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Canada's September External Trade Reviewed: One full year after the end of the war, Canada's external trade in September was valued at \$328,013,000 compared with \$409,218,000 in August and \$347,240,000 in September, 1945, but was far in excess of the average of \$137,429,000 for September in the 1935-39 period.

Aggregate value for the first nine months of this year was \$3,043,906,000 compared with \$3,744,636,000 in the same period of 1945.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported that "the buoyancy which characterized merchandise imports since the first of the year was again evident in September, the value being \$156,096,000 as compared with \$122,259,000 in September, 1945." Aggregate value of merchandise imported during the first nine months was \$1,360,810,000 against \$1,137,770,000 in the like period of 1945, and the 1935-39 average of \$493,641,000.

Canada's domestic merchandise export trade was reduced in September, standing at \$169,779,000 compared with the peace-time high of \$242,685,000 in the preceding month and \$220,810,000 in September last year. Merchandise exported during the first nine months was valued at \$1,663,944,000 compared with \$2,516,966,000 in the like period of 1945 and an average of \$616,976,000 for 1935-39.

Import gains in eight of the nine main commodity groups were widely distributed throughout the whole commodity structure, outstanding increases being shown in the inflow of automobiles and parts, farm implements, industrial machinery, coal, petroleum, rubber, wool, cotton and artificial silk. The outstanding decrease was in the return of Canadian war materials from abroad.

Imports from the United States reached \$115,766,000 against \$89,588,000 a year ago; and the nine-month aggregate was \$968,734,000 compared with \$907,948,000 last year. Imports from the United Kingdom also were heavier at \$11,938,000 compared with \$9,631,000, and a nine-month aggregate of \$159,286,000 against \$98,687,000.

Imports from British India in September were valued at \$4,768,000 compared with \$3,389,000 in September last year; Argentina, \$2,247,000, compared with \$413,000, and Yugoslavia \$2,470,000 compared with \$1,857,000. Other countries which supplied Canada with goods in excess of a million dollars each during the month were British Guiana, Jamaica, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Honduras. With one exception -- Australia -- imports from this latter group were substantially higher.

Rent Control, Tough Problem: In the fourth of his series of five talks explaining price control, Prices Board Chairman Donald Gordon said that rent control and eviction control gave the Board "more worry than all the other controls put together."

In other prices it had been possible to make specific upward adjustments to meet rising costs, but "rental regulations constitute a body of rules of general application which have inevitably given rise to cases of individual hardship" and it had not been possible to "develop an administrative system that could deal with the thousands of individual cases which would arise if each landlord or each tenant were given a right to claim consideration on special merit."

If an adjustment is attempted, "rentals must be dealt with as a whole" and "...under existing conditions of congestion and shortage, any permitted adjustments would almost immediately be reflected in all rented properties."

"Furthermore, in the same circumstances, if controls were abandoned," he warned, "not only would rents rise substantially but there would be many thousands of evictions and painful distress in the process. Here we have a situation, therefore, where the security of tenure and the peace of mind of thousands of citizens must be weighed against the dissatisfaction of owners who are temporarily prevented from improving their profits or getting possession of their own property."

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