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LEAGUE OF NATIONS

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(SEVENTEENTH ISSUE)

**STATISTICAL
YEAR-BOOK**

OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

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LEAGUE OF NATIONS
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INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

ANNUAIRE STATISTIQUE

DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DES NATIONS

Dix-septième année

1942/44

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STATISTICAL YEAR-BOOK

OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

GENÈVE 1945

GENEVA 1945

Série de Publications de la Société des Nations
II. QUESTIONS ÉCONOMIQUES
ET FINANCIÈRES
1945. II.A. 5.

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STATISTICAL YEAR BOOK OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS, 1942/44. (x)

A history in figures of a world at war.

As a result of the termination of hostilities in Europe a great deal more statistical information has become available and, accordingly, it has been possible considerably to extend the scope of the Year-Book, the 17th issue of which is now ready and is in fact equivalent to two normal annual volumes.

The first part of the Year-Book is concerned with STATISTICS OF POPULATION, and includes much hitherto unpublished information concerning population and population movement. A table showing the net rates of reproduction is particularly worthy of attention, since it enables the underlying demographic trends in the different countries to be perceived, disregarding temporary fluctuations and purely transitory movements.

The second part is devoted to FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS; unemployment and employment, agricultural, mineral and industrial production, trade, prices, currencies, banking, public finance and debt and, for the first time, national income.

Several subjects which are of particular interest at the moment have been specially treated: the survey of the territorial changes which have occurred during the war; public finance and, more particularly, expenditure on the war and national defence; national debts and, lastly, a summary of the currency measures taken in most countries and, especially in occupied and liberated countries. Since the data collected in most cases cover the period up to the end of 1944 and, in some cases even up to the middle of 1945, it may indeed be said that the Year-Book presents a history, in figures, of a world at war, from the demographic, economic and financial standpoint.

POPULATION AND POPULATION MOVEMENT.

On such matters, as territorial changes affecting Ethiopia, the frontiers of Thailand, Indo-China, Malaya or Bolivia, or the Soviet-Polish territorial problems and the successive territorial modifications in Roumania, Hungary and Yugoslavia - to mention a few cases only - the Year-Book provides objective information regarding the main changes which have occurred more particularly during the war. Incidentally, in many cases, these changes have been purely transitory in character.

Although information as to war losses is beginning to be more readily obtainable, at all events in the case of some countries, it is not yet possible to strike a demographic balance for the war years. The data published in the Year-Book, however, once more suggest that, except in the case of certain countries where the effects of hostilities have been particularly severe but in regard to which reliable statistics are not yet available, the demographic trend has, on the whole, been much more favourable than during the preceding war, in that the mortality has risen less, or the fall in the birth rate has been less pronounced and less continuous.

Nevertheless, the end of hostilities by no means marks the end of the demographic disturbances resulting from the war, among which the numerical disparity between the sexes will have an enduring effect on the birth rate. The trend of the latter during the coming years will, in part, depend in the different countries on the rapidity of demobilisation and repatriation, or on the number of men held in captivity and the duration of that captivity, as the case may be.

(x) Ser. L.o.N. P. 1945 II A.5 - 315 pages. In wrappers: 10/- \$2.50
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PUBLICATIONS DEPARTMENT
LEAGUE OF NATIONS
GENEVA

Statistical Year-Book of the League of Nations, 1942/44 (continued).

CURRENCIES AND FINANCES.

No country, whether or not belligerent, has escaped the rising tide of public expenditure. Thus, during the year 1944, the United States expenditure for the war was about \$250 million daily, and the United Kingdom £14 million (that is to say, \$56 million).

The following table shows the expenditure on the war or on national defence in a number of countries during the years 1940, 1943 and 1944.

(300,000's)	1940	1943	1944	
United States (\$)	6301	87039	88000(κ)	
United Kingdom (£)	3220	4950	5125	
U.S.S.R. (Rouble)	56000	124700(κ)	137000	(κ) Estimates.
Canada (C.\$)	752	4625	4450(κ)	
Australia (A.£)	170	544	505(κ)	
India (Rupees)	748	3136(κ)	4566(κ)	
Sweden (Kroner)	2069	2122	2030(κ)	
Switzerland (Francs)	1158	1203	1330	

In Japan, the war expenditure voted between 1937 and March 1944 reached 112,000 million yen.

The expenditure - often of an extra-budgetary character - which various countries have been obliged to meet as a result of their occupation - (occupation costs, clearing deficits, etc.) is now beginning to be known. Thus, in Belgium, the actual occupation costs amounted, from May 1940 to July 1944, to 71,500 million francs, while other expenditure in favour of the occupying Power - chiefly creditor clearing balance - totalled 65,400 million francs. In the case of Denmark, the occupation costs up to March 1944 amounted to 2,500 million kroner and the financing of the clearing to nearly 2,000 million kroner. Finally, as regards France, the occupation costs from 1940 to 1944, are estimated as not far short of 700,000 million francs, and the clearing deficit at nearly 170,000 million francs.

Whatever method has been adopted for meeting expenditure, practically no country in the world has been able to avoid a great increase in the national debt. Below is given a table showing some examples:

Internal debt position (in thousands of millions)

End of the year or financial year	1939	1943	1944
(a) United States (\$)	48.5	203	235
United Kingdom (£)	8.1	18.5	21.1
Canada (C.\$)	3.2	11.2	...
Japan (Yen)	22	75	...
(b) Germany (Reichsmarks)	51	274	345
Belgium (Francs)	40	116	159
Finland (Marks)	4.2	46.4	61.2
France (Francs)	483	1333	1610
Netherlands (Florins)	4.2	10.3	12.5
Sweden (Kroner)	3.6	9.8	10.9
(c) Switzerland (Francs)	3.1	7.3	8.8

(a) VI.1940 and 1944; III.1945. (b) III.1940 and 1944. XII.1944.
(c) Not including the debt of the Federal Railways (3,300 millions).

The considerable changes brought about by the war in the economic and financial situation of various countries - the greatly increased importance of the Government sector in the national economy and the intensification of production - are also shown by the statistics of NATIONAL INCOME which the Year-Book presents in detail for eight States.

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Note.

Lorsque les tableaux de l'Annuaire Statistique comportent une présentation territoriale résultant d'une situation de fait, il doit être entendu que cette présentation ne vise qu'à fournir une base géographique aux séries statistiques qui l'accompagnent. Elle ne préjuge aucunement le caractère des modifications territoriales dont il s'agit.

La même remarque s'applique aux notes du tableau 2 qui renseignent sur les changements en question, ainsi qu'à d'autres cas similaires.

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Note.

In cases where the tables of the Statistical Year-Book embody a territorial presentation resulting from a de facto situation, it must be understood that such form of presentation is adopted solely for the purpose of providing a geographical basis for the accompanying statistical series. It does not in any sense prejudice the character of the territorial changes in question.

The same applies to the notes to Table 2, which give information regarding those changes, and to other similar cases.