

REASONS ADDUCED FOR WHEAT CRISIS

Winnipeg Witness Lays Theories Before Board of Inquiry

WINNIPEG, Dec. 20.—Five reasons for sharp declines in Canada's export trade were submitted to the Turgeon Royal Commission by C. B. Davidson of Winnipeg, secretary of the Canadian Wheat Board.

Canada must import goods from other countries to obtain markets for her primary products, said Mr. Davidson. Questioned by Col. J. L. Ralston, commission counsel, he said that every dollar of curtailment in imports cost Canada two dollars in exports.

Satisfactory trade relations with the world at large was essential if Canada were to sell wheat in adequate volume, said Mr. Davidson.

The five points outlined by Mr. Davidson were:

1. Tariff enactments and imposition of dumping duties by Canada in 1930 which curtailed imports from European countries.
 2. By imposing severe import restrictions on textiles, Canada struck at the very heart of her trade with Continental Europe, and destroyed the basis of her wheat business with Continental Europe.
 3. A trade structure in Canada wherein the bulk of her imports originating in countries which do not normally import Canadian wheat.
 4. Relatively small imports by Canada from Continental Europe which was formerly a very important market for Canadian wheat, built up resistance to Canadian wheat imports into these markets.
 5. Steps taken by Argentina, Canada's chief competitor in wheat exports, to cultivate European markets by spreading her imports among those markets and creating large blocks of foreign exchange with which to purchase Argentine wheat.
- During the fiscal year 1936, 70.8 per cent of Canadian imports came from countries which from 1930-31 to 1934-35 took an average of less than five per cent of the total Canadian wheat exports, said Mr. Davidson. This, he added, did not assist in the marketing of Canadian wheat under existing conditions.
- Canadian imports from Continental Europe have declined to the point where Canadian export trade to this area was meeting increased resistance. Canadian imports from Continental Europe declined from \$95,000,000 in 1930 to an average of \$36,000,000 during the last four fiscal years.

"Against purchases of \$36,000,000, Canada expects to sell up to 150,000 bushels of wheat in Continental Europe," said Mr. Davidson. "In fact, Canada must sell that amount of wheat in the Continental Europe market successfully to dispose of an average yield on present acreage."

"Recent improvement in Canadian trade has not affected to any extent our trade with Continental European countries."

"Since 1933, there has been a marked improvement in Canadian trade. In the fiscal year 1936, compared with the fiscal year 1933, exports increased."

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ed by \$292,000,000, but in spite of this increase, Canadian exports to Continental Europe decreased by \$20,000,000."

Mr. Davidson explained that most of the increase in Canadian export trade went to the United States, with the rest to the United Kingdom and Empire countries.

Canada's trade with the United Kingdom, Continental Europe and the Orient rests primarily upon the exchange of wheat for textile products. Mr. Davidson added, These, he said, were principal items in that trade.

When Canada began to restrict the importation of textiles she touched the most sensitive factor in her trade relations with wheat-importing countries, Mr. Davidson said.

Where the protection of secondary industries was carried to a point at which fair competition was eliminated, the disruption of the export markets for the products of its primary industries followed, Mr. Davidson pointed out.

No one would quarrel with the principle of Empire preference, he added, but when efforts to bring long established trade with outside countries within the channels of Empire trade then only unfortunate consequences could follow, he said.

"Argentina is Canada's chief competitor in the sale of wheat in Europe," Mr. Davidson declared. "In every country in Continental Europe, Argentina purchasing exceeds that of Canada by a wide margin."

"In 1935 Argentina imports from Continental Europe amounted to \$137,403,000 compared with purchases by Canada of \$37,859,000."

A comparison of Argentina and Canadian trade with Continental countries led to the conclusion that as long as Canada restricted her imports from these countries to present levels, these countries would choose Argentina as a source of supply rather than Canada, he said.

Dealing with the decline of Canadian exports in wheat, Mr. Davidson said that between 1930 and 1935, Canadian sales of wheat to Belgium, the Netherlands, and Switzerland declined, while the Argentina sales increased.

The reduction in world wheat trade with the consequent decline in Canadian wheat exports was due to increased production in normally importing countries, said James McAnsh of Winnipeg, statistician of the Canadian Wheat Board.

Calculated on a percentage basis, Canada's average share of world shipments in the past five seasons was 3.1 per cent smaller than in the five years 1925-26 to 1929-30, while Argentina showed a gain of two per cent and Australia a gain of more than nine per cent on the average.

The statistics show that Canada not only failed to secure any of the market formerly held by the United States, whose average share declined in the five years ended 1930 but did not maintain her own former share of the world market, he added.

Mr. McAnsh said that reduction in world import requirements resulted from normally importing countries increasing their home production. This was induced by intensive effort to increase agricultural production in the importing countries and setting of high domestic grain prices with protection of the home market by tariffs, quotas, etc., greater production per acre was achieved.

Where Do Old Newspapers Go?

Where do the old newspapers go? is a question that might be asked, seeing how many millions of copies are turned out from the thousands of presses throughout the world. They are liable to turn up in all sorts of places. If you should happen to make a purchase in one of the bazaars in India, the chances are your parcel would be wrapped in a newspaper that had performed its function as a newsheet and was now devoted to utilitarian purposes. Nearly half of the paper imports into India consist of old newspapers which for the last fiscal year amounted to 57,583 tons, according to the Industrial Department of the Canadian National Railways. Canadian newsprint is again making headway in the paper market of India after a setback, particularly in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, also Lucknow. It is claimed that the use of Canadian newsprint is more economical as it does not absorb ink to the same extent as some other kinds.

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CANADA AND THE AMERICAS

President Roosevelt's visit to the South American republics was obviously designed to create the appearance, if not to encourage the establishment, of a solid bloc of the Americas against the world aggression. Back of that are economic aims, of course.

The United States president spoke in Buenos Aires of the common front presented by the Americas. Some have interpreted this as abandonment of the Monroe doctrine, which made the job of protecting the Americas the personal responsibility of Uncle Sam. Others have interpreted it as a broadening of the doctrine. In any event, from a unilateral responsibility the Monroe doctrine has become an attempt at co-operation from the Great Lakes to the Horn. As such it was probably lost rather than gained in strength and significance, for while isolationist groups in the United States were willing to back a plan of protection for the other American republics, they are opposed to definite agreements with them.

Events that are moving in this hemisphere are of more than academic interest to Canada. We are now part of the common front of the British nations. Should we be, either alternately or simultaneously, part of the common front of American nations? The United States News asked a number of U. S. authorities on foreign affairs if Canada should be invited into the Pan-American bloc. Most of those who answered wanted the door left open for Canada.

It is unlikely that Canada, during the next generation, will sign a multilateral treaty of defense for this hemisphere from outside attack. For many years to come we are likely to remain an outsider looking in on Pan-American conversations, if for no other reason, because the economic objectives of United States' big brotherhood toward the Latin American republics are in conflict, to some degree at least, with British economic objectives in that territory.

Canada's relationship to the Americas is, however, a subject that will stand a great deal more authoritative study than it has ever had from Canadian students of international affairs.

A New Year's Cruise to Caribbean Resorts

What more delightful way of spending Christmas and ushering in the New Year than on a cruise to the Caribbean Sea? Such a cruise has been arranged by the Canadian National Steamships according to Victor E. Eke, passenger traffic manager of the Company.

This cruise will take place aboard the R.M.S. Lady Rodney, sailing from Halifax December 24 via Boston on a 21-day cruise to Bermuda, the Bahama Islands and Jamaica. On this cruise passengers will visit tropical resorts which offer a complete change from the ice and snow of the North and where perpetual sunshine prevails throughout the year.

This cruise liner will arrive at Bermuda on Monday, Dec. 28, at 2 p.m. and will remain there until Tuesday at 4 p.m., providing passengers with over a day in which to explore this beautiful playground of the North Atlantic. The ship then moves on her course, and after spending New Year's eve at sea, she reaches Nassau, capital of the Bahamas, on Friday, January 1, at 7 a.m., where passengers celebrate New Year's Day in one of the most interesting and popular resorts of the Caribbean. This colonial group are known as the 'Isles of June' and there are innumerable attractions there to suit the taste of every visitor, one of the most noted being Paradise Beach, the 'Bather's Mecca'. The ship sails the same day at 5 p.m. reaching Kingston, capital of Jamaica, on Sunday at 5 p.m., where a stay is made until Tuesday at 11 p.m., providing two and a half days in the largest and one of the most picturesque islands in the British West Indies.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRICES ADVANCE

Australian wool sales are on the upgrade with France a noteworthy buyer. Germany is also competing freely and there is a noticeable bidding on the part of Italy. England, Belgium and North America are also buying freely. Prices show a general advance, according to the Industrial Department of the Canadian National Railways. Japanese competition was absent due to an embargo on buying in the Australian market.

ORDERED CONFISCATED

SHELIAC, Dec. 20.—Following judgment given recently by the New Brunswick Appeal Court in connection with the seizure of certain slot machines in this province, Magistrate W. E. Atkinson here ordered the confiscation of a slot machine seized during the summer on the premises of Albert J. Belliveau, Crystal Beach, Westmorland county.

RETAIL CHRISTMAS TRADE BOOMING

OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—It looks like a happy Christmas for Canadian retail merchants. Cash registers are ringing merrily as the busiest shopping period of the twelve-month is entered. Already the volume of retail business is 10 per cent. ahead of last year and the prospects are for even greater expansion.

Reports compiled by the Department of Trade and Commerce show that department stores are doing 8 per cent. more business than last year; drug stores 10 per cent. more; furniture stores 13 per cent. more; hardware 21 per cent. more; grocery and meats 8 per cent. more; variety stores 11 per cent. more; music and radio stores 4 per cent. more; women's clothing is 6.3 per cent. better; men's clothing 20 per cent. better; the candy and confectionery business nearly 4 per cent. ahead of last year, and boot and shoe stores 17 per cent. up.

Imports \$1,000,000

J. Sydney Roe, the General Publicist of the Department of National Revenue, has been examining the bulging pack of Santa Claus, finds that a good many toys, skates and other articles of Canadian manufacture will find their way into the stockings of children in British Empire countries and the United States, while more than \$1,000,000 worth have been imported into Canada from the United States, Europe and the Orient.

Santa will bring to Canadian girls and boys a variety of mechanical toys such as steel construction outfits, automobiles, airplanes, submarines, electric cranes, organs, fire engines and streamlined trains, as well as an assortment of furniture, dolls and furry animals.

The newest toys include a pedal-driven motorcycle with side-car and a dashboard covered with dials. Small automobiles and trucks run so true to form that even the hum of the engine is reproduced, controlled by a key on the dashboard. Headlights may be dimmed or brightened. Even hand-brakes, horn buttons and adjustable spotlights are provided for the convenience and safety of the youthful passenger.

Tiny Organ

Miniature furniture, reproductions of almost everything grown-ups use, is perfect in every detail. One of the newest bits of furniture is a small organ, large enough, however, for a child to play, which gives forth real music. It operates like the large theatre organ, having foot pedals and several octaves of keys. Another favorite this season is the miniature desk. Some of these have roll tops and a fine array of pigeon-holes. Even the doll furniture is showing the latest modernistic trends. Doll double-decker beds, it appears, have come to stay, while doll carriages must now be equipped with self-steering gear which makes it easy to guide them through traffic and around corners. Juvenile bicycles this year are more streamlined, and standard equipment includes speedometer, balloon tires, spotlight, headlight, tail-light, horn and luggage rack.

In the animal world of toys, the teddy bear, though still popular, by no means sits alone; fluffy elephants, donkeys, pups, penguins and sheep, made from lama fur, abound. An up-to-date teddy bear is accompanied by mamma bear and several little bears. The rocking horse has competition in rocking ducks and rabbits.

Will Spend Christmas on the Ocean

MONTREAL, Dec. 18.—Atlantic passengers on three Canadian Pacific liners will hang up their stockings at sea this Christmas. Passenger for a fourth will in most cases have to suspend their hose from upper and lower berths in a boat train as the Montrose sails from Saint John on Christmas day.

Besides the Montrose the ships in which passengers will gather round sea-going Christmas trees are the Montcalm which is due at Halifax Dec. 26, the Duchess of Atholl which sails from Liverpool Christmas Eve and the Montclare which sailed from Saint John today and is due at Liverpool December 27.

Children's Santa Claus parties and old-fashioned English Christmas dinners are features of Christmas voyages each season.

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TO	Station	Person to Station	Person to Person
Campbellton45	.55
Saint John25	.25
Moncton25	.30
St. Stephen25	.30
Halifax, N.S.65	1.05
Montreal, Que.85	1.25
Toronto, Ont.	1.35	2.05
Boston, Mass.85	1.25
New York, N.Y.	1.10	1.60
Plus a few cents Dom. Gov't Tax			

Many of our customers make a practice of calling home and loved ones at Christmas. In past years so many calls have been filed on Christmas Night that lines were greatly congested and caused inconvenient delay.

You need no longer wait until evening this Christmas or New Year's Day to get the reduced rate. In fact anytime from 7.00 p.m. December 24th, until 4.30 a.m. December 26th and from 7.00 p.m. December 31st, until 4.30 a.m. January 2nd, the low "night" rates will be in effect.

All you have to do is file a list of your Calls in advance to the Toll Operator stating the time you wish each call passed.

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