

TRANSITION FROM WAR TO PEACE CONDITIONS AND DOMINION TRADE

Sir George Foster on great task that is ahead of Canada and how it will be met by Co-Ordination.

LONDON TRADE MISSION

The following by Sir George Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce, who has accompanied Sir Robert Borden to England, outlines the task of the Dominion in the transition from war to peace:—

Now that the war is ended Canada is faced with the problems of readjustments from war to peace conditions. Canada, in common with the belligerent world, will close her war equipment work in foundry and factory, and betake herself to the old-time avocations of a varied peace production.

The diversion will take time and will be accompanied by a longer or shorter period of partial employment, incident to the adaptation of machinery and labour to the new conditions. This will call for energetic and wise organization on the part of employers, and for patience and good sense on the part of employees. That these will be forthcoming there is no reason to doubt. Such co-operation has been apparent generally during the period of war in the production of material therefor, and is now even more necessary in the period of readjustment.

There are favouring as well as adverse factors and just now we should rather give emphasis to the former. A large body of skilled and partly skilled labour has been created by or trained in the processes of war production. A valuable experience has been gained in economic and effective organization on the part of capital which will be carried forward as an invaluable asset in the operations of peace production. Canada has learned valuable lessons in self-reliance, in power to overcome difficulties, and in faith in her ability and her resources. And the world's shelves are bare of the ordinary necessities and conveniences of life. A vast work of rebuilding and restoration confronts it. In this work Canada's resources and capital and skill will find abundant scope. All that is needed is the will to do and the ability to organize therefor.

GOVERNMENT CO-OPERATION.

In this work the Government will co-operate with the captains of industry and the forces of labour. But the industries must necessarily assume the greater share. They possess the machinery, the factories, the staffs and the practical experience. The ways and means are in their hands.

The Government can assist in obtaining outside markets in co-ordination and perfecting the facilities

CANADA'S TRADE FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER

CANADIAN TRADE FOR OCTOBER AND SEVEN MONTHS ENDING OCTOBER.

	Month of October.		Seven months ending October.	
	1917.	1918.	1917.	1918.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Merchandise entered for consumption.....	78,176,476	75,541,815	628,101,700	560,074,029
" , domestic—exported	155,093,744	129,554,438	921,957,466	720,139,952
Total merchandise, for consumption and domestic exported	233,270,220	205,096,253	1,550,059,166	1,280,213,981
Merchandise, foreign—exported	4,790,753	2,164,754	25,426,717	14,279,906
Grand total Canadian trade.....	238,060,973	207,261,007	1,575,485,883	1,294,493,887

TOTAL EXPORTS FROM THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

	Month of October.				Seven months ending October.			
	1917.		1918.		1917.		1918.	
	Domestic.	Foreign.	Domestic.	Foreign.	Domestic.	Foreign.	Domestic.	Foreign.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
The Mine.....	7,668,525	94,975	5,484,573	303,403	43,593,285	291,839	44,550,010	1,729,305
" Fisheries	3,744,367	36,167	3,363,647	80,119	14,178,138	118,913	14,566,113	331,511
" Forest.....	4,900,739	1,400	4,505,162	33,236,635	33,883	45,230,826	37,018
Animals and their produce.....	8,679,265	1,358,919	20,529,772	425,452	101,681,970	3,554,020	94,277,758	2,618,113
Agricultural products.....	45,504,815	215,059	31,315,614	41,571	306,159,775	6,827,115	164,999,420	665,070
Manufactures.....	74,419,973	2,698,213	64,134,325	1,191,241	420,380,372	13,227,504	353,089,293	7,613,400
Miscellaneous.....	176,060	186,020	221,345	122,968	2,727,291	1,368,443	3,126,532	1,285,489
Total merchandise.....	155,093,744	4,590,753	129,554,438	2,164,754	921,957,466	25,426,717	720,139,952	14,279,906

TOTAL IMPORTS ENTERED FOR CONSUMPTION IN THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

	Month of October.		Seven months ending October.	
	1917.	1918.	1917.	1918.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Dutiable goods	47,019,685	44,847,442	346,108,703	315,856,347
Free goods.....	31,156,791	30,694,373	281,992,997	244,217,682
Total	78,176,476	75,541,815	628,101,700	560,074,029
Duty collected	13,824,546	13,180,875	102,106,166	94,743,530

for transport and the mechanism of communication between foreign demands and the Canadian supply. Steps have already been taken in both preparation for peace production here and the provision of markets abroad.

Committees representative of all the great lines of production have been formed and are in close communication with the Government in Ottawa, whose immediate representatives will be the Ministers of Finance, of Trade and Commerce, the Minister of Labour, and the Vice-Chairman of the Reconstruction Committee. The War Trade Board, the Imperial Munitions Board and the War Purchasing Commission, all of which have during the war period been in close touch with Canadian productive industries, have been enlisted in conference and action. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association is working through its representatives on the general committee and its numerous sub-committees along all lines of industrial production.

ORGANIZATIONS EFFORTS.

Broadly speaking, the efforts of the above outlined organizations will be: First, to plan for and carry out the diversion from war to peace production; and, second, to organize for production in Canada destined to meet home wants and foreign demand.

Especially to assist the latter, the Government has taken an advanced step in its policy of trade representation in extension of the regular and long-established methods. It has been decided to establish a Trade Mission in London as a central point, with extensions in France, Belgium and Italy, which shall be

representative of the general trade interests of Canada. The Mission will inform itself of the needs of governments, allied commissions, railway corporations, municipalities, reconstruction, relief, co-operative and other associations, and make itself the medium of communication between these and the producing interests in Canada with whom the Mission will co-operate in every possible way. Mr. Lloyd Harris, who has been head of the Canadian War Mission in Washington, will be transferred as chairman of the London Mission, and a thorough business organization will be set up under his direction.

While this will not preclude individuals and corporations from carrying on as usual, it will prove extremely useful in procuring big business along the lines of supplies needed by governments and for large reconstruction purposes. The organization in Canada will seek to work in touch with the Trade Mission for guaranteeing prompt and efficient provision of the needed commodities.

PACIFIC FLATFISH HAS BECOME POPULAR

Three and a half million pounds of Pacific flatfish have been sold in Canada since the Canada Food Board established the fishery in March, 1918. Prior to this time, these fish were regarded as being worthless by fishermen. The manner in which the public have taken to Pacific flatfish has exceeded all expectations, and the fishery is now established as a permanent Pacific industry. One British Columbia firm shipped 100,000 pounds of flatfish to market last week.

U.S. Breadstuffs Export.

The United States breadstuffs export programme for the coming year will aggregate 409,320,000 bushels, more than 60 bushels for every farm in the United States.

Peru and Australia.

The Government of Peru is acquiring wheat from Australia and other countries. Sugar is to be exported. The Government has forbidden the export of cattle.