

FOREIGN TRADE

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COVER SUBJECT—Quebec and its harbour, through which were handled 357,000 tons of foreign cargo in the past year, compared with 214,000 tons in 1948. There was a substantial increase in the amount of grain shipped last season, the total being 7,443,000 bushels, as compared with 760,000 bushels in 1948. A summary of the traffic statistics for ports administered by the National Harbours Board is reproduced on page 652 of this issue of Foreign Trade. The Canadian Pacific cargo liner Beaverglen was scheduled to reach Quebec the end of this week, and to open the season of navigation at that port.

Price 10 cents

New England Offers Favourable Market for Canadian Products

Competition is keen—Exporter who can offer product that has price, design, quality and packaging suited to consumer requirements can expect fair measure of success—Eastern Canadian exporter has real advantage in geographical location.

By R. B. Parlour, Assistant Canadian Government Trade Commissioner

BOSTON, March 16, 1950.—New England provides a rich and concentrated market, in which competition is keen. But, the Canadian exporter who can offer a product that has price, design, quality and packaging suited to the requirements of consumers in this territory can expect a fair measure of success. The development of such a market may not be easy, and initial delays and expense may frequently occur. However, by adapting the product and selling methods to the distinctive characteristics of the region, a satisfactory volume of sales may be achieved.

Careful study of the United States as a market for Canadian products, and the expansion of trade with this country, is warranted by the continuing need for American dollars in Canada. However, it is not possible to consider such a country as the United States as a single market, by reason of its size and the complexity of its economy, but rather as a number of regional markets, differing from one another in many significant ways. Since most Canadian business firms have neither the financial resources nor the productive capacity to support country-wide distribution in the United States, the selection of one or two of the most promising regions on which to concentrate their selling effort is usually desirable.

In choosing the most favourable region in the United States for their purpose, Canadian exporting firms, particularly those in eastern Canada, should make a careful appraisal of New England. They will discover that this six-state region possesses unique characteristics, some of which may offer special advantages, and others, dangerous pitfalls.

Eastern Canadian Exporter Has Advantage of Location

Primarily, geographical position gives the eastern Canadian exporter a real advantage in the New England market. Since Quebec and the Maritime Provinces, and even Ontario, are relatively close to New England, transportation costs to this area are moderate. By contrast, many regions of the United States, much farther from New England, must consider the latter as "the end of the line" when computing transportation costs. Further, with many good harbours along its coast, New England is readily accessible by water transport. The accompanying advantage of cheap ocean freight is available to many shippers in Quebec, the Maritimes and even British Columbia.

Compactness and density of population characterize this northeast segment of the Union. In an area little larger than that of southern Ontario live more than 9·25 million people, principally concentrated in the numerous urban areas in the southern half of the region. Boston, for example, is in the heart of one of the major population concentrations of the continent. Although the city proper numbers only 750,000 people, it is hemmed in by over forty municipalities which swell the population of Metropolitan

Boston to more than 2.5 million. When the five nearby satellite communities are added, the population of the Boston area expands to about 4,300,000 people.

Boston is Main Trading Centre

With its excellent port facilities, with the importance of its position as a domestic and international airport, with a network of rail and road approaches, Boston is the dominant trade, financial, and distributing centre of New England. Accordingly, it is well named "The Hub". Yet, strategically located in other parts of the region are many thriving commercial and industrial centres, such as Providence, R. I.; Hartford, Conn.; Bridgeport, Conn.; Springfield, Mass.; Worcester, Mass.; and Rutland, Vt.

The concentration of wealth in New England is consonant with the concentration of its population. Per capita bank deposits in Massachusetts are more than 50 per cent higher than the national average. Since it was one of the earliest regions in the country to be developed, New England has had time to acquire many of the attributes of a mature economy, extensive plants and equipment, a highly integrated industrial and commercial mechanism, and a large assortment of educational, scientific, and cultural institutions. Its factories produce a great variety of goods, chief of which are textiles, machinery, leather goods and paper. In the past few years, its machinery and metal-working industries have increased in stability and importance, while other industries, notably textiles, have shown the effect of keen competition from other sections of the country where cheaper labour is plentiful.

The charge is occasionally made that the current generation of New Englanders, having inherited assets born of the aggressiveness and industry of their forebears, are overly cautious in their preservation. They are accused of being too content to accept a small but safe return on their investments, rather than take the risks inherent in seeking greater gains. At any rate, New England's per capita personal incomes are slightly above the United States average. The highest are received in the southern half of the region, and nearly half of the total volume of income payments are concentrated in Boston and its surrounding communities.

In spite of its compactness, New England, viewed as a unit, exhibits great economic and topographical diversity. In its three southern states are found the great urban centres of population; in the northern three, more sparsely settled territory. The southern portion is largely industrial and an area of high personal incomes; the northern section is a region of farming, lumbering and recreational resorts, with average incomes considerably smaller. The topography alternates from seacoast to rolling farmland to wooded mountains. Even the weather is highly changeable, and substantial climatic differences exist between the northern and southern sections.

Largest Foreign Group is Canadian in Origin

The population of the region, too, comprises a liberal assortment of racial groups, some assimilated into the general population, and some predominantly found in special areas. The largest foreign group is Canadian in origin. It is estimated that there are over a million people of Canadian stock in New England, and that one person in five in the state of Massachusetts is originally Canadian, either by birth or parentage. Greater Boston alone is said to hold 400,000 people of Canadian stock. This means there is a strong current of goodwill in this region towards Canada and things Canadian, and the New England buyer is likely to be sympathetic towards Canadian standards of worth. With Canada considered somewhat

akin to another state rather than a foreign country, some of the businessman's hesitancy in dealing with representatives of a truly strange economy disappears. On the other hand, this factor occasionally deprives certain specialized Canadian goods of that aura of prestige which is associated with the word "imported".

Other population groups of foreign birth or extraction are the Italians, found in Massachusetts and the southern New England states, and the Irish, concentrated in and around Boston. British-born people are found in considerable numbers throughout the region. Other national and racial minorities include Poles, Swedes, Portuguese and Germans. Most of these are found in Massachusetts, although Connecticut contains many people of Polish and German extraction.

The buying habits of New Englanders are a natural outcome of the region's economic position and geographic features. Being a concentrated and wealthy market, it is a lucrative field for all types of advertising and sales promotion. As a result, a great variety of merchandise is offered to the public. Competition for the consumer's dollar is keen, and a considerable selling effort may be needed to introduce a new product.

Consumer is Very Conscious of Style and Design

Since most of the population lives in urban areas, the consumer is very conscious of style and design in all types of goods. At the same time, his conservative nature causes him to shun more radical styles. For this reason, a design which sells well in the smaller towns of Eastern Canada, or even one which is popular in New York, may be wholly unsuited to the New England market.

The thrift of the New Englander should not be overlooked. The "nouveau riche" and the spendthrift are frowned upon, and the shopper does not hesitate to compare prices carefully before making a purchase. Thus, a Canadian product priced slightly below the market may be favourably received, while one priced even a fraction above may be flatly rejected. Nevertheless, it should be kept in mind that the consumer is accustomed to a high standard of living and can appreciate quality merchandise. The real advantages of purchasing a more expensive article, however, must be amply demonstrated in order to effect a sale.

Electric Refrigerator Output in Canada Set Record

Domestic electric refrigerators and washing machines were turned out in Canada in greater volume in 1949 than in any previous year. In December, output of both was close to average monthly levels.

During the year, production of electric refrigerators amounted to 177,854 units as compared with 138,883 in 1948, an increase of 28 per cent. Shipments for sale in Canada totalled 165,367 units compared with 125,839, and 10,974 were shipped for export compared with 13,300. In December, 14,073 units were produced as against 12,147 a year earlier. Manufacturers' stocks at the end of the year advanced to 3,145 units compared with 1,632 at the end of 1948.

Output of domestic washing machines in 1949 increased eight per cent, numbering 350,884 units compared with 322,963 in 1948. Electric machines accounted for 309,357 of the 1949 total as against 285,733, gasoline for 38,755 compared with 28,940, and hand machines for 2,772 as against 8,290 in 1948. Shipments during the year totalled 342,880 units, up from 321,151 in 1948, while year-end stocks amounted to 11,057 units compared with 3,053.

Effects of Devaluation Becoming Apparent in Eastern Caribbean

Exchange restrictions have prevented importers from seeking cheapest sources of supply, except in countries whose currency is tied to sterling—Further rise in cost of living expected—Weather conditions favour crop growth in territory—Reconstruction in Georgetown and Castries continues rapidly

By T. G. Major, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner

PORT-OF-SPAIN, March 23, 1950.—As was anticipated, it has taken about six months for the effects of devaluation of sterling, the French franc and the Dutch guilder to become apparent in the dependent territories of the Eastern Caribbean. Limited in their production of basic foods and essential manufactured goods, exchange restrictions have prevented importers from seeking the cheapest sources of supply except in countries whose currency is tied to sterling. At the same time, these sterling sources for various reasons, partly because of rising costs but not always, have increased their prices over a wide field of commodities. Unfortunately for the Caribbean consumer, these price increases have been greatest in those commodities in heaviest demand by those sections of the public which can least afford to meet them.

As is usually the case when living costs begin to move upwards, there has been a lag in wages. The full effects of devaluation have been delayed by the good crops of 1949, which placed ready cash in the hands of the workers and stimulated active buying in the pre-Christmas season. At the same time ample supplies of all commodities, except certain foodstuffs, were ordered before devaluation and most governments took steps to prevent price increases until new supplies were imported. In addition, subsidization of basic foodstuffs was continued in some instances, notably in Trinidad where higher landed costs of Canadian flour have been absorbed.

Further Price Increases Anticipated

Recent surveys made by business organizations indicate that further price increases, ranging from 5 to 25 per cent, are likely before the middle of the year. Scarcely a week passes but that higher commodity prices are authorized by local control authorities. Higher freight rates from Western Europe, the British Isles, the Mediterranean and the Antipodes, announced early in March, will shortly contribute to rising landed costs. In addition to commodity prices, the cost of travel by air and sea and of postage have risen. Except in Trinidad and one or two of the small islands, increases in gasoline and lubricating oils and automobile servicing costs have contributed to the rise.

Since early February, more and more space in the press has been devoted to the rising cost of living. Pressure for higher wage scales has begun to develop and in some instances upward revisions already have taken place. Delay in such increases has been due partly to uncertainty as to the future of the sugar industry in the British colonies. Negotiations begun in London during the latter part of 1949 were postponed when West Indian representatives refused to accept an eight-year contract from the British Ministry of Food for quantities about 25 per cent less than

the West Indian producers regarded as the minimum necessary for maintaining the sugar industry as the basis of the colonial economy. Further discussions are expected in the near future, but the West Indian case will be presented by political rather than commercial representatives as local legislatures have come to the conclusion that the politic-social aspects of the problem have become paramount. Coming at the same time as the rising living costs, the delay in settling the sugar problem has created much unrest, as evidenced in the press, legislatures and various local bodies.

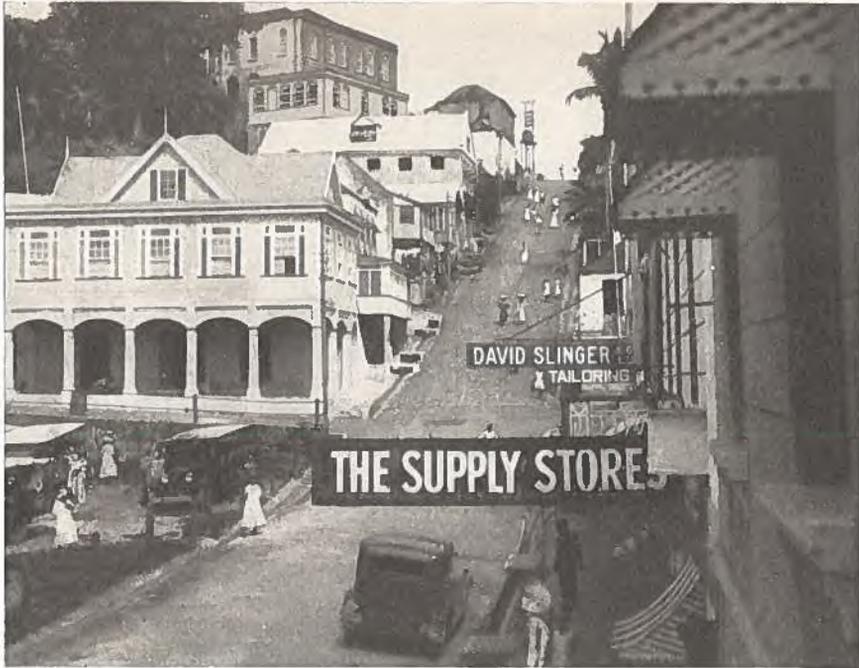
In British Guiana, extremely heavy rains in January and February further complicated matters. The coastal lands were subjected to torrential downpours with which the drainage systems were unable to cope. As a result, thousands of acres were flooded for weeks, livestock and poultry were drowned, growing vegetable and other crops destroyed and road transportation disrupted. Fortunately a let-up in rainfall narrowly averted breaks in the conservation dams, which might have produced disastrous results. Essential foods and rehabilitation supplies were rushed from Trinidad and other Caribbean islands and from Canada, and a rapid recovery is being made.

Weather Conditions Favour Crops in Islands

Generally speaking, weather conditions have been favourable to crop growth in the islands of the Eastern Caribbean. Harvesting of the sugar crop is proceeding and good yields are anticipated, although the unusually wet weather which continued into the dry season has delayed cutting and may affect the sugar content of the canes. In addition to British Guiana, the rainfall in Trinidad has been exceptionally heavy and there has been some damage to food crops.

Cocoa crops are good and are being sold at price levels much above average, mostly to Great Britain and Europe. Trinidad has had an excellent citrus crop, the bulk of which has been sold to the United Kingdom as fresh fruit and to Canada as canned juice. Trinidad also has shared in the boom in coffee prices, with sales chiefly to Europe, smaller quantities going to Canada and New Zealand. The market for nutmeg and mace from Grenada has been moderately active, but prices have been relatively low. The banana industry in Dominica has experienced a marked revival with regular shipments going to the United Kingdom and Europe at satisfactory prices. The heavy rainfall resulted in losses of stored padi and damaged the spring rice crop in British Guiana. High prices for feedstuffs have increased the difficulties of poultry and livestock producers, although the authorization of higher egg prices and the increased use of locally produced feeds is beginning to ease this situation.

Industrial and residential construction, both private and public, is becoming increasingly active. The rebuilding of the burnt-out sections of Georgetown, in British Guiana, and Castries, in St. Lucia, has continued at an accelerated pace. In Barbados, Martinique and Guadeloupe, new airports are being laid out, with the latter two expected to be opened shortly. Construction under private auspices has been particularly active in Trinidad, including office buildings and stores in Port-of-Spain and San Fernando, box and bottle factories and a brewery and much new housing. Trinidad Leaseholds, Limited have begun the construction of new oil refinery capacity. In British Guiana, Surinam and French Guiana, extensive plans for the development of forest and mineral resources and of agriculture are getting under way. Various government authorities have announced schemes for public works, affecting roads, railways, harbours, airports, waterworks, irrigation and drainage, and electrification,



Grenada—Street in St. George's, administrative capital of the Windward Islands.

which will help the employment situation over the short-term future. Notable in this category is a proposed \$20 million water supply system for the island of Trinidad. The water supply of Antigua also is the subject of recent activity. In British Guiana, the Colonial Development Corporation, a British Government body, is putting into operation an extensive scheme for the exploitation of the timber resources of the Bartica triangle, just above the head of navigation on the Essequibo River.

Tourist Season Has Been Active

The tourist season has been active, particularly in Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada and St. Thomas. The annual influx of tourists by the regular steamship services from Canada and the United States has been augmented by a number of luxury cruise ships operated by British, Dutch, American and other lines. Barbados, in particular, has benefited by the inauguration of direct Trans-Canada Air Lines flights from Montreal via Bermuda and by direct services from Venezuela. British West Indian Airways recently started flights to Miami, which should increase the flow of tourists from the United States.

From the point of view of the Canadian exporter, the current trend is most discouraging. Limited hard currency allotments from the mother countries have forced local governments progressively to reduce imports from Canada and to turn importers to soft currency sources of supply. Canadian goods are becoming increasingly difficult to find in the retail shops. The pace of the restrictive measures has been accelerated rapidly since the beginning of the year and there appear to be no immediate prospects of a reversal of the trend until measures are taken to increase the hard currency allotments. Local governments have relatively little choice in the face of definite directives from the metropolitan governments. Even should the restrictions be eased, Canadian exporters will

find competition stiff on a landed cost basis because of the depreciated value of sterling and associated currencies and the reappearance of goods from low-cost-of-production countries, such as Japan.

In the political field, publication of the long expected report on federation of the British Caribbean colonies has been the outstanding feature of the period under review. This report recommends the establishment of a federal government with defined powers somewhat on the plan of the Australian Commonwealth. It constitutes a long step towards self government, although the United Kingdom would retain reserve powers in finance, defence and external relations. It is proposed that the capital of the federation should be in Trinidad. Coupled with this report, recommendations have been made looking towards a unified civil service, a customs union and a common currency. Before implementation, these reports will be submitted to the various colonial legislatures and considerable modification is anticipated. Among the colonies of the Eastern Caribbean, the public reception of the federation proposals has been generally favourable, except in the case of British Guiana. It is evident, however, that the economic basis of the proposed federation is the problem of greatest concern and there is a growing appreciation of the need for economic solvency if political freedom is to have any meaning.

Number of Visitors to Jamaica During Past Year Was Largest on Record

Tourists totalled 68,628, of whom some 7,000 were Canadians—Figures exceeded those for Bermuda for the first time—Estimated that £2,500,000 derived from expenditures by visitors to Island.

By M. B. Palmer, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner

KINGSTON, March 29, 1950.—Tourist traffic in Jamaica achieved a new record last year, and the number of visitors in this island exceeded for the first time the figures for Bermuda in a corresponding period. It is recorded that 68,628 tourists visited Jamaica in 1949, an increase of some 6,800 over the previous year. Approximately 7,000 of the total were Canadians. Bermuda reported 61,863 visitors in the same period, while Nassau, in the Bahamas, had 37,578 tourists.

It is estimated that tourists to Jamaica spent £2,500,000, of which 90 per cent consisted of dollars. It is also maintained that visitors from dollar countries did not spend less in the island because of devaluation, but actually increased their expenditures on goods and services. The aggregate income was therefore as large as in the past.

The Tourist Trade Commissioner indicated in his report for the year that Jamaica is recognized as an ideal year-round holiday resort, and that transportation companies have contributed to its recent achievement by operating additional services, reducing fares and featuring the island in their advertising. An increasing number of travel agents from Canada and the United States have visited Jamaica, thereby familiarizing themselves with its facilities, and improvements in hotel accommodation have stimulated traffic.

Although figures for the current winter season are not yet available, it is believed that the long-stay traffic will show a substantial increase over that of last year. Prospects for the coming summer season are promising, and a number of the tourist centres are offering reduced rates. Arrangements are also being made to undertake a new advertising campaign in Canada and the United States.

Germany Replaces United States As Main Outlet for Swiss Goods

For the first time since the war, exports to Western Germany surpassed those to the United States in December, 1949—Imports from Canada increased 57 per cent in the past year—Canada supplied 54 per cent by weight of total Swiss imports of wheat.

By Yves Lamontagne, Commercial Counsellor for Canada

BERNE, March 28, 1950.—Switzerland entered the year 1950 in a spirit of quiet confidence and with the hope that the downward trend in business, manifest in 1949, would not be aggravated by a sudden fall during the coming months. It is generally realized that the postwar prosperity period is over and that attention must be centred on ensuring a healthy situation in the country's finances, while in all branches of production and trade costs must be pared down wherever possible and the cost of living prevented from rising. These objects must be achieved if Switzerland is to be successful in meeting present competition in the export markets and in maintaining the volume of exports at a level which will ensure continuance of the country's prosperity.

Swiss exporters have to contend with most of the problems facing Canadian exporters, particularly as a result of the measures taken by countries which are in balance of payments difficulties. During recent months, however, there have been some encouraging signs pointing to greater possibilities of trade for Switzerland, particularly in near-by markets, such as Western Germany and Belgium. In this connection, it is significant that economic conditions in Western Germany have improved to such an extent that in December, 1949, Germany, for the first time since the war, became Switzerland's principal export market, followed by the United States, which had held first place until that time.

Imports from Canada Greatly Increased

Total exports from Switzerland during 1949 were slightly above those of 1948, reaching an all-time peak of 3,456.7 million francs (Can. \$884,900,000). Imports, on the other hand, slumped to 3,791 million francs (Can. \$970,500,000), compared with 4,998.9 million francs in 1948, a decrease of 24.2 per cent. Imports from Canada last year rose to 154.4 million francs, an increase of 57 per cent over the figures for 1948. Total exports to all countries for the months of January and February, 1950, were 4 per cent below those of the corresponding two months of 1949, while imports during the first two months of the present year were 20 per cent less, in value, than those of the corresponding period in 1948.

While the devaluation of the pound sterling last September and the other monetary readjustments which followed gave rise, at the time, to considerable concern in local trade and business circles, they have as yet had little apparent effect on Switzerland's foreign trade. The Swiss hotel industry experienced a 13 per cent decrease in the number of foreign guests during the fall of 1949, and prospects are far from satis-

factory. Exchange controls abroad and increased competition from countries with devalued currencies have severely affected this important branch of "invisible" exports.

The trend in Swiss industrial production is toward normalcy and conditions may be said to be fairly satisfactory on the whole. There has been a slight increase in unemployment, but the situation is not such as to cause any great concern.

Wheat Obtained from Canada

Lack of rains adversely affected some of the local crops last year, particularly the yields of potatoes and fodder. The wheat crop, however, was satisfactory, and this is important in view of the fact that Switzerland depends to a large extent on foreign sources of supply for bread grains. Canada supplied 54 per cent by weight of Switzerland's total imports of wheat last year. The total gross income from agriculture in 1949 is estimated at 2,195.5 million francs, about the same as for 1948.

The general cost of living index declined during 1949 by about 2 per cent, and real wages have correspondingly risen. It is hoped that the decline in import prices will be reflected in a further reduction in the cost of living. Price controls on a wide range of commodities were removed last year where this could be done without endangering the stability of wages and prices. At the end of November last it was decided to terminate an agreement between the larger economic bodies or associations and representatives of the wage-earners concerning the relation between prices and wages, as the agreement no longer appeared necessary.

Money is in such plentiful supply that rates of interest on the Swiss capital market have been forced down to unusually low levels, and the situation is such that remedial measures are being considered. The average yield of Swiss Government bonds fell to 2.37 per cent at the end of January, 1950.

Swiss Franc Remained Firm

A temporary flurry followed the wave of currency devaluations set in motion by the devaluation of sterling, but failed to shake the Swiss franc which is as firm as ever. Bank-note circulation, which totalled 4,566 million francs at the end of 1949, together with slight liabilities, are backed by a 100 per cent gold cover, besides the foreign exchange held by the National Bank. There appears to be no likelihood of devaluation of the Swiss franc, except in the event that the value in gold in terms of U.S. dollars should be modified.

Switzerland's total gross national income for 1949 will not be far from the 1948 estimate of 18.3 billion francs (about Can.\$4,685,000,000). The present population is approximately 4,000,000, and, taking into account an increase of 10 per cent in the population from 1938 to 1948, the nominal income rose by 84 per cent during this period and the real income by 9 per cent per head of population.

The Federal finances for 1949 registered a decrease in revenue from taxes and customs duties. Nevertheless, total effective receipts of 1,564 million francs exceeded total expenditures by 12 million francs. The Federal budget estimates for 1950 provide for expenditures totalling 1,413 million francs, as compared with a total revenue of 1,583 million francs. The latter figure includes 482 millions from customs taxes and 370 millions from sales taxes. The estimates included 518 million francs for military expenditures, of which about 10 per cent are to be secured from reserve

funds. Provision is made for 84 million francs in agricultural subsidies. Doubts have been expressed as regards the possibility of balancing the 1951 budget in view of the expected decline in receipts from taxation. The consolidated debt of the Confederation totalled 10,794 million francs at the end of 1948, which included 7,992 millions for consolidated and floating debts.

Drop in British Demand for Rum Will Affect Sugar Industry

Port-of-Spain, March 31, 1950.—(FTS)—The British Empire Producers' Organization, representing primary producers in the Dominions and Colonies, has forecast serious effects on the prosperity of the sugar industry, following the recent substantial drop in demand for rum in the United Kingdom. Concern was also expressed concerning the serious effects which the present duties on wines, spirits and cigars were having on consumption in the United Kingdom. Although there was an increase in British imports of rum during the first nine months of 1949, withdrawals from bond had been little more than half the quantities recorded in the corresponding period of 1948. It was stated that producers in the West Indies and British Guiana have already had to reduce output of rum by 25 per cent in view of heavy accumulation of stocks.

El Salvador Plans New Hydro-Electric Plant

Guatemala City, March 15, 1950.—(FTS)—With the assistance of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which has provided a credit of \$12,545,000, the Comision Ejecutiva Hidroelectrica del Rio Lempa, in El Salvador, is now in a position to construct a hydro-electric plant at Chorrera del Guayabo, on the Lempa River, some 58 kilometres from the capital, San Salvador.

The drainage basin of this river has an area of 18,243 square kilometres, 40 per cent of which are in Guatemala and Honduras. The area flooded after construction of the dam will be twenty square kilometres, or 7.7 square miles, and the storage capacity will amount to 177,000,000 cubic metres. This should be sufficient to ensure a discharge of 42 cubic metres per second during the dry season, and 46 during normal times.

Two hydraulic turbines with horizontal axis and horizontal generators will be first installed. The turbines will have a capacity of 21,000 horsepower, each with a head of 60 metres. The generators will have a capacity of about 16,700 kva. with a power factor of 90 per cent, 200 r.p.m., 60 cycles, 3 phase. With these two units, the Guayabo plant will have a normal capacity of 30,000 kilowatts, which will drop to 26,000 when the excavation has been done to permit the necessary storage volume. The used water will be discharged through horizontal cones into a tunnel of about 280 metres in length and then into a tail race of 70 metres.

There will be a 115,000-volt transmission line to San Salvador to be extended later to San Miguel. In both places there will be receiving and distributing sub-stations.

El Salvador is building this hydro-electric plant for the following purposes:—

- (a) Supply power to existing industries or new industries for the transformation of local raw materials.
- (b) For irrigation with a view to increasing agricultural production.
- (c) Flood control.
- (d) Drainage of marshes and their conversion into pastures.
- (e) The replacement of wood by electricity as industrial and domestic fuel, combined with a reforestation plan.
- (f) Rural electrification, recreation, tourism, fisheries.

Ocean-Going Arrivals at Canadian Ports Showed Slight Increase in Past Year

National Harbours Board records 4,626, of 16,935,000 net tons, compared with 4,243, of 15,703,000 net tons in 1948—Foreign cargo tonnage, including grain, handled last year higher.

OCEAN-GOING arrivals at the eight ports administered by the National Harbours Board totalled 4,626, of 16,935,000 net registered tons, in 1949, as compared with 4,243, of 15,703,000 net registered tons, in 1948. Vancouver and Halifax, which are open to navigation for twelve months, handled the largest amount of ocean tonnage, though Montreal was far in the lead with 8,431,000 tons of foreign cargo tonnage handled over her wharves, more than half of this total consisting of grain. The following tables were compiled by the National Harbours Board, the annual report of which was recently issued:

Ocean-going Shipping Arrivals

	1949		1948	
	No. of vessels	Net registered tonnage	No. of vessels	Net registered tonnage
Halifax	1,305	4,140,177	1,195	4,015,778
Saint John	542	1,621,354	546	1,679,887
Chicoutimi	21	33,302	36	59,708
Quebec	410	1,980,917	353	1,495,231
Three Rivers	168	567,337	156	534,286
Montreal	1,112	4,113,327	1,016	3,880,085
Churchill	16	67,851	15	69,326
Vancouver	1,052	4,410,998	926	3,968,855
Total	4,626	16,935,263	4,243	15,703,156

Foreign Cargo Tonnage Handled

	1949			1948		
	Inward	Outward	Total	Inward	Outward	Total
Halifax	1,754,331	300,026	2,654,357	1,888,671	1,083,417	2,972,088
Saint John	605,087	1,363,558	1,968,645	590,021	1,622,886	2,212,907
Chicoutimi	23,236	.....	23,236	35,837	.....	35,837
Quebec	40,905	316,440	357,345	44,644	169,067	213,711
Three Rivers	120,936	343,468	464,404	350,995	349,585	700,580
Montreal	4,263,258	4,168,136	8,431,394	4,194,095	4,002,652	8,196,747
Churchill	2,000	165,826	167,826	949	158,760	159,709
Vancouver	2,156,441	2,796,757	4,953,198	2,307,240	2,031,878	4,339,118
Total	8,966,194	10,054,211	19,020,405	9,412,452	9,418,245	18,830,697

Grain Shipments from Canadian Harbours

	1949		1948	
	(Bushels)		(Bushels)	
Halifax	9,380,906	.....	7,475,750	.....
Saint John	14,319,666	.....	12,473,238	.....
Quebec	7,442,722	.....	759,637	.....
Three Rivers	7,423,805	.....	8,281,429	.....
Montreal	97,464,199	.....	67,458,210	.....
Churchill	5,527,535	.....	5,325,884	.....
Vancouver	76,391,093	.....	42,375,830	.....
Total	217,949,926	.....	144,149,978	.....

Principal Commodities Handled by Canadian Ports

Halifax	1949		1948	
	Tons		Tons	
Petroleum, crude	1,147,272	.....	1,162,458	.....
Petroleum, fuel	549,387	.....	486,182	.....
Gasoline	410,531	.....	393,423	.....
Grain	292,750	.....	240,660	.....
Coal, bituminous	115,880	.....	222,096	.....

Principal Commodities Handled by Canadian Ports—Concluded

	1949	1948
Flour, wheat	120,639	99,859
Lumber (planks, boards and flooring) and square timber....	68,968	57,196
Kerosene	61,905	110,696
Fish (including shell-fish), dried, pickled, salted or smoked	57,460	44,801
Cement, common or portland	46,525	40,893
Saint John		
Grain	416,384	333,275
Sugar, raw	202,603	212,163
Gasoline	167,652	128,128
Flour, wheat	167,454	307,729
Petroleum, fuel	117,282	101,320
Potatoes	86,294	47,904
Logs, masts, piling, pitprops, poles, posts, spars and ties (railway)	85,456	125,345
Lumber (planks, boards and flooring) and square timber....	80,784	82,134
Motor vehicles and parts	77,979	48,665
Fertilizers and fertilizer materials	77,080	62,790
Chicoutimi		
Coal, bituminous	85,242	173,485
Gasoline	26,605	20,295
Petroleum, fuel	13,646	7,630
Coal, anthracite	9,197	11,214
Beverages, alcoholic	5,508	.....
Sulphur	5,430	5,099
Quebec		
Coal, bituminous	419,446	567,381
Pulpwood	410,019	485,024
Petroleum, fuel	254,632	227,381
Grain	253,807	5,386
Gasoline	195,237	188,450
Cement, common or portland	57,149	57,593
Asbestos and asbestos manufactures	39,965	38,652
Coal, anthracite	36,385	21,937
Flour, wheat	30,464	15,465
Paper, newsprint	25,146	22,346
Three Rivers		
Pulpwood	1,125,540	1,394,779
Grain	492,726	439,058
Coal, bituminous	365,784	511,916
Paper, newsprint	104,578	84,420
Petroleum, fuel	82,653	15,610
Gasoline	25,516	23,704
Sulphur	22,627	26,890
Lumber (planks, boards and flooring) and square timber....	13,545	13,829
Clay	10,156	5,334
Montreal		
Grain	4,531,332	2,276,529
Petroleum, crude	1,855,867	1,713,121
Gasoline	1,697,266	1,342,101
Coal, bituminous	939,118	1,257,444
Petroleum, fuel	934,075	910,385
Iron ore	453,181	255,215
Flour, wheat	395,849	588,229
Sugar, raw	275,007	248,255
Coal, anthracite	253,271	109,536
Cement, common or portland	211,717	111,378
Gypsum, crude	174,082	146,603
Vancouver		
Grain	2,113,348	1,121,772
Logs, masts, piling, pitprops, poles, posts, spars and ties (rail- way)	1,231,512	1,371,207
Petroleum, crude	1,116,881	1,146,562
Lumber (planks, boards and flooring) and square timber..	797,627	898,949
Petroleum, fuel	638,638	779,249
Sand and gravel	497,225	404,274
Gasoline	368,378	352,923
Coal, bituminous	224,937	282,673
Flour, wheat	168,341	115,702
Cement	146,709	118,470
Paper, newsprint	139,929	218,345

Australian Wool Sold in Larger Quantities for Higher Prices

Total of 1,473,917 bales was sold in first five months of 1949-50 season, as compared with 1,168,588 bales in previous similar period—Wheat crop estimated to be second largest on record—Cheese output sets record but butter production declined—Output of dried fruits was lowest since 1931.

By M. R. M. Dale, Assistant Commercial Secretary for Canada

(Editor's Note—This is the last in a series of three articles on economic conditions in Australia during 1949. One Australian pound equals \$2.4640 Canadian.)

SYDNEY, February 20, 1950.—Widespread and representative sources of demand for Australian wool characterized the first five months of the 1949-50 season when excellent progress was made in disposing of the clip. A total of 1,473,917 bales was sold compared with 1,168,588 bales for the relative period of 1948-49. The average price obtained for this period of 1949 was 51.92 pence per pound for greasy wool, and 65.61 pence per pound for scoured wool. These compare with corresponding prices for the five months ended November 1948 of 46.26 pence and 60.98 pence respectively.

The official estimate for the 1949-50 wheat crop is 216,500,000 bushels, the second largest on record. New South Wales would have the biggest crop, totalling 83,000,000 bushels compared with Victoria's 56,000,000 bushels. New South Wales would also have the highest yield of 20.64 bushels to the acre, Victoria's average being 18.67 per acre.

There was a reduction in the quantity of wheat and flour exported during the crop year ended November 30 over the totals for the prewar years. A total of 83.4 million bushels of wheat and 728,000 tons of flour were exported, being 3.6 million bushels and 146,000 tons respectively lower than the total for the previous year.

Bulk Export Price of Wheat Reduced

The export price per bushel of wheat, f.o.b. bulk basis, was reduced on December 19 by the Wheat Board by one shilling to 19 shillings. The price of export wheat has increased since the end of the war from 8s. 8½d. per bushel to 20s. 6d. per bushel in 1948. This price fell to 14s in May, 1949, which has, after devaluation, equalled 20s.

The guaranteed domestic price of wheat to growers has been increased under the provisions of the Commonwealth Stabilization Act to 7s. 1d. per bushel by reason of the increased cost of production. However, the local consumption price is to remain at 6s. 8d. per bushel under a Federal subsidy arrangement.

A recent Commonwealth survey indicates a steady recovery in the number of dairy cattle and shows a total of 4,862,534 at March 31, 1949, being an increase of 116,000 over the previous year, and more than 270,000 greater than in March, 1947. This is still somewhat less than prewar when the total was 5,000,000.

Although there were fewer dairy cows in milk than in 1945, the output of whole milk during 1948-49 exceeded prewar output by 17,000,000 gallons and totalled over 1,206,000,000 gallons. Of this total

output, 65 per cent was used in butter production, 7.8 per cent in the production of cheese, 7 per cent in the manufacture of condensary products, and 20.2 per cent for fluid consumption and other purposes.

Cheese Output Sets Record But Butter Production Declined

Production of butter and cheese for the year ended June, 1949, showed an increase over the previous season, and the 43,300 tons of cheese produced was a record and far in excess of the 29,300 tons recorded for the last prewar year. However, butter production was considerably lower than the output of 203,500 tons recorded for 1938-39, and totalled only 165,700 tons.

Exports of butter and cheese amounted to 83,000 and 26,000 tons respectively, over 85 per cent of each being shipped to the United Kingdom.

As a consequence of humid weather and heavy rainfall experienced in the southern states during the harvesting, production of dried fruits in the 1949 season amounted to only 55,000 tons, which was 25,000 tons less than the original estimate for the season, and the lowest annual production of currants, sultanas and lexias since 1931.

Australian Production of Dried Fruits

	Currants (Tons)	Sultanas (Tons)	Lexias (Tons)	Total (Tons)
1945	17,601	41,692	8,739	68,032
1946	14,004	51,318	7,071	72,393
1947	11,429	39,661	5,268	56,358
1948	17,904	57,729	4,971	80,604
1949	16,100	34,400	5,000	55,500

Australia's quota for domestic consumption stands at 23,975 tons which represents only a slight reduction and, conforming to the Commonwealth policy of maintaining a maximum export to dollar-currency areas, the allocation of 14,075 tons of dried fruits for Canada was only 4,200 tons less than for the 1948 season. The comparative allocation to the United Kingdom was cut by over 50 per cent to 12,000 tons. This will be increased by about 4,000 tons which will be sent in the form of food parcels, etc., from Australia. Remaining allocations are: New Zealand, 4,450 tons, and other markets, 1,000 tons.

The output of canned fruit (apricots, peaches, pears and composite pack) for 1949 was well below prewar and amounted to 2,707,557 cases. The decline was accounted for entirely by the partial failure of the peach crop. By contrast, records were established by this year's pack of apricots and pears. Almost 50 per cent of the total pack will be sold to the United Kingdom and 44 per cent will be used for domestic sales, thus accounting for 2,374,057 cases. Canada has been allocated 83,500 cases, New Zealand 100,000 cases, and other markets 150,000 cases.

Record Rural Production Estimated for Coming Year

Australia's rural production for the year 1949-50 will probably be worth £720 million, easily a record. In the previous year production reached the record level of £616 million. The average for the five prewar years was £211 million. The quarterly review of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, which reveals these figures, says the increase is mainly due to the continued rise in export prices for most primary products. Currency devaluation has averted the expected decline in returns for wheat and wool, the review says. The volume of production this financial year is, however, also expected to be higher than in 1948-49.

Greatest increases since before the war have occurred in wool and wheat. Those products account for 60 per cent of the total increase for all rural industries since the prewar five-year period. The value of wheat production in 1949-50 will be about 335 per cent higher than during the five prewar years. The probable increase in the volume of wool production during the same period is about 391 percent. The increase for all other products has reached only 158 per cent.

Production of wool, shorn and on skins, in 1949-50 is estimated at 1,080 million pounds greasy, about 45 million more than last year.

Canned pineapple products are still an important dollar earner, and the policy of concentrating on export markets, particularly the Canadian market, is continuing. Last year 91 per cent of Australia's canned pineapple was exported, and sales to Canada were worth more than \$2,000,000.

Time Recorders to be Produced in Trinidad

Port-of-Spain, March 31, 1950.—(FTS)—Officials of the Simplex Time Recorder Company, of Gardner, Mass., arrived in Trinidad early in February to complete arrangements for the opening of a local branch of that company. It will be the only plant of its kind in the British West Indies and when the technicians from the United States have spent four to five months in Trinidad training workers, it is planned to use local labour exclusively. Local timber, described as just as suitable as oak used in the United States, will be used for the manufacture of the clock cases. The factory will be opened within the next few weeks and will be the first foreign branch to be established by the parent firm. The clocks themselves will be manufactured in the United States and assembled in the Trinidad factory. It is expected that the parent firm's production will be boosted by 20 per cent as a result of the new venture.

Junior Chamber of Commerce to Hold International Convention in Montreal

Manila, March 15, 1950.—(FTS)—Representatives of thirteen countries attended the international conference in Manila of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Canada having sent five delegates to the gathering, at which it was decided to hold the next international conference in Montreal on May 15, 1951.

The Canadian delegation took a prominent part in the conference, Mr. Marcel Lafaille, of Montreal, who was vice-president during the past year, having been succeeded by Mr. W. W. Fuller, of Sioux Lookout, Ont., who was appointed vice-president in charge of external affairs.

Attractive booths were erected by provincial Jaycees, local manufacturers and different departments of the Philippine Government, including the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Fisheries, Bureau of Forestry, the Department of Education, "Pratra" (Philippine Relief and Trade Rehabilitation Administration).

This exhibition was visited by His Excellency, Elpidio Quirino, President of the Republic of the Philippines, who found the exhibition so impressive he requested that it remain open for a fortnight after the congress closed.

The Canadian delegation had a large room in the Manila Hotel known as the "Canada Room". The walls of this room were decorated with the Canadian ensign and coat-of-arms. A comprehensive display of photographs supplied by the National Film Board drew attention to many aspects of Canadian industrial, commercial and cultural life. The display of photographs was the subject of much favourable comment.

French Economy Greatly Improved From Operation of Monnet Plan

Trade statistics indicate that a large percentage of French imports consist of equipment for the rehabilitation of industry—Rejuvenation of industry made possible by ECA—Industrial production shows still further increase—Output of automobile industry showed sensational rise in past year.

By J. P. Manion, Commercial Secretary for Canada

(Editor's Note—This is the third in a series of five articles on economic conditions in France during the past year. Mr. Manion is at present making a tour of Canada.)

PARIS, February 20, 1950.—Substantial improvements in the economy of France have been effected through the operation of the Monnet Plan, the basis of which is that France cannot become economically viable unless its equipment is modernized. Trade statistics indicate that a large percentage of French imports consist of equipment for the rehabilitation of industry in this country. Furthermore, the Economic Co-operation Administration has made possible, either directly or by means of counterpart funds, the rejuvenation of industry. It is reported that some \$247,000,000 in counterpart funds have been made available for the modernization of coal mines, in addition to dollars provided for the purchase of new equipment in the United States.

In other forms of energy, counterpart funds have aided in the construction of a new power plant yielding 550 million kwh. per year, and will assist in the development of four other plants, in addition to the large hydro-electric developments already in progress under purely French auspices.

In the field of basic industry, ECA has also been instrumental in the establishment of the most important continuous-strip steel plants in the world. One will be a hot strip mill and the other a cold-rolling mill, of which 80 per cent of the equipment is now installed. Most of the production will be in the form of coils and thin and medium sheets, of which Europe has been traditionally short. But the coils will be further processed into thin sheets, while others will be transformed into tinplate.

Thin and medium sheet production will thus be boosted by about 700,000 tons per year, and other improvements will increase the pig iron capacity by 300,000 tons, and open hearth capacity by 330,000 tons. Thomas steel ingot capacity will also go up by about 220,000 tons.

Overall Industrial Production Increased

The big news about French industrial recovery however, does not lie in such isolated improvements, but upon the industrial picture as a whole. A big advance had already been realized in 1948, when the index of industrial production stood at 111 of 1938 as the base. In 1949, there was still further improvement, and industrial production for the year is estimated at 122 of 1938, despite minor recessions in textiles and chemicals.

At practically no time in the prewar world did French coal production exceed 45,000,000 metric tons a year. France has always been dependent on imports of coal, largely compensated by exports of iron ore to the Ruhr. Monthly production in 1938 reached 3,963,000 metric tons, went away down until 1948 when it again reached a comparative figure, 3,761,000 metric tons. But in 1949, production in the first six months averaged 4,500,000 tons, reduced slightly for the remaining months, so that the year's total came to about 53,000,000 tons.

Electric power production suffered from a severe drought which reduced hydro production and forced thermal production to a new high. In 1938, the average monthly output of hydro-electric power was 819.8 million kwh, and thermal power output was 727.7 million kwh; making a total of 1,547.5 million, or approximately 18,000 million kwh. per year. By 1948, the proportion was nearly the same, but total output had increased to 27,600 million kwh, and high hopes were entertained for 1949, when the many newly-constructed dams would be in operation. Instead, hydro-power fell considerably below the previous year's, due to the long sustained drought and, at one time, was as low as 50 per cent of average. The year's output, nevertheless, taking account of heavy duty for thermal stations, reached a slightly higher level than during the previous year, at about 27,800 million kwh.

At the same time, with the relaxation and final relinquishment of controls on the sale of gasoline, imports of petroleum continued to increase. Whereas they averaged 644,000 tons, in terms of raw petroleum, per month in 1938, they increased to 694,000 tons in 1948, and averaged 1,200,000 tons in 1949.

Supplies of Fuel and Energy have kept up with Demand

In all, therefore, French supplies of fuel and energy have kept up very well with the accrued postwar demand. There seems to be no reason to fear that shortages will exist except spasmodically in the case of electric power, unless some serious social disturbance were to occur in the coal-mines.

Although the shortage of electricity was irksome to some small industries depending on centrally-supplied power during 1949, it is not felt that it had any serious reaction on the economy as a whole. The small industrialist who finds himself saddled with a five-day week plus one day of electrical cuts may feel differently about the matter, but in many cases was able to fit his worker-program into the system of rationing of electricity by sectors and days.

France is one of the main iron ore suppliers of Europe, and as such her production of ore is very important to the rest of the European economy. In 1938 her production was 2,755 thousand metric tons per month, while 1948 production was a mere 1,919 thousand metric tons. The Ruhr was not being alimented at that period. However, since the beginning of 1949, French mines have worked well, and the total production for the year was about 31,200 thousand tons, or at a rate of over 2,500 thousand tons per month. In view of the reduced demand from Germany, this is probably an economic level, and it is improbable that further progress will be made along these lines.

Pig iron production in 1938 averaged 501,000 tons per month, in 1948, 548,000 tons, and during the year under review just about 700,000 tons or a total for the year of about 8,400,000 tons.

In the Saar, production was well maintained at an average of about 135,000 tons monthly, as against 201,000 tons in 1938, but only 95,000 tons in 1948.

Raw Steel Production Established a Record

Raw steel production, which was 518,000 tons per month in France in 1938 had increased to 604,000 tons in 1948 and rose as high as 810,000 tons in May of 1949. Although this was a record, production was well maintained throughout the year, and averaged about 730,000 tons, or a total of 8,760,000 tons for the year. In the Saar, which, for economic purposes forms part of France, production has still not reached prewar levels but maintained a rate of about 140,000 tons a month in 1949, as against 213,000 tons prewar and only 102,000 tons in 1948. With this additional amount, steel production at the disposal of French industry totalled about 10,500,000 tons during the year, an all-time record.

In hot-rolled steel the progress was equally evident, production rising from an average of 343,000 tons per month in 1938, to 427,000 tons in 1948 and to an average of about 513,000 tons in 1949. Saar production, which was 160,000 tons per month in 1938, had fallen to 68,000 tons in 1948, but increased impressively in 1949 to about 102,000 tons per month. Thus total availabilities to industry totalled approximately 7,380,000 tons, again a record.

Output of Automobile Industry Greatly Increased

The most sensational rise in production during the year was in the automobile industry. In the number of vehicles made, France rose to third place in world production, coming after the United States and the United Kingdom, and slightly ahead of Canada.

The average monthly production in 1938 had been 18,950 vehicles, of which only 3,750 were commercial vehicles, or at an annual rate of 227,400 units. Production in 1948 was less than that, standing at 16,531 vehicles per month, of which, however, 8,190 were commercial vehicles. Production was rising throughout the year, and by the beginning of 1949 stood at 20,000 vehicles per month. From March onwards, however, production soared to about 25,000 units per month, for a year's total of over 280,000 vehicles. The previous record rate of production of commercial vehicles was maintained, remaining at slightly over 8,000 vehicles per month.

This sensational rise in production was largely due to the popularity of a light car put on the market by the nationally-owned Renault factory. This car also found favour abroad, and partly as a result, exports of motor vehicles from France increased to about 80,000 for the year, and formed one of the most valuable sources of foreign exchange for France.

The other side of the picture is to be seen in the textile industry, which generally progressed fairly well until the middle of the year, only to drop off substantially due to the inability of the French consumer to pay the prices asked out of incomes which had not been substantially increased despite a gradual increase in living costs.

Wool Yarn Output Declined

Wool yarn production averaged 9,800 metric tons per month in 1938, and had increased to 11,100 tons in 1948. During the first six months of 1949 production remained at about the same level, dropping off fractionally to an average of 11,050 tons per month. But during the first four months of the second half of the year production broke substantially, and averaged only 9,100 tons, so that it is probable that the year's output will be considerably less than that of 1948, and will have made little progress over prewar averages.

In woollen fabrics very much the same situation exists. Prewar production was about 6,700 tons per month, while it had risen to 7,100 tons in 1948. During the first 10 months of 1949, however, it had dropped to an average of 6,710 tons per month, or about the same as the prewar average.

Cotton yarn production appeared to be in a still worse situation: 1938 average monthly production was 20,800 tons, against 18,700 tons in 1948, while for the first 11 months of 1949, production was fractionally under the latter figure.

Cotton fabric production was better maintained, at an average of 12,700 tons per month against 12,600 tons in 1949 and 12,100 tons in 1938.

Cotton Textile Industry is in Precarious Position

One of the reasons for the declining use of cotton is that a large proportion of it has to be purchased in the United States, and every effort, therefore, is made to reduce purchases payable in dollars. But, taken in conjunction with other textile production, it is evident that the French industry is in a precarious position, partly based on the desire for self-sufficiency expressed by all the O.E.E.C. countries, with its consequent reduction in export markets. Production, for instance, has gone up in Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands, so that traditional suppliers are faced with a diminishing market.

Finally, in rayon and staple fibre production, there was a big advance over prewar production, which stood at 2,800 tons per month. By 1948 it had reached 6,300 tons per month and during the first four months of 1949 it continued to rise, reaching 8,700 tons in March. Here again, however, a serious recession set in, and the average for the first 11 months has fallen to 6,200 tons, with monthly production down to about 5,500 tons.

Construction goods have fared better than textiles, although their production is still insufficient to cover all reconstruction needs. Cement production, which was 296,000 tons a month in 1938, increased to 448,000 tons in 1948, and continued to increase steadily during 1949, so that the average for the first 11 months was 532,000 metric tons.

On the other hand, production of bricks and tiles was down somewhat from prewar, standing at about 325,000 tons per month against 340,000 tons in 1948 and 375,000 tons in 1938. Differences in construction techniques may explain the gradual reduction.

Chemical Production Down in Second Half of Year

As in the case of textiles, there was a recession in the production of chemicals after a first half-year. Sulphuric acid production stayed above the levels of 1938 (106,000 tons per month) and 1948 (104,500 tons per month) during the first 6 months of 1949, but declined thereafter so that the 11-month average was only about 94,000 tons per month.

Caustic soda, on the other hand, stood up much better, although suffering the same recession during the latter part of the year. In 1938, production stood at about 10,500 tons per month, and increased to 16,300 tons per month in 1948. It reached a high of 20,300 tons, or double prewar production, in June, 1949, but the reduction thereafter has brought the level down to an average for the first 11 months of 17,300 tons, still a considerable advance over previous years.

France produces well over 600,000 tons of sodium carbonate per year, about 130,000 tons of hydrochloric acid, 180,000 tons of ammonia, 85,000 tons of nitric acid, 180,000 tons of nitrogenous fertilizers, and 1,700,000 tons of superphosphates. These figures are all much higher than they were prewar.

It is not intended to give here a comparative table of present production against that of prewar, but simply to supply an indication as to the scope of French industry. The glass industry, for instance, produces about 800,000 metric tons of various types of glass per year; industrial porcelains are produced to the extent of 180,000 tons per year; other porcelain at the rate of about 90,000 tons.

Synthetic Rubber Imported from Canada

The rubber industry uses about 90,000 tons of imported rubber, of which over 4,000 tons of synthetic rubber is from Canada, to produce about 112,000 tons of tires and a quantity of other rubber products.

The paper industry produces about 1,100,000 tons of various paper products.

Against this panorama of industrial production may be set figures illustrating the decreasing effectiveness of France in world economic affairs until the beginning of the Second World War, as contained in the latest report of the Plan for Modernization and Equipment, commonly called the Monnet Plan, after the name of the Commissioner General for the Plan.

From 1913 to 1939, France's position as a world producer of industrial goods had fallen from 7.2 per cent to 5.1 per cent; of wheat from 8.5 per cent to 5.3 per cent; of exportable commodities from 7.3 per cent to 3.8 per cent.

The greatest part of such reductions was due to antiquated equipment: coal mining installations averaged 30 years' use, as did steel-making plants; in the cotton industry, spinning and weaving equipment was even older; machine tools averaged 25 years' utilization, against 7 to 9 years in the United Kingdom and 5 to 7 years in the United States.

In agriculture, there was only one tractor for every 2,500 acres of cultivated land, less than one-third of rural communities had running water, and the use of fertilizers was far less than that of most Western European countries.

In building construction, the situation was even worse, since only 1,500,000 family units were built from 1919 to 1939, so that most urban building was over 50 years of age and most rural construction over 100.

Cuban Cigar Industry May be Mechanized

Havana, March 31, 1950.—(FTS)—Mechanization of the cigar industry in Cuba is now under consideration, in an effort to expand the dwindling demand in export markets. Mechanization is expected to increase sales abroad for the cheaper brand of cigar. Through the re-establishment of the foreign smoker's taste for the aromatic "Havana" type tobacco, it is expected that the demand for higher-priced hand-rolled cigars and leaf tobacco will be stimulated.

The government's plan (which will make it compulsory to employ not less than fifty per cent of the present staff to operate the machines, while setting up a subsidy to relieve the balance until the industry is on its feet again) was brought about by drastically reduced exports.

High cost of the Cuban hand-rolled cigar combined with loss of dollar-short markets in England and Spain had resulted in a fall from the all-time high of 213,000,000 units to a mere 21,000,000. Severe labour demonstrations against the plan point out the difficulty of its ultimate achievement.

Argentine Grain Crops Harvested Under Satisfactory Conditions

Wheat production, estimated at 5,500,000 metric tons for 1949-50, same as for previous year—Corn crop has suffered from drought—Government continued policy of expropriating large “estancias” and creating small farms, which has weakened agricultural economy—Funds allocated for purchase of agricultural machinery.

**By W. B. McCullough, Commercial Secretary for Canada
(Agricultural Specialist)**

(Editor's Note—This is the first of two reports on agricultural conditions in Argentina, prepared for reproduction in *Foreign Trade*.)

BUENOS AIRES, March 23, 1950.—Growing conditions in Argentina were generally satisfactory during most of 1949, except in the west of the province of Buenos Aires and territory of La Pampa, which area suffered from prolonged drought. In the main production zones, the grain crops developed satisfactorily and were harvested under ideal conditions. The corn crop, however, which is sown in November, suffered from the drought, and Argentina will harvest one of the poorest crops in years. Pasture conditions were satisfactory throughout the country, except in the western zone, and continued so until October. Rainfall in November and December was 50 to 70 per cent below normal, and by January, 1950, with continued lack of rain, Argentina was suffering from the worst drought in the past thirty years.

The drought was broken in late February and during March there were general heavy rainfalls covering wide areas. Natural pastures have improved but further moisture is required in April before the commencement of winter. The livestock industry suffered a severe setback, the effects of which will be more noticeable in the last half of 1950.

The Argentine government has continued its policy of discrimination against the large landowners and of increasing the number of small owner-operated farms. During the year, the government was active in the expropriation and purchase of large “estancias” for dividing and reselling into small farms, in modifying rent contracts in favour of the tenant farmer, in the establishment of fixed prices for agricultural produce and decreeing substantial wage increases and better working conditions for rural labour, thus cutting into the margin of profit for the landowner. However, in carrying out this policy, agriculture has become less attractive to the prospective small owner. Even though the Banco de la Nacion will grant credits for the purchase of small farms up to 100 per cent of the value, there are several instances where these have not been taken up and the deadlines for the purchases were extended. It is apparent that the authorities now realize their attempt at reorganizing the land tenure system has weakened the agricultural economy as a whole and has led to declining grain acreages, whereas livestock production, which is the backbone of the large estates, has been maintained on the same level.

Three-Year Plan for Agriculture Was Announced

President Peron, in his address before the Agricultural Co-operatives Conference, which included the small producers, stated that land would continue to be made available to them but that the expropriation and

division could not be carried out rapidly or indiscriminately. He added that for grain production a farm should not be less than 100 hectares and for livestock not less than from 1,500 to 2,000 hectares. He also announced a three-year plan for agriculture, similar in scope to the plan for industry which is now reaching completion. While no details have been made public, it is understood to cover irrigation, land settlement, mechanization, redirection of marginal lands, farm assistance, etc. The President stated that it was primarily a matter of organization, based on an overall plan for the country. It would appear that the government is hopeful of utilizing the agricultural co-operatives to organize a substantial number of farmers, fitting them into the framework of government control and thus gain support for the plan. On the same occasion, the President promised that foreign exchange would be made available for the purchase of agricultural machinery, of which the country is in such great need. In December, the Central Bank announced the allocation of US \$20 million for the acquisition of such equipment in the United States and Canada, which produce implements suited to Argentine conditions.

The government took various measures to assist small farmers. Special loans have been authorized for the purchase of feed and breeding stock with two years to repay. Farmers in the drought stricken area in the southwest were accorded feeds at reduced prices and will be given subsidized seed for 1950. A further reduction of 20 per cent on rural rents paid in kind was established as of June 1; representing a 36 per cent reduction on the rents of 1940. It is customary for the landowners to rent a portion of the "estancia" and collect the rent in a percentage of the crop. Since the fixed government purchase prices of grains have almost doubled in recent years, this measure is aimed at the landowner so as to reduce his income from rent and at the same time reduces the percentage that the tenant has to pay.

Subsidies were removed from a number of food products during 1949 as the cost proved too burdensome. Items from which government support was removed include sugar, edible oils and flour other than for bread. The subsidy on flour used for bread was continued, covered by an appropriation of 400 million pesos voted through Congress.

All grains and oilseeds continued to be bought by I.A.P.I., the State trading agency, at the official fixed prices. Prices for grains of the 1949-50 crop were announced only at harvest time. While the Argentine producer may be assured of a certain fixed price, the lack of speculation has been a factor in reducing acreages. It is the general complaint that the fixed prices are too low, and even with a good yield the margin of profit for the producer is small.

State Trading Agency Controls Agricultural Exports

I.A.P.I. continued as the government agency controlling the export of the bulk of agricultural commodities, but an important change occurred in their price policy as the world market for foodstuffs changed from a sellers' to a buyers' market. Most sales were made on a government-to-government basis, the majority under the aegis of bilateral trade or currency agreements.

Following the revaluation of the peso in early October, agricultural products were regrouped in accordance with the new exchange rates, and I.A.P.I. established new export prices. The general effect of these changes was to bring grain prices more into line with North American quotations. Exports of products, which ordinarily find a market in the United States, were made more attractive in that the new exchange rate reduced their prices. Although hide prices were subsequently increased by I.A.P.I., they

still remained 14 per cent lower than previously. Exports that find their main outlet in the United Kingdom market became more expensive in that currency with the exception of meat which was covered for 1949 by the terms of the Anglo-Argentine Agreement. As a result of these price and exchange modifications, sales towards the end of the year were considerably heavier in volume.

On November 19, the Argentine Government withdrew the export monopoly held by I.A.P.I. on the following commodities: Sheep skins, dry and pickled, shearlings; fancy meats and offals not included in the British contract; barrelled beef and mutton, salted and pickled; canned specialities; hot packs; all canned pork products except canned hams; all poultry. At the same time, I.A.P.I. reduced its commission on beef from 20 per cent of the export value to 20 centavos per kilo, on pork from 7½ per cent to 10 centavos and on mutton from 20 per cent to 15 centavos. On the above items freed from control, this commission is abolished; on canned beef it had been 20 per cent, on barrelled beef 7½ per cent, on pickled sheepskins 5 per cent and on dried sheepskins 10 per cent.

Seeded Acreages to Grain Decreased

The steady decline in the seeded acreages to grain continued into 1949, reflecting the effects of various adverse factors, such as the unsatisfactory official purchase prices, increased production costs, and unfavourable weather conditions. The total area sown to grain in 1949 was about 13 million hectares, as compared with 14.1 in 1948. This may be contrasted with an average of 20 million hectares for the decade ended 1940. A comparison of the unofficial estimates of sowings and production of grain crops in the last two years with the ten-year average ended 1940 is shown in the following table:

Argentine Grain Production and Exports

	1949-50		1948-49		10-year average ended 1939-40		1949	Average
	Hect. Sown	Metric Tons	Hect. Sown	Metric Tons	Hect.	Tons	Exports M. Tons	Exports Same decade M. tons
Wheat	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	7,696	6,337	1,837	3,549
Corn	2,500	2,000	3,150	4,500	6,314	8,142	1,081	5,955
Flax	1,200	600	1,400	500	3,039	1,708	....	1,494
Oats	1,200	800	1,400	700	1,465	800	192	421
Barley	850	550	850	625	694	582	198	325
Rye	1,750	200	1,800	225	806	275	196	140
Total	13,000	9,650	14,100	11,550	20,014	17,844	3,504	11,884

(Exports of flaxseed, unprocessed, now prohibited.)

Exports of Grain Declined

As a result of the declining acreages, Argentina's exports of grain at 3.5 million metric tons in 1949 are down from 5.5 million in 1948 and the average of 11.9 million for the decade ended 1940. Argentina's portion of world exports of grains has also been substantially reduced. According to information released by F.A.O., Argentina's participation in world exports of bread grains in 1948-49 was 6.4 per cent, as against 11.5 per cent in 1947-48 and the five-year prewar average of 21.3 per cent. Similarly, their portion of world exports of coarse grains in 1948-49 was 22.8 per cent compared with 46 per cent in 1947-48 and 53.8 per cent for the prewar average.

Since exports during 1950 will be largely from the 1949-50 harvest, the volume will show a further decline due to the very poor prospects of the 1949-50 corn crop, which was seriously affected by drought. Exports

of 1948-49 corn during the year, already sold, will amount to about three quarters of a million tons, but there will be no exportable surplus of the current corn crop and little if any corn for shipment during the last half of the year. It is expected that Argentina will offer flaxseed along with proportionate quantities of linseed oil, in order to help move some of its huge stocks of oil, estimated at around 310,000 metric tons. These stocks have accumulated during the past three years due to the prohibition of the export of flax unprocessed and high prices.

Efforts Made to Raise Grain Production

Except for the war periods, the exports of grain and their by-products have almost always been greater in volume and value than pastoral products of any other group. In 1947, the export of nearly 6 million tons of grain was valued at 2.1 billion pesos out of a total of 5.3 billion for all exports, or about 40 per cent. In other years, the value of grain exports has fluctuated between 22 and 50 per cent of the total exports. The declining volume of grain exports in recent years is, therefore, an important contribution to Argentina's shortage of foreign exchange. The Argentine Government recognizes this and is attempting to increase production by announcing the three-year plan for agriculture, increasing the imports of agricultural machinery and promising an increase in the official prices at which the government purchases the crops.

In an address before the Agricultural Co-operatives Conference on March 4, 1950, President Peron asked for an increase of 25 per cent in wheat sowings for the 1950-51 season and 50 per cent in corn, and promised that the price for wheat would be 28 pesos per 100 kilos for the next crop, as compared with 23.50 for the last. It is doubtful if the increase in corn will be obtained unless the fixed price is substantially raised. The imports of machinery include substantial quantities of mechanical pickers, as labour is an important factor in corn production. Of special interest to Canada is the exhortation to bring wheat sowings up to the traditional 7 million hectares, which would be the largest area to this crop since 1941-42. Last year the Minister of Agriculture set the same goal for wheat, but with no announcement of any increase in the purchase price. With the price at 28 pesos and with favourable weather, farmers will increase their sowings next season, but it is not expected that the increase will reach the official objective.

Danish Livestock Slaughterings Higher Last Year

The Hague, March 6, 1950.—(FTS)—During the last six months of 1949, the number of Danish hogs slaughtered for export was 1,768,557; which was greater than the total for the whole of 1948 which amounted to 1,603,442. Killings for the first half of the 1949 were 1,146,375, the year's total being 2,914,932. In 1948, slaughterings during the first half of the year were the heavier, being 983,937 as against 619,505 for the last half.

The number of cattle and calves killed for export was also greater than in 1948, the 1949 total being 934,969 compared with 890,695 in 1948. This was the result of a considerable increase in the number of vealers, 414,896 in 1949 compared with 363,589 in 1948. The number of fat calves and cattle slaughtered decreased from 527,106 in 1948 to 519,973 in 1949. The number of horses killed for export rose from 44,924 in 1948 to 50,724 in 1949.

Canada was Main Supply Source For Great Britain in Past Year

United States and Australia followed closely—Argentina, which was fourth in the list in 1948, moved down to eighth place, being replaced by New Zealand and India—Denmark is resuming her place as supplier of foodstuffs—Imports from Canada and the United States increased.

By A. E. Bryan, Commercial Counsellor for Canada

LONDON, March 22, 1950.—Canada was Great Britain's principal source of supply during the past year, as in 1948, followed closely by the United States and Australia. The Argentine, which was fourth in the list in 1948, moved down to eighth place, being replaced by New Zealand and India. Denmark is now rapidly resuming her traditional role as a supplier of foodstuffs to the United Kingdom and has moved up from eleventh place in 1948 to sixth place in 1949. France has also made good headway and occupies seventh position as compared with ninth in the previous year.

The restrictions on dollar purchasing, which were imposed in the summer of 1949, did not depress the overall value of dollar imports below the 1948 level. In fact, the value of imports from Canada was higher than in 1948 by 3.4 per cent, while supplies from the United States went up by 21 per cent.

The result of efforts towards the liberalization of intra-European trade are apparent in the trade statistics. Imports from France advanced by 64 per cent, from the Netherlands by 48 per cent, and from Denmark by 32 per cent. Australia also benefited by the preference for buying with soft currencies. Imports from the Commonwealth increased by 25 per cent as compared with 1948 figures.

British Imports, by Countries

	1949 £1,000	1948 £1,000
CANADA	224.6 (1)	217.0 (1)
United States	221.7 (2)	183.2 (2)
Australia	212.4 (3)	168.9 (3)
New Zealand	117.0 (4)	108.7 (5)
India	98.2 (5)	96.3 (6)
Denmark	78.0 (6)	42.2 (11)
France	75.5 (7)	45.9 (9)
Argentina	71.8 (8)	121.8 (4)
Netherlands	65.6 (9)	44.3 (10)
Sweden	61.5 (10)	55.5 (7)
Iran	34.5 (11)	36.1 (12)
Union of South Africa	33.2 (12)	31.7 (13)
Egypt	29.0 (13)	47.5 (8)
Brazil	22.9 (14)	23.7 (14)
Pakistan	16.2 (15)	11.3 (15)

The course of United Kingdom trade in 1950 continued along the lines of finding soft-currency sources of supply for commodities previously obtained from hard-currency countries. Concrete evidence of this trend is shown in the following record of imports of goods in which Canada is interested. Nevertheless increases took place in some Canadian imports, notably wheat, cheese, fresh apples, canned salmon, unstripped leaf tobacco, copper ore, aluminum, newsprint, electrical goods, machinery and aircraft.

Purchases of Canadian Wheat Higher

Of Britain's total bill for imported foodstuffs, 9 per cent is accounted for by dollar wheat. The quantity of wheat imported in 1949 was 13 per cent more than in 1948. There was a 10 per cent increase in Canada's shipments, which represented 77 per cent of total imports. Wheat was purchased from the United States during the period when E.C.A. off-shore buying was stopped.

The question of the flour extraction rate from wheat, which determines the nutritional value, texture and colour or appearance of the loaf, is currently receiving considerable attention. The millers are suggesting that the extraction rate, which is still 85 per cent, should be lowered to 80 per cent, which would produce a loaf with much better colour and baking qualities. By reducing the extraction rate to 80 per cent, an extra 384,000 tons of wheat a year would be required, but there would be an automatic increase in the supply of milling by-products. This in turn, would be sufficient to ensure production of an extra 64,000 tons of bacon, pork and fats, or 92 thousand dozen extra eggs, so that any additional dollar expenditure should be justified. More important, by lowering the extraction rate to 80 per cent the so-called "bread-improvers" (synthetic-nutrients) now employed could be dispensed with altogether.

The National Association of Master Bakers contend that, because of the poor quality of "national" flour which must be used today, and also because of the recent increase in price by 1½d. per loaf, there has been a 10 per cent reduction in the demand for bread throughout the country and that some bakers are operating at a loss. For this reason they are supporting the millers in their efforts to lower the extraction rate of flour. If this suggestion of the millers is approved, the increase in the quantity of wheat required may be reflected in future imports from Canada.

In 1950 Britain's wheat supplies will be supplemented by a substantial contribution from France. An agreement has been completed for the purchase of some 940,000 cwts. from that source and deliveries began about February 15.

British Imports of Wheat

	1947	1948 (^{'000 omitted})	1949
Total—			
Cwts.	83,879	84,616	95,732
£	91,356	95,531	122,816
Principal sources—			
Canada	68,761	66,542	73,223
Australia .....	.....	15,420	16,326
United States	6,930	183	5,548
Argentina	7,741	2,099	....

There was a drop of 41 per cent in arrivals of barley, due to a heavy reduction in purchases from the Soviet Union and the practical elimination of buying from Argentina. Imports from Australia were a little higher.

British Imports of Barley

	1947	1948 (^{'000 omitted})	1949
Total—			
Cwts.	2,257	15,618	9,227
£	3,049	24,499	9,709
Principal sources—			
Soviet Union .....	.....	8,603	2,855
Australia	191	1,143	1,588
Argentina	2,065	5,872	....

Imports of oats were less than a quarter of those in 1948. Australian consignments, which made up the bulk of the supplies, were less than in the previous year, and there was also a heavy reduction in imports from the Soviet Union.

British Imports of Oats

	1947	1948	1949
Total—		('000 omitted)	
Cwts.	2,118	5,878	1,304
£	2,266	9,431	1,350
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Canada	1,869	.....	.....
Australia .....	.....	3,824	1,105
Soviet Union .....	.....	2,053	199
United States	250	.....	.....

The reduction in imports of Canadian flour was nearly 38 per cent, while total imports fell by 27 per cent. Only supplies from the United States increased as compared with figures for the previous year.

British Imports of Flour

	1947	1948	1949
Total—		('000 omitted)	
Cwts.	17,876	16,217	11,783
£	27,297	25,533	20,402
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Canada	13,217	12,720	7,952
Australia	2,024	3,488	2,499
United States	2,636	7	1,331

Imports of frozen beef, (fore and hind quarters including cuts with bone), showed slight improvement, due entirely to larger purchases from Argentina and Uruguay. Australia's share fell by 35 per cent, and both Canada and the United States disappeared from the list of suppliers of this and all other descriptions of beef.

British Imports of Frozen Beef

	1947	1948	1949
Total—		('000 omitted)	
Cwts.	6,012	6,004	6,431
£	24,273	21,665	26,361
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Canada	171	309	.....
Argentina	2,852	3,322	4,023
Australia	1,685	1,455	936
New Zealand	147	593	599
Uruguay	41	235	777
Denmark	165	47	85
United States	837	.....	.....

Imports of boned and boneless beef (including cheeks and skirts) fell by more than 50 per cent. Imports from all the supplying countries, particularly New Zealand and Argentina were reduced.

British Imports of Boned and Boneless Beef

	1947	1948	1949
Total—		('000 omitted)	
Cwts.	3,880	1,505	689
£	15,824	6,263	2,958
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Canada	122	107	.....
Argentina	2,107	497	287
New Zealand	1,060	706	279
Australia	326	179	119
Uruguay	66	17	4
United States	162	.....	.....

Total imports of beef of all kinds, including canned beef and offals, were well maintained in 1949, amounting to 9,189,327 cwts. as compared with 9,082,106 cwts. in 1948. These figures are, nevertheless, lower by approximately 30 per cent than those for 1947.

Purchases of Canadian Bacon Greatly Reduced

The volume of bacon brought in from overseas was slightly greater than in 1948. There were material changes in sources of supply. Canadian consignments fell by 73 per cent and yielded first place to those from Denmark, which were more than three times the 1948 figure. Poland and the Netherlands are also becoming more important factors in the trade.

Under the terms of the Anglo-Danish Trade Agreement, Britain paid 225 shillings per cwt. for Danish bacon last year, with the proviso that the price would be reduced to 217 shillings on January 1, 1950. In the meantime, the pound sterling was devalued, while the cost of feeding stuffs increased. Because of these developments, the Danes pressed the United Kingdom to continue paying the 1949 price for their bacon, especially as the price of British coal and other commodities required by Denmark had increased with devaluation. However the British are still getting their bacon at the lower price.

Estimated United Kingdom production of bacon was 2,400,000 cwts., a little more than in the previous year. The production of pigs is expanding rapidly in the above-mentioned European countries, and there is a possibility of imports reaching prewar proportions at the end of this year. The bacon ration, which was 2 ounces a week last summer, was gradually increased to 4 ounces, and at time of writing is 5 ounces. While it may not be practicable to maintain the allowance permanently at this level, the outlook, from the consumer's point of view, is improving.

British Imports of Bacon

	1947	1948 (‘000 omitted)	1949
Total—			
Cwts.	2,635	2,668	2,772
£	20,945	27,871	31,768
Principal sources—			
Canada	1,962	1,871	498
Denmark	651	479	1,607
Netherlands	16	85	211
Poland .....	....	199	390
Hungary .....	....	32	18

The Ministry of Food are no longer buying fresh, chilled or frozen poultry from Canada, which proved such a delicacy during and just after the war. Nevertheless the quantity they handled from overseas increased by 23 per cent as compared with that in the previous year. Australia sent 55 per cent more, and the Irish Republic 10 per cent more. Denmark, Poland and the Netherlands also increased their sales.

British Imports of Poultry

	1947	1948 (‘000 omitted)	1949
Total—			
Cwts.	590	498	616
£	7,048	7,630	9,117
Principal sources—			
Irish Republic	126	215	237
Australia	82	119	185
Hungary	98	102	72
Poland	9	41	56
Netherlands .....	....	2	23
Denmark .....	....	....	18
France .....	....	....	7

United Kingdom nutritional experts attach considerable importance to cheese as a substitute for meat, and the recovery of total imports by 35 per cent over the year was generally welcomed.

Cheese Imports from United States Higher

While New Zealand increased deliveries by 12 per cent, and Canada by 35 per cent, the largest percentage gain (66 per cent) was made by the United States. In the opinion of the trade, the domestic production of cheese, which is growing, might in the current year attain a total of 900,000 cwts. At present cheese ration is 2 ounces a week per head, but workers on the land and in heavy industries get an extra 10 ounces. Canadian Cheddar is the most favoured of all the imported cheese and is normally preferred for processing purposes.

British Imports of Cheese

	1947	1948 (‘000 omitted)	1949
Total—			
Cwts.	3,825	3,147	4,264
£	31,455	26,452	38,567
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Canada	459	324	439
New Zealand	1,654	1,661	1,882
United States	1,200	500	831
Australia	318	362	390
Netherlands	68	125	358
Italy .....	....	22	117
France	27	45	92
Denmark	94	59	93
Irish Republic .....	....	19	26
Switzerland .....	....	11	11

Receipts of shell eggs from overseas went up by 35 per cent, mainly as a result of heavier imports from Denmark, the Irish Republic, the Netherlands and Australia. The quantity credited to Canada was 45 per cent less than in 1948. In 1950 the United Kingdom is taking no eggs from Canada. Egg production in most European countries has, generally speaking, been restored to prewar levels. Domestic eggs accounted for 58 per cent of the total distribution in 1949. Eggs are rationed, and 106 eggs per person were available as compared with 78 in the previous year.

British Imports of Shell Eggs

	1947	1948 (‘000 omitted)	1949
Total—			
Thousand dozen	116	155	210
£	13,460	21,577	30,541
Principal sources—	Thousand dozen		
Canada	55	46	25
Denmark	21	45	92
Irish Republic	13	22	34
Netherlands	6	15	24
Australia	15	17	21
Poland	2	9	10

British Imports of Liquid or Frozen Eggs

	1947	1948 (‘000 omitted)	1949
Total—			
Cwts.	269	598	534
£	2,267	5,985	4,626
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Canada	27	108	2
Australia	176	183	204
China	64	287	115
Poland .....	....	20	64

There was a drop of 10 per cent in the quantity of imported liquid or frozen eggs. Arrivals from China were less than half those in 1948 and Canada practically lost a trade which in 1948 was valued at £1.1 million. Australia increased her supplies by 11 per cent and receipts from Poland were multiplied by three.

Imports of dried eggs were reduced by a further 16 per cent. A contraction of 61 per cent in consignment from Canada was offset by a recovery in receipts from the United States, which were more than four times greater than in 1948.

British Imports of Dried Whole Eggs

	1947	1948 (‘000 omitted)	1949
Total—			
Cwts.	677	116	98
£	23,911	3,611	2,943
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Canada	110	93	36
United States	525	12	55
Australia	36	12	6

Canadian Apples Reappeared on Market

The brightest feature of apple imports in 1949 is the reappearance of Canada with a contribution of more than 500,000 cwts. Purchases from Australia and New Zealand were cut in half. It is significant though that Britain now buys from abroad less than one-third the volume of apples imported before the war.

British Imports of Apples

	1947	1948 (‘000 omitted)	1949
Total—			
Cwts.	1,490	1,953	1,765
£	3,397	5,048	3,778
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Canada	663	....	513
Australia	93	1,109	405
New Zealand .....	....	358	152
Belgium .....	....	134	45
United States	611	....	....

There was an overall improvement of 13 per cent in supplies of sausage casings, etc. The amount taken from Canada was, however, only one quarter what it was in 1948 and there was a sharp drop in imports from the Netherlands. The deficiency was made up by purchases from other soft-currency countries.

British Imports of Bladders, Casings and Sausage Skins

	1947	1948 (‘000 omitted)	1949
Total—			
Cwts.	98	73	83
£	3,431	3,315	3,418
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Canada	5	2	5
New Zealand	19	25	27
Denmark	4	4	8
Australia	5	8	5
Netherlands	2	24	5

During the war, when the trawler fleet was engaged in mine-sweeping, new sources of supply of fish had to be found and large contracts were placed with Canadian producers. Fish production in the United Kingdom has now been restored practically to its prewar level but importations, although declining, are still on a substantial scale. The fall compared

with 1948 was 14 per cent and the only countries which registered increases were Iceland, the Faroe Islands and Belgium. About one-third of the imports consisted of cod and the next most important variety is plaice.

British Imports of Fresh, Chilled and Frozen Fish

	1947	1948	1949
Total—		(’000 omitted)	
Cwts.	4,284	4,271	3,676
£	12,390	12,946	12,172
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Deep sea fisheries	2,380	2,299	1,830
Norway	1,050	1,146	873
Iceland	166	258	436
Denmark	381	377	301
Netherlands	15	28	70
Irish Republic	71	78	58
Belgium	134	57	62
Faroe Islands	42	11	11
Poland	8	8	5

Importations of canned salmon in 1948 were exceptionally small. The quantity brought in last year was nearly three times as much but the recovery was only partial in the light of what the country could absorb. The special arrangements made by the Minister of Trade and Commerce during his visit to London in May, 1949, are reflected in a doubling of purchases from Canada. The Soviet Union is not specially mentioned in the table but there is no doubt that the increased figure accredited to "Other Foreign Countries" represents canned salmon coming in under the Trade Agreement with Russia. Canned salmon is highly popular with British housewives who would be glad to see much more of the Canadian variety on the grocers' shelves.

British Imports of Canned Salmon

	1947	1948	1949
Total—		(’000 omitted)	
Cwts.	666	94	278
£	6,685	1,027	4,255
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Canada	208	56	123
United States	432	7	65
Other foreign countries	26	29	89

The beneficial effects of Marshall Aid are very apparent from the returns of lard imports which were more than three times as great as in 1948. The United States furnished 90 per cent of the total. The supply of cooking fats in the United Kingdom is noticeably easier and in recent weeks retailers have complained that consumers are not taking up their rations.

British Imports of Lard

	1947	1948	1949
Total—		(’000 omitted)	
Cwts.	308	201	692
£	2,976	2,278	2,807
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
United States	236	....	628
Argentina	69	198	62

Imported supplies were 55 per cent higher than in 1948, partly due to bigger receipts from Italy and other soft currency countries. This was a flourishing line of Canadian import both before and during the war but it has been discontinued on account of currency difficulties.

British Imports of Canned Tomatoes

	1947	1948	1949
Total—		('000 omitted)	
Cwts.	311	620	965
£	1,292	2,471	3,969
Principal sources—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Italy	151	348	594
Hungary	36	131	54

Canadian Tobacco Gains in Favour

In 1938 the United Kingdom imported 346,000,000 pounds of leaf tobacco, of which 257 million pounds came from the United States and 16 million pounds from Canada. At this time Canada was just getting into its stride as a tobacco producer and it was confidently felt that in another ten years, as Canadian production was being geared to supply this country, sales to the United Kingdom would be of the order of 50 million pounds per annum. Had it not been for the currency difficulties, Canada would have been exporting an even larger quantity of leaf to this country. In the meantime, in spite of smaller purchases from Canada, the British manufacturers of tobacco and cigarettes have gained a much higher opinion of the merits of Canadian leaf than was the case before the war. Indeed today, although United States Virginia types of tobacco are in the greatest favour, there are a few firms which consider that grade for grade the Canadian leaf ranks second to no other.

There has been a marked improvement in the quality of Canadian leaf during the last few years, which augurs well for its future sales in the United Kingdom. This is due to the efforts of the Tobacco Division of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, and the guidance they have given to the growers.

India, Turkey and Greece benefited materially from the gravitation of United Kingdom purchasing towards non-dollar tobacco. In stripped leaf, 1949 imports recovered by 25 per cent as compared with 1948. Consignments from India increased by 50 per cent and from the United States by 35 per cent. Canada lost three-quarters of her 1948 trade.

The main tobacco item is unstripped leaf. In this there was an overall improvement of four per cent. Canada's position was practically

British Imports of Tobacco

	1947	1948	1949
Unmanufactured, if stripped:			
Total—		('000 omitted)	
Lbs.	58,116	44,353	55,205
£	9,583	7,029	9,452
Principal sources—	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Canada	433	475	105
India	22,079	21,062	32,451
Southern Rhodesia	7,472	13,353	11,888
Nyasaland	5,663	6,571	6,276
United States	22,135	2,649	3,558
Unmanufactured, if unstripped:			
Total—		('000 omitted)	
Lbs.	237,504	236,422	245,928
£	36,744	34,972	42,597
Principal sources—	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Canada	21,791	12,211	12,874
United States	179,100	169,734	150,522
Southern Rhodesia	15,498	30,498	34,583
Turkey	431	10,155	19,993
Nyasaland	6,245	7,502	11,493
India	863	1,753	5,881

unchanged but there were heavy increments in importations from India, Nyasaland, Southern Rhodesia and Turkey. Receipts from the United States went down by 11 per cent.

This year (1950) Canada should fare as well or better than in 1949 as there is an urgent demand for Canadian leaf, stocks of which are very short, while manufacturers have already received reports of a very fine crop in Canada which may provide them with a quality equal to, or better than, any other source of supply at lower prices because of the devaluation in the Canadian dollar since last year.

Economic Activity Much Improved In West Coast of United States

While output for most industries was lower than in 1948, increases were recorded for aircraft, automobile, can and fibre container, and aluminum production—Non-agricultural employment slightly reduced—Dollar volume of retail trade lagged behind 1948—Position of lumber industry improved at the end of the year.

By Harry A. Scott, Consul General of Canada

(Editor's Note—This report is based on a recent statement issued by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. It is the first of two on this territory.)

SAN FRANCISCO, March 24, 1950.—Economic activity in Arizona, California, Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, Utah and Washington, comprising the Twelfth District of the Federal Banking System, showed considerable improvement during the fourth quarter of last year, as compared with the corresponding period in 1948. The output in most industries for the year was lower than in 1948. Aircraft, automobile, can and fibre container, and aluminum production were higher, while zinc mining showed a slight advance. Lumber and plywood production almost reached the 1948 level. Declines were recorded by iron and steel, machinery, electrical equipment, copper, lead, gold, silver, crude oil, paper, apparel and motion picture production, while the volume of construction in this district was also lower than in the previous year.

The reduced level of industrial production, a reduction in the number of workers in retail trade, and the drop in construction were principally responsible for a lower level of non-agricultural employment in the Twelfth District. Non-agricultural employment in 1949 averaged 2 per cent less than in 1948. Unemployment was up sharply because of the lower level of activity in many industries. Insured unemployment averaged 48 per cent more than in the preceding year. In part, this was due to the increase in the labour force. Adequate labour-force data for the District are not available. Estimates available for the states of California, Washington and Oregon indicate a probable 1.5 per cent increase in the labour force. This development alone would have required about 80,000 new jobs in those states. The growing labour force added to the problems of a year in which many lines of business experienced lower levels of activity.

Of interest in connection with labour-force growth is the increase in population during the past year. District population was greater by 600,000 persons than a year earlier. This gain of 3 per cent over 1948

continued to reflect a fair amount of immigration. Obviously, only a small part of the increase in population found its way into the labour force because much of the increase represents the excess of births over deaths or immigrants of non-working age. This growth in population does indicate, however, that the base for the labour force is still growing substantially.

Dollar Volume of Retail Trade Declined

Retail trade lagged behind 1948 in dollar volume. Not all lines of trade were similarly affected, however. District department stores experienced a 6 per cent decline in sales, and other general merchandise outlets appear to have had similar experiences. Automobile dealers, however, reported greater sales. Sales of food and gasoline also compared quite favourably with 1948. The decline in dollar sales of general merchandise should be considered along with the fact that prices for most items in this category declined. On the average it appears that the physical volume of general merchandise sales was not far below 1948. Automobile sales increased in units as well as dollars, and the physical volume of food sold was at least as high as in 1948.

For the first time since before the war, the dollar volume of district construction declined from the previous year. During the first nine months of 1949, construction was down 9 per cent from a year earlier. Private residential construction led the decline with a 24 per cent drop from 1948. Private non-residential construction was down 10 per cent, but public construction increased by 26 per cent. The decline in district construction first became evident in the latter part of 1948, when construction and building authorized in urban areas dropped sharply from the rapid pace evident during most of that year.

As 1949 progressed, the picture tended to improve, but the third quarter dollar volume of construction was further behind 1948 than either of the two preceding quarters. This was due in part to the unusually high level of construction in July, August, and September, 1948. Preliminary fourth quarter data, however, indicate that the last three months of the year were well ahead of 1948 volume.

Output of Lumber Reduced in First Part of Last Year

The effects of declining residential construction, a drop in industrial demand, and extreme weather cut district lumber production in January and February, 1949, far below the corresponding months a year earlier. New orders were also considerably lower than in the corresponding months of 1948. This drop in demand was a continuation of the weakness in lumber markets, which became evident during the third quarter of 1948. The exceptionally low level of production was not destined to continue, however, even on the basis of the lower level of orders. As soon as weather permitted, production increased and was in a closer relationship to orders than the January-February level.

New orders also gained starting with March, but remained below 1948 levels until September. In some circles it was felt that the increase in new orders achieved during the spring months was unrealistic. This attitude reflected the pessimism that had been induced by the comparatively low level of housing construction in late 1948 and early 1949 and the general decline in business conditions. Actually it appears in retrospect that the level of orders was probably too low in view of the rapid expansion in housing construction that was taking place in the spring and which continued through most of the year. Production, though

behind 1948, outdistanced orders during the second quarter, but the additions to the moderate stocks on hand were small and the ratio of inventories to new orders did not exceed 2 to 1 at any time during the year.

By late summer, the pressure of a record rate of housing construction had forced lumber demand up significantly. In September new orders exceeded the volume of the same month of 1948, and production increased. Reversing the experience of late 1948, new lumber orders through the end of the year remained reasonably close to the peak level reached in September and production declined slightly because of seasonal influences.

Lumber prices followed roughly the same pattern as orders. Douglas fir prices, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics price series, reached a peak in the summer of 1948 and then declined. The 1949 spring recovery in demand was not sufficient to prevent their further decline. A low point was reached during the summer about 25 per cent below the 1948 peak. The pressure of demand turned prices upward during the last three months of the year, but the gain was slight. According to the West Coast Lumbermen's Association, average realizations in September 1949 were \$58 per thousand board feet, compared with \$80 a year earlier. By December, prices had increased to roughly \$60 per thousand. The price for sugar pine and ponderosa pine remained considerably steadier than that for Douglas fir, but the timing of changes was roughly about the same. Prices for better grades of redwood changed little during the year, but the lower grades declined moderately and showed little recovery by the end of 1949.

Plywood Markets Rallied at End of Year

Through July, production of Douglas fir plywood was 9 per cent below the first seven months of 1948. In August, however, production moved up to a level almost equal to that of the same month in 1948, and for the year as a whole the output was almost equal to 1948. Plywood markets were weak in the first half of the year. Even though consumption of plywood had not dropped off significantly, the pessimism concerning the future of construction and the possibility of lower prices induced substantial inventory liquidation. The reversal after mid-year, like that for lumber, reflected the strong demand for plywood in construction. Though output responded rapidly to the change in demand, mill supplies of plywood continued the decline which started in February. Shipments continued to be greater than output through the end of the year.

Production facilities for softwood plywood in this district continued to increase in 1949. Four plants were added in Oregon. In Idaho one plant was opened which produces ponderosa pine and white pine veneer.

Surinam Shipped Large Quantity of Bauxite Last Year

Port-of-Spain, March 31, 1950.—(FTS)—During 1949, 559 ships called at Surinam (Dutch Guiana) and took away 2,128,826 metric tons of bauxite.

Danish Bacon Exports Expected to Increase

Oslo, February 21, 1950.—(FTS)—Pig slaughterings in Denmark this year are estimated to reach more than 3,500,000, compared with 2,900,000 last year and 1,600,000 in 1948. Bacon exports this year will probably reach 170,000 metric tons, compared with 105,000 last year, an increase of almost two-thirds.

Canadian Imports, by Commodities

Country	February			January—February		
	1938	1948	1949	1938	1948	1949
(Millions of Dollars)						
MAIN GROUPS						
Agricultural, Vegetable Products.....	6.9	25.4	26.8	15.0	51.1	53.9
Animals and Animal Products.....	2.3	7.4	6.5	4.2	16.3	13.1
Fibres, Textiles and Products.....	8.0	30.2	26.0	16.0	65.4	55.4
Wood, Wood Products and Paper.....	2.4	6.5	7.4	4.9	12.6	14.6
Iron and Products.....	12.3	69.4	68.4	25.1	142.9	136.1
Non-Ferrous Metals and Products.....	3.0	14.3	13.2	6.2	27.1	29.7
Non-Metallic Minerals, Products.....	6.9	33.7	31.8	14.6	73.9	67.4
Chemicals and Allied Products.....	2.3	9.6	10.5	4.4	20.5	21.5
Miscellaneous Commodities.....	3.0	9.5	9.6	6.2	20.1	20.4
TOTAL IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION.....	47.0	206.0	200.2	96.7	429.8	412.1
(Thousands of Dollars)						
Agricultural, Vegetable Products—						
Fruits.....	984	3,265	5,023	2,238	7,953	9,490
Nuts.....	279	1,796	2,294	456	3,574	3,607
Vegetables.....	530	1,689	2,115	1,026	2,733	4,018
Grains and products.....	1,041	932	998	2,261	2,432	1,985
Sugar and products.....	536	4,852	1,718	1,240	6,918	3,672
Cocoa and chocolate.....	99	1,280	538	209	2,768	1,682
Coffee and chicory.....	258	2,225	2,485	683	4,848	5,767
Tea.....	630	999	2,601	1,401	3,146	5,294
Beverages, alcoholic.....	314	1,456	1,046	766	3,124	2,650
Gums and resins.....	99	338	413	196	926	856
Oils, vegetable.....	773	2,297	2,182	1,649	3,899	4,293
Rubber and products.....	461	2,896	3,058	1,287	5,908	6,015
Tobacco.....	70	282	540	127	563	838
Vegetable products, other.....	778	1,175	1,818	1,486	2,272	3,777
TOTAL.....	6,852	25,431	26,828	15,025	51,064	53,944
Animals and animal products—						
Fish and fishery products.....	127	416	278	303	1,050	575
Furs and products.....	849	3,075	2,313	1,408	6,810	4,644
Hides and skins, raw.....	125	1,011	1,363	444	2,065	2,593
Leather, unmanufactured.....	202	496	664	412	1,058	1,341
Leather, manufactured.....	294	366	490	437	702	877
Animal oils, fats, greases.....	60	541	234	133	1,133	590
Animals and products, other.....	657	1,453	1,156	1,060	3,433	2,510
TOTAL.....	2,314	7,359	6,498	4,196	16,250	13,129
Fibres, Textiles and products—						
Cotton, raw and linters.....	1,074	5,897	5,266	2,239	13,393	12,785
Cotton products.....	1,543	8,012	5,441	3,023	16,976	11,605
Flax, hemp, jute and products.....	647	920	2,057	1,449	3,520	3,937
Silk and products.....	532	466	575	1,185	1,055	1,202
Wool, raw and unmanufactured.....	1,008	2,480	3,306	1,828	4,732	6,346
Wool products.....	1,692	6,219	4,065	3,479	12,468	8,628
Artificial silk and products.....	316	3,551	1,645	622	7,297	3,480
Textile products, other.....	1,153	2,674	3,684	2,183	5,923	7,435
TOTAL.....	7,965	30,219	26,039	16,008	65,365	55,417
Wood, Wood Products and Paper—						
Wood, unmanufactured.....	380	1,337	1,732	808	2,165	2,877
Wood, manufactured.....	305	1,059	1,007	666	2,283	2,197
Paper.....	592	1,567	1,660	1,134	3,124	3,254
Books and printed matter.....	1,141	2,530	3,022	2,279	4,995	6,239
TOTAL.....	2,418	6,493	7,421	4,888	12,567	14,567
Iron and Its Products—						
Iron ore.....	2	4	8	98	229	54
Scrap.....	44	146	140	106	543	228
Castings and forgings.....	158	1,083	491	322	2,042	1,232
Rolling mill products.....	1,731	9,201	5,699	3,373	18,454	11,771
Pipes, tubes and fittings.....	131	2,479	1,841	283	4,444	3,840

Canadian Imports, by Commodities—Continued

Commodity	February			January—February		
	1938	1949	1950	1938	1949	1950
	(Thousands of Dollars)					
Wire and chain.....	188	1,296	723	422	2,943	1,512
Farm implements and machinery....	1,494	13,845	13,326	2,936	27,542	26,461
Hardware and cutlery.....	159	897	734	331	1,905	1,579
Household machinery.....	226	673	886	349	1,620	2,062
Mining, metallurgical machinery.....	427	2,374	1,775	807	4,976	3,505
Business, printing machinery.....	554	2,040	2,024	982	4,485	4,664
Other non-farm machinery.....	2,110	11,196	9,992	4,148	23,951	22,629
Tools.....	196	996	888	359	1,968	1,740
Autos, freight and passenger.....	716	1,863	6,687	1,777	4,421	10,418
Automobile parts.....	2,082	10,035	11,145	4,643	19,052	22,788
Other vehicles, chiefly iron.....	82	841	3,958	188	1,557	4,891
Engines and boilers.....	607	4,609	3,344	1,271	11,143	6,902
Cooking and heating apparatus.....	71	613	739	128	1,263	1,651
Iron products, other.....	1,286	5,192	3,987	2,551	10,353	8,196
TOTAL.....	12,265	69,379	68,386	25,073	142,890	136,120
Non-Ferrous Metals and Products—						
Aluminium and products.....	309	679	671	566	1,764	1,560
Brass, copper, and products.....	279	1,222	1,104	575	2,608	2,273
Tin.....	165	2,186	305	354	2,495	659
Precious metals (except gold).....	268	1,248	2,042	636	2,869	6,198
Clocks and watches.....	142	396	826	271	922	1,642
Electrical apparatus, n.o.p.....	988	5,374	5,532	2,065	10,917	12,233
Non-ferrous products, other.....	821	3,157	2,688	1,776	5,564	5,134
TOTAL.....	2,972	14,262	13,169	6,244	27,138	29,700
Non-Metallic Minerals, Products—						
Clay and products.....	631	2,638	2,082	1,224	5,347	4,342
Coal.....	2,671	9,838	9,139	5,535	22,124	20,386
Coal products.....	260	1,098	914	563	2,461	1,977
Glass and glassware.....	455	1,892	2,001	891	3,782	4,042
Petroleum, crude.....	1,270	11,562	10,153	2,968	24,979	23,256
Petroleum products, n.o.p.....	803	4,363	5,085	1,457	10,792	8,162
Stone and products.....	504	1,180	1,087	1,256	2,111	2,320
Non-metallic products, other.....	319	1,105	1,331	698	2,287	2,907
TOTAL.....	6,912	33,676	31,792	14,593	73,884	67,393
Chemicals and Allied Products—						
Acids.....	123	310	415	219	659	848
Cellulose products.....	171	380	453	302	848	945
Drugs and medicines.....	255	952	1,288	609	2,080	2,462
Dyeing and tanning materials.....	314	869	892	601	1,788	1,978
Fertilizers.....	42	445	520	134	906	926
Paints and varnishes.....	230	1,005	1,203	496	2,126	2,424
Inorganic chemicals, n.o.p.....	426	1,477	1,222	859	3,269	2,381
Synthetic resins and products.....	52	1,196	1,384	124	2,605	3,002
Chemical products, other.....	665	2,989	3,107	1,079	6,212	6,488
TOTAL.....	2,277	9,623	10,483	4,422	20,492	21,454
Miscellaneous Commodities—						
Films.....	109	242	355	228	533	695
Toys and sporting goods.....	119	339	389	203	625	691
Refrigerators and parts.....	98	556	645	146	1,199	1,519
Musical instruments.....	93	277	299	159	592	566
Scientific equipment.....	277	1,573	1,705	573	3,228	3,622
Aircraft and parts.....	252	1,060	832	460	1,993	1,981
Works of art.....	83	147	126	213	287	687
Canadian tourists' purchases.....	266	672	811	553	1,166	1,724
Parcels of small value.....	336	725	440	670	1,779	995
Wax, mineral and vegetable.....	47	185	200	86	409	486
Miscellaneous consumers goods.....	353	600	845	695	1,208	1,559
Miscellaneous, other.....	547	1,675	1,697	1,369	3,814	3,476
Canadian goods returned.....	228	491	490	414	1,047	755
Non-commercial articles.....	170	993	721	451	2,234	1,630
TOTAL.....	2,977	9,534	9,555	6,223	20,113	20,386

Canadian Imports, by Main Groups

Commodity	February			January—February		
	1938	1949	1950	1938	1949	1950
(Thousands of Dollars)						
From all countries—						
Agricultural, vegetable products.....	6,852	25,431	26,828	15,025	51,064	53,944
Animals and animal products.....	2,314	7,359	6,498	4,196	16,250	13,129
Fibres, textiles and products.....	7,965	30,219	26,039	16,008	65,365	55,417
Wood, wood products and paper.....	2,418	6,493	7,421	4,888	12,567	14,567
Iron and products.....	12,265	69,379	68,386	25,073	142,890	136,120
Non-ferrous metals and products.....	2,972	14,262	13,169	6,244	27,138	29,700
Non-metallic minerals, products.....	6,912	33,676	31,792	14,593	73,884	67,393
Chemicals and allied products.....	2,277	9,623	10,483	4,422	20,492	21,454
Miscellaneous commodities.....	2,977	9,534	9,555	6,223	20,113	20,386
TOTAL.....	46,952	205,976	200,170	96,671	429,762	412,108
From United Kingdom—						
Agricultural, vegetable products.....	858	1,156	1,675	2,071	2,508	4,506
Animals and animal products.....	387	401	585	680	835	1,229
Fibres, textiles and products.....	3,882	11,718	8,081	7,713	23,817	16,674
Wood, wood products and paper.....	221	232	211	434	463	448
Iron and products.....	1,764	4,284	9,186	3,183	9,435	14,974
Non-ferrous metals and products.....	407	1,631	2,246	908	3,561	6,527
Non-metallic minerals, products.....	520	1,756	1,538	979	3,582	3,281
Chemicals and allied products.....	374	437	823	823	952	1,612
Miscellaneous commodities.....	379	1,303	1,027	864	3,170	2,260
TOTAL.....	8,792	22,918	25,371	17,656	48,323	51,509
From United States—						
Agricultural, vegetable products.....	3,300	9,584	11,355	6,614	20,170	22,251
Animals and animal products.....	1,067	5,670	4,743	2,019	12,422	9,994
Fibres, textiles and products.....	2,670	13,843	11,366	5,313	30,434	26,367
Wood, wood products and paper.....	2,093	6,069	6,981	4,234	11,687	13,610
Iron and Products.....	10,159	64,133	58,569	21,061	131,267	120,147
Non-ferrous metals and products.....	2,171	9,493	9,511	4,382	19,620	20,756
Non-metallic minerals, products.....	5,885	23,959	24,202	12,303	54,178	49,649
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,602	8,774	9,082	3,012	18,761	18,888
Miscellaneous commodities.....	2,230	7,291	7,517	4,577	15,079	16,139
TOTAL.....	31,186	148,816	143,328	63,516	313,618	297,801

Greek Line Plans Passenger Service to Britain

The Greek Line will inaugurate a passenger service from Montreal to Great Britain on May 31, with the departure of the *S.S. Canberra*. Sailings will be made at approximately four-weekly intervals.

New Pier in Rio de Janeiro Will be Completed Next Year

Rio de Janeiro, March 22, 1950.—(FTS)—Construction of Mauá Pier, situated at the end of Rio's world famous Avenida Rio Branco, is proceeding according to schedule and will be completed by April next year. Dredging around the pier has been concluded and the 13-metre depot will enable ships of the size of the *Queen Elizabeth* to dock there. Two three-story warehouses will be built on the pier. Two stories of each warehouse, which will be 50 by 40 metres, will be used for loading and unloading merchandise. The third story will be used by passengers and will communicate with the station building which will have escalators, elevators, belt conveyors for luggage, bar, restaurant, cinema, post office, bank, barber shop, cigar stand, a tourist assistance service and a permanent exhibit of Brazilian products.

Trade Commissioners on Tour

CANADIAN Trade Commissioners return periodically from their posts in foreign lands to familiarize themselves with conditions in this country and the special requirements of the commercial community. They are in a position to furnish information concerning markets in their respective territories and possible sources of supply. Exporters and importers are urged to communicate with these officers, when in their vicinity, and to discuss the promotion of their particular commercial interests, now and in the future. Arrangements for interviews with these trade commissioners should be made directly through the following offices in the areas concerned:

Ottawa—Foreign Trade Service, Department of Trade and Commerce

Brantford—Board of Trade.

Calgary—Board of Trade.

Charlottetown—Board of Trade.

Edmonton—Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

Fredericton—Chamber of Commerce.

Granby—Chamber of Commerce.

Guelph—Board of Trade.

Halifax—Board of Trade.

Hamilton—Chamber of Commerce.

Kitchener—Chamber of Commerce.

Moncton—Board of Trade.

Montreal—Montreal Board of Trade.

Quebec City—Board of Trade.

Regina—Chamber of Commerce.

Saint John—Board of Trade.

Sarnia—Chamber of Commerce.

St. Catharines—Chamber of Commerce.

Saskatoon—Board of Trade.

St. John's—Department of Trade and Commerce, Stott Building.

Toronto—Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

Vancouver—Department of Trade and Commerce, 355 Burrard Street.

Victoria—Department of Trade and Industry.

Welland—Board of Trade.

Windsor—Chamber of Commerce.

Winnipeg—Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

Woodstock (N.B.) Board of Trade.

S. V. Allen, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner in Johannesburg since April, 1948, has returned home on leave, and commenced a tour of this country on April 6 in Montreal.

Montreal—April 6-25.

Toronto—April 26-May 12.

Hamilton—May 15-16.

St. Catharines-Welland—May 17-18.

London—May 19.

J. P. Manion, Commercial Secretary for Canada in Paris, has returned home on leave, and is making a tour of this country that will take him from the Atlantic to the Pacific, during which he will discuss conditions in his territory with Canadian businessmen.

Winnipeg—April 17.

Calgary—April 19.

Vancouver-Victoria—April 21-27.

St. John's (Nfld.)—May 2-3.

Halifax—May 5-6.

Saint John (N.B.)—May 8.

Woodstock (N.B.)—May 9.

Quebec City—May 11-12.

Toronto—May 22-30.

Windsor—May 31.

Sarnia—June 1.

Kitchener—June 2.

Guelph—June 2.

Welland—June 5.

St. Catharines—June 6.

Brantford—June 7.

Hamilton—June 8.

Toronto—June 9-15.

DATA FOR EXPORTERS COMPILED

Information, of particular interest to Canadian exporters, concerning shipping documents and customs regulations of foreign countries, is being compiled by the International Trade Relations Division. Countries concerning which such information is now available in a revised form are: Belgium, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Greece, Guatemala, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Surinam (Netherlands Guiana), Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela. Data on other countries will be made available from time to time.

Foreign Trade Service Abroad

Cable address:—Canadian, unless otherwise shown.

Note.—Bentley's Second Phrase Code is used by Canadian Trade Commissioners.

Argentina

Buenos Aires—H. L. BROWN, Commercial Secretary, Canadian Embassy, Bartolomé Mitre 478.

Territory includes Paraguay and Uruguay.

Buenos Aires — W. B. McCULLOUGH, Commercial Secretary (Agricultural Specialist), Canadian Embassy, Bartolomé Mitre 478.

Australia

Sydney—C. M. CROFT, Commercial Counsellor for Canada, City Mutual Life Building, Hunter and Bligh Streets. Address for letters: Post Office Box 3952 G.P.O.

Territory includes the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Queensland, Northern Territory and Dependencies.

Melbourne—F. W. FRASER, Commercial Secretary for Canada, 83 William Street.

Territory includes States of Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania.

Belgian Congo

Leopoldville—L. H. AUSMAN, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, Forescom Building. Address for letters: Boîte Postale 373.

Territory includes Angola and French Equatorial Africa.

Belgium

Brussels—B. A. MACDONALD, Commercial Counsellor, Canadian Embassy, 46 rue Montoyer.

Territory includes Luxembourg.

Brazil

Rio de Janeiro—D. W. JACKSON, Commercial Secretary, Canadian Embassy, Edifício Metropole, Avenida Presidente Wilson 165. Address for letters: Caixa Postal 2164.

São Paulo—C. J. VAN TICHEM, Commercial Secretary for Canada, Canadian Consulate, Edifício Alois, Rua 7 de Abril, 252. Address for letters: Caixa Postal 6034.

Chile

Santiago—Acting Commercial Secretary, Canadian Embassy, Bank of London and South America Building. Address for letters: Casilla 771.

Territory includes Bolivia.

China

Shanghai—Acting Commercial Secretary for Canada, 27 The Bund, Postal District (0).

Territory includes Taiwan (Formosa).

Colombia

Bogotá—H. W. RICHARDSON, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, Edificio Colombiana de Seguros. Address for letters: Apartado 1618. Address for air mail: Apartado Aereo 3562.

Territory includes Canal Zone and Panama.

Cuba

Havana—A. W. EVANS, Commercial Secretary, Canadian Legation, Avenida de las Misiones 17. Address for letters: Apartado 1945.

Territory includes Dominican Republic, Haiti and Puerto Rico.

Egypt

Cairo—J. M. BOYER, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, Osiris Building, Sharia Walda, Kasr-el-Doubara. Address for letters: Post Office Box 1770.

Territory includes Aden, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Cyprus, Ethiopia, the Hashemite Kingdom of the Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Syria.

France

Paris—J. P. MANION, Commercial Secretary, Canadian Embassy. Address for letters: 3 rue Scribe.

Territory includes Algeria, French Morocco and Tunisia.

Paris—J. H. TREMBLAY, Commercial Secretary (Agricultural Specialist), Canadian Embassy. Address for letters: 3 rue Scribe.

Germany

Frankfurt am Main—W. JONES, Acting Canadian Commercial Representative, Canadian Consulate, 145 Fuerstenbergerstrasse.

Cable address, Canadian Frankfurt-Main.

Greece

Athens—T. J. MONTY, Commercial Secretary, Canadian Embassy, 31 Vas-silissis Sophias Avenue.

Territory includes Israel.

Guatemala

Guatemala City—J. C. DEPOCAS, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, No. 20, 4th Avenue South. Address for letters: Post Office Box 400.

Territory includes Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Foreign Trade Service Abroad—Continued

Hong Kong

Hong Kong—K. F. NOBLE, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, Hong Kong Bank Building. Address for letters: Post Office Box 126.

Territory includes French Indo-China and South China.

India

New Delhi—RICHARD GREW, Commercial Secretary, Office of the High Commissioner for Canada, 4 Aurangzeb Road. Address for letters: Post Office Box 11.

Bombay—R. F. RENWICK, Acting Commercial Secretary for Canada, Gresham Assurance House, Mint Road. Address for letters: Post Office Box 886.

Territory includes Burma and Ceylon.

Ireland

Dublin—H. L. E. PRIESTMAN, Commercial Secretary for Canada, 66 Upper O'Connell Street.

Italy

Rome—R. G. C. SMITH, Commercial Secretary, Canadian Embassy, Via Saverio Mercadante 15-17.

Territory includes Libya, Malta and Yugoslavia.

Jamaica

Kingston—M. B. PALMER, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, Canadian Bank of Commerce Chambers. Address for letters: Post Office Box 225.

Territory includes the Bahamas and British Honduras.

Japan

Tokyo—J. C. BRITTON, Commercial Representative, Canadian Liaison Mission, Canadian Legation Building.

Territory includes Korea.

Mexico

Mexico City—D. S. COLE, Commercial Counsellor, Canadian Embassy, Edificio Internacional, Paseo de la Reforma. Address for letters: Apartado Num. 126-Bis.

Netherlands

The Hague—J. A. LANGLEY, Commercial Counsellor, Canadian Embassy, Sophialaan 1-A.

The Hague—D. A. B. MARSHALL, Commercial Secretary (Agricultural Specialist), Canadian Embassy, Sophialaan 1-A.

Territory includes Belgium, Denmark and Luxembourg.

New Zealand

Wellington—P. V. McLANE, Commercial Secretary, Office of the High Commissioner for Canada, Government Life Insurance Building. Address for letters: Post Office Box 1660.

Territory includes Fiji and Western Samoa.

Norway

Oslo—S. G. MACDONALD, Commercial Secretary, Canadian Legation, Fritjof Nansens Plass 5.

Territory includes Denmark and Greenland.

Pakistan

Karachi—G. A. BROWNE, Commercial Secretary, Office of the High Commissioner for Canada, the Cotton Exchange, McLeod Road. Address for letters: Post Office Box 531.

Territory includes Afghanistan and Iran.

Peru

Lima—R. E. GRAVEL, Commercial Secretary, Canadian Embassy, Edificio Boza, Carabaya 831, Plaza San Martin. Address for letters: Casilla 1212.

Territory includes Ecuador.

Philippines

Manila—F. H. PALMER, Canadian Consul General and Trade Commissioner, Tuason Building, 8-12 Escolta, Binondo. Address for letters: Post Office Box 1825.

Portugal

Lisbon—L. S. GLASS, Acting Canadian Consul General and Trade Commissioner, Canadian Consulate General, Rua Rodrigo de Fonseca 103.

Territory includes the Azores, Gibraltar and Madeira.

Singapore

Singapore—R. K. THOMSON, Acting Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, Room D-2, Union Building. Address for letters: Post Office Box 845.

Territory includes Brunei, Federation of Malaya, Indonesia, North Borneo, Sarawak and Thailand.

South Africa

Johannesburg—D. S. ARMSTRONG, Acting Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, Mutual Building, Harrison Street. Address for letters: Post Office Box 715.

Territory includes Natal, Transvaal, Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, Mozambique, Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda and Nyasaland.

Cable address, *Cantracom*.

Foreign Trade Service Abroad—Concluded

Cape Town—C. B. BIRKETT, Commercial Secretary for Canada, 5th Floor, Grand Parade Centre Building, Ad-derley Street. Address for letters: Post Office Box 683.

Territory includes Cape Province, Orange Free State, South-West Africa, Mauritius and Madagascar.

Cable address, Cantracom.

Spain

Madrid—E. H. MAGUIRE, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, 70 Avenida José Antonio. Address for letters: Apartado 117.

Territory includes the Balearic Islands, Canary Islands, Rio de Oro and Spanish Morocco.

Sweden

Stockholm—B. J. BACHAND, Commercial Secretary, Canadian Legation, Strand-vägen 7-C. Address for letters: Post Office Box 14042.

Territory includes Finland.

Switzerland

Berne—YVES LAMONTAGNE, Commercial Counsellor, Canadian Legation, Thun-strasse 95.

Territory includes Austria, Czecho-slovakia and Hungary.

Trinidad

Port-of-Spain—T. G. MAJOR, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, 43 St. Vincent Street. Address for let-ters: Post Office Box 125.

Territory includes Barbados, Wind-ward and Leeward Islands, British Guiana, Dutch Guiana, French Guiana and the French West Indies.

Turkey

Istanbul—G. F. G. HUGHES, Commercial Secretary for Canada, Istiklal Caddesi, Lion Magazasi yaninda, Kismet Han No. 3/4, Beyoglu, Istanbul. Address for letters: Post Office Box 2220, Beyoglu.

United Kingdom

London—A. E. BRYAN, Commercial Counsellor, Office of the High Com-missioner for Canada, Canada House, Trafalgar Square, S.W.1.

Cable address, Sleighing, London.

London—R. P. BOWER, Commercial Sec-retary, Office of the High Commis-sioner for Canada, Canada House, Trafalgar Square, S.W.1.

Territory includes the South of England, East Anglia and British West Africa (Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Nigeria).

Cable address, Sleighing, London.

London—W. B. GORNALL, Commercial Secretary (Agricultural Specialist), Office of the High Commissioner for Canada, Canada House, Trafalgar Square, S.W.1.

Cable address, Cantracom, London.

London—R. D. ROE, Commercial Secre-tary (Timber Specialist), Office of the High Commissioner for Canada, Can-ada House, Trafalgar Square, S.W.1.

Cable address, Timcom, London.

Liverpool—M. J. VECHSLER, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, Martins Bank Building, Water Street.

Territory includes the Midlands, North of England and Wales.

Glasgow—J. L. MUTTER, Canadian Gov-ernment Trade Commissioner, 200 St. Vincent Street.

Territory covers Scotland and Ice-land.

Cable address, Cantracom.

Belfast—H. L. E. PRIESTMAN, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, 36 Victoria Square.

Territory covers Northern Ireland.

United States

Washington—J. H. ENGLISH, Commercial Counsellor, Canadian Embassy, 1746 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

Washington—Dr. W. C. HOPPER, Agri-cultural Secretary, Canadian Embassy, 1746 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

New York City—M. T. STEWART, Cana-dian Government Trade Commis-sioner, British Empire Building, Rockefeller Center. Address for let-ters: Canadian Consulate, 620 Fifth Avenue.

Territory includes Bermuda.

Cable address, Cantracom.

New York City—M. B. BURSEY, Cana-dian Government Trade Commissioner (Fisheries Specialist), British Empire Building, Rockefeller Center. Address for letters: Canadian Consulate, 620 Fifth Avenue.

Boston—T. F. M. NEWTON, Consul of Canada, 532 Little Building, 80 Boyl-ston Street, Boston 16.

Detroit—J. J. HURLEY, Consul of Can-ada, Canadian Consulate, 1035 Penob-scot Building, Detroit 26, Michigan.

Chicago—EDMOND TURCOTTE, Consul-General of Canada, Suite 800, Chicago Daily News Building, 400 West Madi-son Street.

Los Angeles—V. E. DUCLOS, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner, Associated Realty Building, 510 West Sixth Street.

San Francisco—H. A. SCOTT, Consul-General of Canada, 3rd floor, Kohl Building, 400 Montgomery Street.

Venezuela

Caracas—C. S. BISSETT, Acting Canadian Consul General and Trade Commis-sioner, Canadian Consulate General, 8° Peso, Edificio America, Esquina Veroes. Address for letters: Apartado 3306.

Territory includes Netherlands An-tilles.

Foreign Exchange Quotations

The following are nominal quotations, based on rates available in London or New York and converted into Canadian terms at the mid-rate for sterling or par for United States dollars, as furnished by the Foreign Exchange Division of the Bank of Canada. These quotations may be found useful in considering statistics and prices generally, but Canadian exporters are reminded that the kinds of currency which may be accepted for exports to different countries are specifically covered by the Foreign Exchange Control Act and Regulations, and that funds may sometimes be tendered in payment for exports, which cannot, in fact, be transferred to Canada. Both importers and exporters are advised to communicate with their bankers before completing financial arrangements for the sale or purchase of commodities, to ensure that the method of payment contemplated is not only possible but that it is in accordance with the Foreign Exchange Control Act and Regulations.

Country	Monetary Unit		Nominal Quotations Sept. 17	Nominal Quotations April 3	Nominal Quotations April 11
Argentina	Peso	Off.	-.2977	-.3275	-.3275
		Free	-.2085	-.1221	-.1221
		Export		-.0515	-.0515
Austria	Schilling				
Australia	Pound		3-2240	2-4640	2-4640
Belgium and Belgium Congo	Franc		-.0228	-.0220	-.0220
Bolivia	Boliviano		-.0238	-.0262	-.0262
British West Indies (Except Jamaica)	Dollar		-.8396	-.6417	-.6417
Brazil	Cruzeiro		-.0544	-.0598	-.0598
Burma	Rupee		-.3022		
Ceylon	Rupee		-.3022	-.2310	-.2310
Chile	Peso	Off.	-.0233	-.0183	-.0183
Colombia	Peso		-.5128	-.5641	-.5641
Costa Rica	Colon		-.1800	-.1980	-.1980
Cuba	Peso		1-0000	1-1000	1-1000
Czechoslovakia	Koruna		-.0200	-.0220	-.0220
Denmark	Krone		-.2084	-.1592	-.1592
Dominican Republic	Peso		1-0000	1-1000	1-1000
Ecuador	Sucre		-.0740	-.0815	-.0815
Egypt	Pound		4-1330	3-1587	3-1587
El Salvador	Colon		-.4000	-.4400	-.4400
Fiji	Pound		3-6306	2-7748	2-7748
Finland	Markka		-.0062	-.0048	-.0048
France, Monaco and French North Africa	Franc	Off.	-.0037	-.0032	-.0032
French Empire—African	Franc		-.0073	-.0063	-.0063
French Pacific Possessions	Franc		-.0201	-.0174	-.0174
Germany	Deutsche Mark		-.3000	-.2619	-.2619
Guatemala	Quetzal		1-0000	1-1000	1-1000
Haiti	Gourde		-.2000	-.2200	-.2200
Honduras	Lempira		-.5000	-.5500	-.5500
Hong Kong	Dollar		-.2519	-.1925	-.1925
Iceland	Krona		-.1541	-.0675	-.0675
India	Rupee		-.3022	-.2310	-.2310
Iran	Rial		-.0212		
Iraq	Dinar		4-0300	3-0800	3-0800
Ireland	Pound		4-0300	3-0800	3-0800
Israel	Pound		3-0000	3-0800	3-0800
Italy	Lira		-.0017	-.0018	-.0018
Jamaica	Pound		4-0300	3-0800	3-0800
Japan	Yen		-.0028		
Lebanon	Piastre		-.4561		
Mexico	Peso		-.1157	-.1273	-.1273
Netherlands	Florin		-.3769	-.2895	-.2895
Netherlands Antilles	Florin		-.5308	-.5833	-.5833
New Zealand	Pound		4-0150	3-0800	3-0800
Nicaragua	Cordoba		-.2000	-.2200	-.2200
Norway	Krone		-.2015	-.1540	-.1540
Pakistan	Rupee		-.3022	-.3325	-.3325
Panama	Balboa		1-0000	1-1000	1-1000
Paraguay	Guarani		-.3200		
Peru	Sol		-.1538	-.0726	-.0721
Philippines	Peso		-.4975	-.5500	-.5500
Portugal and Colonies	Escudo		-.0400	-.0385	-.0385
Singapore	Straits Dollar		-.4702	-.3593	-.3593
Spain and Colonies	Peseta		-.0916	-.1008	-.1008
Sweden	Krona		-.2783	-.2126	-.2126
Switzerland	Franc		-.2336	-.2562	-.2561
Thailand	Baht		-.1000		
Turkey	Lira		-.3571	-.3911	-.3911
Union of South Africa	Pound		4-0300	3-0800	3-0800
United Kingdom	Pound		4-0300	3-0800	3-0800
United States	Dollar		1-0000	1-0000	1-1000
Uruguay	Peso	Controlled	-.6583	-.7241	-.7241
Venezuela	Bolivar		-.2985	-.3289	-.3289
Yugoslavia	Dinar		-.0200		