensively by the three branches of the Department of National Defence, Medical assignment and Procurement Board, National Selective Service, and other Departments directly concerned with the War effort.

The revised edition of the Physician's Pocket Reference to the International List of Causes of Death was distributed to the medical staff of the three branches of the Department of National Defence.

VITAL STATISTICS BRANCH - Cont'd

During the past two years an immense amount of material has been supplied to the medical services of the Army, Navy, Air Force, the Medical Assignment and Procurement Board, the Committee on Reconstruction, and the Committee on Rehabilitation, through the medium of special tabulations and reports of Vital and Public Health Statistics.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS BRANCH

The War has changed the food situation from one of apparent abundance to one of actual scarcity, and the emphasis which is now being placed on the food front has resulted in a sharp increase in the demand for accurate and timely statistics of all phases of agricultural production. This demand has tended to increase more rapidly in recent months as a wider range of foodstuffs comes under Government regulations and control. Fortunately, the Agricultural Branch was organized and developed to meet most of these requirements, but in some instances it has been necessary to speed up and add to the work and to place more emphasis on certain statistics than had previously been the case.

In the field of grain statistics, wheat has been the problem for several years before the outbreak of War, and comprehensive statistics were being prepared and published in this connection. Somewhat less attention had been given to coarse grains and flax, and, as the importance of these crops has increased greatly as sources of feed for the expanded live stock production, there was commenced - in the Fall of 1941 - the issuing of a quarterly report on the coarse grains situation. In connection with flaxseed, the production of this product has been greatly expanded to meet wartime demands for oil, and the Oils and Fats Administration has been supplied with much information in this regard.

In the field of live stock and animal products statistics, this Branch has been called upon to supply the Bacon Board and the Food Administration of the

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS BRANCH - Cont'd

Wartime Prices and Trade Board with much information in connection with the production and distribution of live stock products. These Boards are naturally desirous of securing the most up-to-date information at the earliest possible moment. This has necessitated a speeding up of the compilations of our semi-annual live stock surveys, and the keeping up-to-date of our figures on the inter-provincial movements of live stock and live stock products.

Our dairying statistics have been in constant demand from the Food Administration and the Dairy Products Board, and a large number of special compilations have been necessary to meet their requests. Similarly, in the field of cold-storage statistics, we have been obliged to undertake special work to satisfy the requirements of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board and the Dairy Products Board.

The regular work on the collection and compilation of Fruit and Vegetable statistics has been maintained, and, in addition, this section of the Branch has undertaken - in cooperation with the Dominion Department of Agriculture - the collection, compilation and publication of statistics on forage crop and vegetable seeds. Arising out of the expanded live stock program, an increased demand has developed for grass seeds for the improvement and extension of pasturages, and thus more emphasis has been necessary on these 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 - in connection with Income Tax - have made it necessary to supply these figures on a monthly basis; and, consequently, the work in this connection has been increased considerably. In addition to the above, there has been a continual demand from Farm organizations, Members of Parliament, and other interested bodies, for current and past agricultural statistics.

As a result of the release of information from the 1941 Census, it is now possible to revise many of the annual estimates made by this Branch during the

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS BRANCH - Cont'd

intercensal years. This again entails a great deal of detailed clerical work.

In July 1940 a co-operative arrangement was worked out with the Markets Information Section and the Economics Division of the Department of Agriculture to prepare and publish every two months a review of current agricultural conditions in Canada. This publication is circulated mainly to agricultural departmental officials, both provincial and federal, agricultural colleges, and extension workers. An effort is made to keep these men informed on current developments and statistics in connection with all the major crops and classes of live stock. The review is issued in mimeographed form and printed and distributed by the Economics Division of the Department of Agriculture.

In December 1942 a Committee representing the Department of Agriculture, the Food Administration of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board and the Agricultural Branch was set up to determine desirable goals for agricultural production in 1943. Various members of the staff of this Branch participated in the work of the sub-committees dealing with individual commodities, and statistics of this Branch provided the basis upon which the 1943 goals were established.

The Branch has also been represented on the Food Requirements Committee, the Agricultural Sub-Committee on Post-War Reconstruction, and the International Wheat Council. This representation has served as a liaison with these agencies using agricultural statistics, and, at the same time, has added to the responsibilities of the Branch personnel.

ANNUAL CENSUS OF INDUSTRYMANUFACTURING STATISTICS BRANCH

Very heavy demands have been made on this Branch by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Early information was required to the extent of 90 per cent of the total production of all firms covered in the annual survey. The magnitude of this task is equivalent to a large part of the usual annual work performed by the Branch.

In addition, there have been numerous requests for special statistical compilations and surveys from National Selective Service, Reconstruction Committee, Provincial Statistical Departments, Universities, etc.

ANIMAL PRODUCTS BRANCH

The experience of this Branch has been exactly similar to that of the Manufacturing Statistics Branch.

MINING, METALLURGICAL AND CHEMICAL BRANCH

This Branch of the Bureau has worked closely in co-operation with various Controllers in the Department of Munitions and Supply. Its Chief (W.H. Losee) is the liaison officer between the office of the Metals Controller and the Bureau. When matters of a statistical nature are to be discussed, he is called to attend their Committee meetings.

For the Metals Controller, the Branch made - shortly after the outbreak of War - a special survey of the supply, consumption and stocks of the principal metals and minerals used by Canadian industry. Based on this survey, monthly statistics of consumption and stocks in the more important industries were instituted. These were collected until April 1942, and then taken over by the Metals Controller's office.

There was also instituted for the Metals Controller an annual Special War Materials survey, covering the consumption and stocks of the most important minerals, ferro-alloys, chemicals, oils and waxes. Approximately 1,500 firms are covered. A compilation is made for each company, and by items. In addition, monthly statistics are furnished as follows:

ANNUAL CENSUS OF INDUSTRY - Cont'dMINING, METALLURGICAL AND CHEMICAL BRANCH - Cont'd

1. Statements of production by individual producers of principal metals and minerals, as follows - copper, lead, zinc, crude arsenic, asbestos, chromite, feldspar, mica, fluorspar, graphite, iron ore, manganese, talc, tungsten, titanium ore, mercury, molybdic oxide, molybdenum and nephelenesyenite.
2. Imports and chromium and tungsten.
3. Gold production, tonnage mined, value of production, value per ton, and ounces per ton.
4. Employment in gold mines and base metal mines by individual mines.

For the Steel Controller the following special information is now being compiled:

1. Monthly statements based on returns from 225 firms showing production and shipments of -
 - (a) Iron Castings, Iron and Steel Pipes, Tubes and Fittings (8 items).
 - (b) Steel Forgings, Heavy Spikes, Screws, Bolts, Nuts and Rivets (7 items).
 - (c) Steel Wire and Wire Products (17 items).
 - (d) Rolled Iron and Steel Products.
2. Production and shipments of Cast Iron Pipes, Tubes and Fittings.
3. Several other special statements are sent monthly.

With the office of the Coal Controller there is constant communication by telephone - the Bureau furnishing detailed information concerning production, employment, time worked, and time and tonnage lost in individual mines.

Statistics are furnished showing the employment in coal mines by various classes.

A card index of Mine Prices is maintained for the use of the Coal Controller.

ANNUAL CENSUS OF INDUSTRY - Cont'dMINING, METALLURGICAL AND CHEMICAL BRANCH - Cont'd

Because of the critical labour situation in the Coal Mines, a system of reporting employment statistics weekly, by telegram, was instituted on June 25, 1943, for the most important Coal Mines. A duplicate card index is maintained - one set for the Coal Controller, and one for office use.

A ledger showing coke production, disposition and stocks, stocks and consumption of Canadian and U.S. coal, by coke manufacturing companies, is maintained in duplicate. One copy is for the use of the Coal Controller and one copy for office use.

A considerable time is given to the preparation of data for the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. All the statistical records of the Branch have been made available to this Board, and many special compilations have been made; e.g., the Board desired figures covering values, inventories, materials and products in advance of regular compilations. These had to include 90 per cent of the total annual returns; hence this job, in itself, was one of considerable magnitude for the Branch.

A special compilation of employment in base metal mines is being furnished to the Labour Department.

FORESTRY BRANCH

The work of the Forestry Branch of the Bureau has been increased and complicated to a considerable extent by War conditions. The special supplemental form dealing with Capital Expenditures, collected for the Bank of Canada, and the special preliminary compilations now being made for the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, involve extra clerical work - which delays the regular routine of the Branch in spite of the extra help provided by these two organizations.

Special emergency compilations and lists of producers are frequently required by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board and the War Departments dealing with

ANNUAL CENSUS OF INDUSTRY - Cont'dFORESTRY BRANCH - Cont'd

timber, pulp and paper, wood fuel and other wood and paper products. The Licensing Branch of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board now provides the names of all producers as they are licensed as manufacturers. All these new names must be checked against existing lists, and verified, as many of them are too small to be classed as manufacturers under the Census of Industry. There is also a great deal of shifting from one industrial group to another as certain lines are discontinued and others manufactured for the first time in Canada.

There is a general increase in the difficulty and delay in securing returns, owing to the enormous number of returns now required by the Government and the difficulty the manufacturers have in securing clerical help for this work.

EXTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

Shortly after the outbreak of the present War certain restrictions were placed on the publication and distribution of Canadian External Trade figures. At the very outset, immediate prohibition was placed on information concerning both imports and exports of strategic War materials - principally the non-ferrous and non-metallic groups of commodities. Considerable difficulty arose as to the meaning of "strategic materials," hence restrictions were enlarged, and, finally, the total prohibition ruling was made effective.

Early in 1940 trade information was urgently required by various War and Planning Boards in Canada, United States and the United Kingdom. To meet this need, an entirely new system was evolved consisting of direct printed runs from our tabulating machines. A special pre-carboned paper was obtained which enabled this Branch to produce the equivalent of six copies of the Monthly Trade Report in one operation. It was soon found that this number of copies was insufficient to meet the demand, and, accordingly, this special service was increased to twelve, and,

EXTERNAL TRADE BRANCH - Cont'd

later, fourteen copies. Copies are sent to the following:

Bank of Canada.
 British Trade Commissioner
 Wartime Prices and Trade Board.
 Department of Finance.
 Statistics Branch of the Munitions and Supply.
 Metals Controller.
 Steel Controller.
 United States Legation at Ottawa.
 Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce (to be used by
 the Export Control Board, the Shipping Priorities
 Committee, the Commercial Intelligence Service).
 Canadian Legation at Washington.
 Canada House, London, England.
 Board of Trade, London, England.
 And by special arrangement to Dr. A. Maffry, Department
 of Commerce, Washington.

Special investigations, requiring the personal scrutiny of thousands of customs entries and invoices - so that detailed information may be obtained - are made at the request of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board and various other War Boards in Ottawa. Telephone requests for trade information from the confidential list have increased over 100 per cent, and special interviews have become much more numerous. Frequent trade studies are made to meet varying requests of the Departments.

Extensive work has been undertaken by our Machine Section in punching cards and tabulating information for an actuarial sample of unemployment insurance. Similar machine work was undertaken on the actual number of persons receiving unemployment insurance benefits in Canada. At the present time experiments are being made with a machine system to take over the statistical work of the Export Permit Branch.

CONSTRUCTION BRANCH

There has been an increased demand for information on Canada's building activities. For example, the Committee on Reconstruction required information concerning the number and description of New Housing units to be built in Canada.

Special compilations by municipalities were made covering the year 1942, and monthly figures have been compiled since.

CONSTRUCTION BRANCH - Cont'd

Additional tables are now included in the monthly report to provide this information.

TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES BRANCH

Special reports are being made to the Shipping Priorities Committee of vessels and cargoes from a list of countries.

A record of vessels departing from Canadian ports - in convoy - is being maintained, in addition to our regular statistics on Shipping.

Many additional enquiries come to the Branch because of the existence of War Boards and other War units. Reports are being made, monthly, to the Transport Controller on Car Loadings.

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BRANCH

The outbreak of War brought with it a very great increase in the volume of work in this Branch and in its responsibilities. It has also occasioned a definite change in its functions. These wartime changes in work and duties are summarized in the following paragraphs:

1. Changes in Functions. Prior to 1939 the statistics of employment were collected wholly for their barometric value, as indicative of the current trends in industries and units of population. Since the declaration of War we have been called upon to provide specific and detailed information of a character entirely different from that originally intended. On these data have been based important decisions connected with wartime policies - such as the 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

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BRANCH - Cont'd

wage-freezing regulations, etc., etc. Thus the statistics, while continuing to function as a barometric, have had to be developed and adapted so as to serve also in an administrative capacity. The transformation of the data to permit their use in the second of these functions (resulting wholly from the War and differing greatly in purpose and kind from that for which they were originally collected) has constituted a heavy drain upon the energy and resourcefulness needed to carry on what even in peace time is generally recognized as an unusually difficult statistical job.

2. Wartime Demands for Data. To supply the needs of the various wartime departments, it has been necessary to prepare great quantities of special statistical material - much of it confidential in character. Special confidential data are furnished, monthly, for over 2,000 individual establishments to the Department of Munitions and Supply, the Minister and Deputy Minister of Labour, and other officials of the Department of Labour. Special tabulations are made regularly for various branches of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, Department of Munitions and Supply, etc. Among these branches may be mentioned the offices of the Rents, Coal, Metals, Timber and Textile Controllers, the Prices Division, Research and Statistics Branch, Economics and Statistics Branch, National War Labour Board, National Selective Service, Wartime Information Board, Reconstruction Committee, etc.
3. Collection of Payroll Statistics. 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 secure information essential in the wartime regulation of wages and prices, and in the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes. The collection of these statistics of payrolls from March 1941 has considerably more than doubled the regular work of the Branch, necessitating the use of complicated

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BRANCH - Cont'd

questionnaires, the building up of a completely new technique to handle the returns, the quadrupling of the statistical calculations required, and the solution of many difficult problems to ensure the comparability of the statistics compiled upon the new basis with those previously prepared.

In all cases, the difficulty of these problems has been intensified by wartime conditions, while the reasons prompting the collection of the payroll statistics have made it imperative that they accurately represent the current earnings of a very large proportion of the wage-earning population, in addition to depicting the general trends. This objective has largely been attained.

4. Increase in the Work Regularly Performed. The number of reports tabulated monthly has risen by nearly 16 per cent from September 1, 1939, to 14,600 at May 1, 1943. The number of tables published regularly in the monthly bulletins has increased from 6 to 11 - due to tabulation of the payroll data. The number of indexes calculated monthly has grown from 200 in 1939 to 1,000 in 1943. For each of the 14,600 employers whose returns are tabulated an individual per capita average of earnings is calculated each month, as a proof of the accuracy of the data. Weekly per capita earnings are published monthly for over 200 industries in the Dominion, the economic areas, and the leading cities.

The volume of correspondence involved in answering enquiries, in securing the prompt co-operation of firms, and in establishing the accuracy of their returns, has more than doubled since the outbreak of War. The amount of textual matter required monthly and annually, to interpret the statistics, has materially increased with the collection of the payroll data.

5. Special Enquiry into Sex Distribution. In order to obtain information directly required in connection with wartime labour problems, a survey was undertaken in October, 1942, to ascertain the sex distribution of the persons employed by the firms furnishing monthly statistics of employment, as an indication of the extent to which women had replaced male workers in industry. This enquiry - carried out

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BRANCH - Cont'd

at relatively little cost to the Government, but involving many problems of organization and much hard work and research in this Branch - provided what was described in the press as "the most comprehensive survey yet made of the extent of the female invasion of industry." Demands have already been made from several sources (notably the Department of Munitions and Supply, and the Department of Labour) for a repetition of this survey, which was undertaken solely to provide information required in the mobilization of manpower and industrial resources for the War effort.

FINANCE STATISTICS BRANCH

Since the outbreak of War, this Branch has been reorganized along very comprehensive lines, in order to bring its statistics of Municipal and Provincial finance into line with those collected for the Sirole Report. This work is far advanced, but not yet complete.

While these activities are not a direct result of the War, they are decidedly contributory to the War effort. The Branch, through co-operation with the Bank of Canada, is contributing to the War effort in providing preliminary estimates of Municipal financial activities and in the analyses of Provincial finance statistics which the Bank uses in its capacity as adviser to the Finance Department on Financial and Fiscal policies.

The work the Branch is now undertaking in Provincial and Municipal Finance Statistics is of great importance from the point of view of post-war reconstruction and rehabilitation. It is very important to have the reorganized program in statistics of finance completed and kept reasonably up-to-date. When the War ends, Governments are sure to play a major role in reconstruction; and the need for a clear statistical picture of debt structures and financial requirements is obvious.

EDUCATION STATISTICS BRANCH

Very heavy demands have been made on this Branch of the Bureau as a direct result of the War. The Department of Naval Education, R.C.N., 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.

Assistance has been given to special studies designed to throw light on problems connected with the War. Two recent examples involved the sending out of questionnaires to study trends in Canadian high-school enrollment since the start of the War.

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 the first importance, and requests are continually coming for information, e.g., 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. Various agencies of civil departments ask for information that will assist them in estimating, for instance, the coal requirements of all schools, or the textile requirements of residential schools, or the amount of A.R.P. literature to be distributed through schools. Assistance has also been given to the Wartime Prices and Trade Board in connection with the utilization of schools for issuing Ration Books. Requests of this kind 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

EDUCATION STATISTICS BRANCH - Cont'd

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.

SOCIAL ANALYSIS BRANCH

This 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 quite soon. 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. For the purpose of ascertaining movements of people into industry, a sample of the data obtained through the Unemployment Insurance compilations was compared with records of the same people obtained through National Registration ten months previously.

These statistics were valuable in the initial stages of setting up Man-power 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 three million forms were received at the Bureau, and compilations made respecting every employer in Canada. These have been used by both the Wartime Prices and Trade Board and National Selective Service. The compilations include data answering numerous questions concerning the numbers in each occupation and each industry

SOCIAL ANALYSIS BRANCH - Cont'd

in Canada. At the same time, data were collected regarding dependents, languages spoken, marital status, nationality, military service, physical defects, and other personal characteristics, covering in all over three million 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 and Army, and National War Services Department.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS BRANCH

War has increased the work of this Branch as follows:

1. Breaches of the National Registration Act and the Defence of Canada Act were added to the list of crimes to be tabulated.
2. Breaches of the Regulations of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, Blackout Regulations, National Selective Service Act, War Measures Act, Unemployment Insurance Act, Munitions and Supply Act, similarly, have been added to the list of crimes.
3. These additions to crimes have added to the work of the Branch in compilations and correspondence. Instructions to Magistrates, Clerks-of-the-Peace, etc., had to be mailed from time to time.

INSTITUTIONAL STATISTICS BRANCH

This Branch of the Bureau collects statistics concerning hospitals, mental and tuberculosis institutions, charitable and benevolent institutions, and penitentiaries. Since the War, there has been a constant demand for lists of many of these Institutions - arranged by provinces, cities, and other geographical areas. Information was required, giving the number of beds and personnel, and

INSTITUTIONAL STATISTICS BRANCH - Cont'd

other statistical data.

These data were supplied in answer to enquiries from such sources as the Department of National Defence; Wartime Prices and Trade Board; Reconstruction and Social Security Committees; Canadian Medical Association; Canadian Medical Procurement and Assignment Board; Wartime Information Board, Washington, D.C; American Red Cross National Headquarters, Washington, D.C; Bureau of Government Requirements for Hospitals, Washington, D.C; Canadian Welfare Council; Health League of Canada; The National Committee of Mental Hygiene; Provincial and Municipal Departments of Health; A.R.P. Headquarters; and many other public organizations, as well as private individuals.

Such enquiries arose from the need of information to assist in the formation of policy concerning War problems and in the study of specific aspects of War needs.

GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH

This Branch, in its Reviews 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.

CANADA YEAR BOOK AND OFFICIAL HANDBOOK

The War brought greatly increased responsibilities to the Year Book Division of the Bureau. These publications mirror 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.

Although no Year Book was published for 1943 - due to the ruling of the Director of Government Office Economic Control - the work of compilation had to go on, in preparation for a double-year edition in 1943-44. Indeed, the fact that no Year Book was published for 1943 led to an increase of the work of the Division to meet demands for detailed reports which otherwise would have been available in the Year Book.

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. During the War years, this work has been planned and carried on. A specially trained staff had to be created for carrying out this highly technical work. 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 in the Argentine Republic and in Mexico, was so great that a demand arose for an edition (in Portuguese) for distribution in Brazil and contiguous countries. 15,000 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

CANADA YEAR BOOK AND OFFICIAL HANDBOOK - Cont'd

for training in Canada. This proved to be so valuable that in the following year the order was renewed for 5,000 copies.

For wartime publicity purposes, the Department of Wartime Information has found the Official Handbook of great value. This Department ordered a special reprint of 10,000 copies for distribution in Great Britain and in the United States.

The Washington Bureau of the Wartime Information Board (opened in October 1942) found that the distribution of its publication "Canada At War" gave rise to a heavy demand for information about Canada. These requests were met by distributing copies of the Official Handbook (Canada 1943).

SPECIAL UNDERTAKINGS

In the Summer of 1942 the Bureau was asked to undertake a Manpower Accounting and the organization of statistical records in the thirteen Divisions of National War Services. When mobilization was taken over by National Selective Service, the work was continued. This task required that members of the Bureau's staff be sent as supervisors to the offices of Divisional Registrars throughout Canada. It was also necessary for the Assistant Dominion Statistician to be absent from the Bureau most of the time from October 1942 to June 1943.

The absence of these officers from the Bureau was a considerable handicap, in view of the War demand for statistics; but the importance of setting up a good statistical system, to account for the disposition of manpower in the mobilization offices, warranted this sacrifice. The work is nearing completion, so far as the Bureau is concerned. The objective is to bring it up-to-date from the commencement of mobilization to the current period, and then hand it over to the Divisional Registrars, who will have to make a monthly return to Ottawa, on the same basis, from that time.

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 of Statistics was called on to make a large contribution. Approximately one-third of the volume was taken up by sections contributed by the Vital Statistics Branch, the Institutional Statistics Branch, and the General Statistics

Branch of the Bureau.

ADMINISTRATION BRANCH

On the Administration Branch of the Bureau the impact of the War has laid heavy burdens. Because of the great demands, on all statistical branches of the Bureau, due to the War, the various sections of the Branch inevitably had larger demands made upon them. These were of such a character that much reorganization had to be done to put the Branch on a War footing.

There has been an increase in the total permanent and continuing staff of the Bureau since September 1939 of over 100 clerks. In addition, however, the Bureau had to administer, in 1940, a registration staff of some 600 clerks. In 1941 and 1942 large extra staffs, working for the Unemployment Insurance Commission and on Manpower Inventory, added to the work of the Administration Branch.

The work of the Supplies section was much increased by the requirements of the special staffs engaged on National Registration, Unemployment Insurance Statistics, Manpower Inventory, Wartime Prices and Trade Board licensing scheme, etc.

Services of the Publicity Branch have been utilized by the Wartime Information Board, the Department of Labour, and the Department of Munitions and Supply. Materials have been supplied for radio programmes and short addresses. Assistance has also been given to the Publicity Branches of the Department of National Defence and the A.R.P.

The Bureau's Printing establishment developed almost beyond recognition. New machinery had to be installed, and the space occupied by this section was more than doubled. Statistics which we are called upon to prepare for War units have necessitated the printing of scores of thousands of additional forms. For the Wartime Prices and Trade Board alone there has been a large and growing output of questionnaires, form letters, charts, etc.

Photographic equipment is heavily taxed by War demands.

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