

banner of Italy and even the flag of Jugoslavia. From this harbour last year ships carried our products to a dozen empire and ten foreign countries. The chief impetus of this trade was empire reciprocity. Preference for all the natural products of the dominion has offset the tariffs that locked to us the markets of foreign lands.

The year 1933 brought general improvement to the industries of British Columbia. The latest information available shows a general increase of over \$7,000,000 in value of products as follows:

Commodity—	Increase in value
Lumber..	\$4,000,000
Mines..	2,000,000
Fisheries..	1,000,000
Agriculture..	100,000

Industrial pay-rolls compiled from returns comprising some 3,500 firms amounted to over \$110,000,000 for the year, or an increase of \$7,000,000 over the previous year. There was also a gain in the peak volume of employment as indicated by an increase in the numbers of men and women at work. A gain was marked by the addition of more than 3,000 men to the logging camps during the year, while active mining development caused a considerable upturn in employment. Those in the logging trades shared a pay increase averaging around 12 per cent.

Not mentioned in any record are the secondary benefits coming from the improved conditions in the major industries throughout the province. For instance, new towns are springing up in mining centres; small saw-mills, long closed, are now opening, increased mining activity having placed many of these back into production during the year. Another secondary benefit is evidenced in transportation, in connection with the development of mining in British Columbia, we find increased business done by air transportation, truck and motor and the railways.

Under the empire trade agreements perhaps no industry has benefited as much as that of lumber. Lumber exports from British Columbia to points outside North America have reached the highest level in the history of the industry, exceeding, by 110,000,000 feet, or 35 per cent, the previous record established in 1930. Instead of one-quarter, British Columbia is now shipping almost three-quarters of its sawn lumber to overseas destinations and it is now the leading lumber exporting area of North America. Shipments to Great Britain, Australia, China and South Africa are all higher than in the previous year, exports to Great Britain showing an increase of more than 100 per cent over 1932. Of the lumber

shipped from the Pacific coast to Great Britain during 1933, British Columbia shipped 70 per cent as compared with only 45 per cent during 1932. The Australian market is becoming of extreme importance to my province. In 1933 Canadian shipments to Australia, due to the preference granted the Canadian product under the Ottawa agreement, accounted for over 90 per cent of the total orders for lumber from the Pacific coast.

Perhaps one of the brightest features is the improved condition of the municipalities of the province. Almost every municipality, according to its annual report, in spite of loss of revenue due to reduced government grants and increased social service costs, ended the year with a surplus.

I think we should pay a compliment to the city of Vancouver for the manner in which it has looked after unemployment; perhaps no other city of its size on the continent has had such a problem. Principally owing to its mild climate people from the prairies and from the northern sections have drifted to Vancouver and increased that problem, but in spite of all that Vancouver enjoys the distinction of being one of the very few cities of Canada that has met its cost of relief out of ordinary revenue. So much for the definite improvement in conditions not only in British Columbia but throughout the country.

Another industry which is mentioned in the speech from the throne and to which I should like to refer, is agriculture. As has been pointed out agricultural products have been low in price. That condition exists not only in Canada but in every country throughout the world and it is a problem with which every nation is struggling at the present time. When we turn to agriculture, the basic industry of Canada, the picture, in spots, is not so bright. The bright part of the picture is that in Canada many agricultural products are higher in price than in many other countries. I am just reminded that when hogs were selling here the other day at \$8.50, they were selling at \$4 in Buffalo. Eggs, butter, lamb and a few other products are higher in Canada than in the United States. This can fairly be credited to the present administration, particularly to the efforts of the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Weir) and the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Stevens). The empire agreements provided the outlet; increased prices followed.

But, as I have said, conditions are not what we desire in the agricultural industry. It is still extremely difficult for Canadian farmers to find profitable outlet for a number of