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Vol. XCVIII. No. 1,075.

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U. S. Department of Agriculture

The Board of Trade Journal

Edited at the Department of Commercial Intelligence.

JULY 5, 1917.

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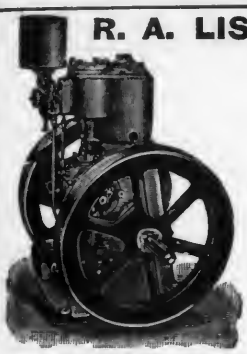

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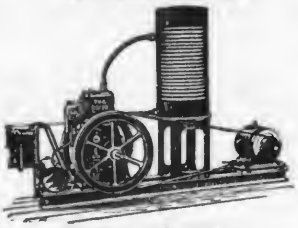

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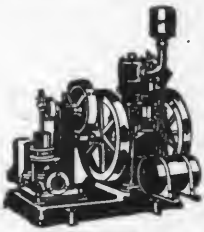

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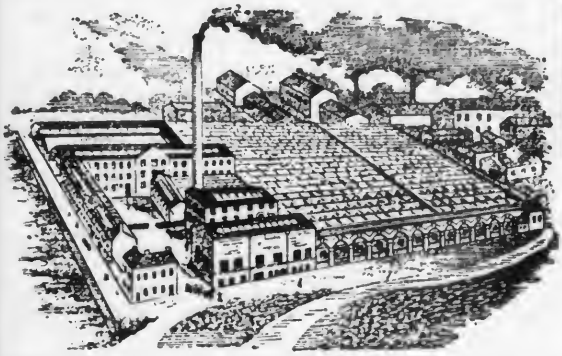

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WRITE FOR CATALOGUE 44.

Board of Trade Journal.

JULY 5, 1917.

CONTENTS.

For list of principal Publications of the Board of Trade see p. i. of Advertisements.

THE

Board of Trade Journal.

(Edited at the Department of Commercial Intelligence.)

Vol. XCVIII.] July 5, 1917. [No. 1,075

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE,
73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.

TELEGRAMS { **"Advantage, Stock, London."** Code:—**A.B.C., 5th Edition.** TELEPHONE { **London Wall 4713 (5 lines.)**

32, Cheapside, London, E.C. 2.
(*British Industries Fair Office.*)

TELEGRAMS { **"Shoforsamp, London."** CODE:—**A.B.C., 5th Edition.** TELEPHONE: **City 2323.**

The objects and work of the Department are described on p. 55.

NEW INDUSTRIES ESTABLISHED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Since the outbreak of war many new industries have been established in the United Kingdom, and goods which formerly had to be obtained from abroad are now being manufactured at home. The Department of Commercial Intelligence desires to make its record of such new industries as complete as possible, in order to satisfy enquiries for new sources of supplies, which are frequently received. Manufacturers are therefore invited to inform the Department of new industries, or new developments of existing industries, established in this country.

TRADE ENQUIRIES REGARDING MARKETS FOR BRITISH GOODS.

The Department of Commercial Intelligence invites applications from manufacturers and exporters of British goods who are desirous of extending their trade. Such applications should *specify the countries for which information is desired,* and indicate—

(*a*) The precise kind of goods about which the enquirer desires information, and

(*b*) The particular points in regard to which he especially wants to be informed.

Attention is directed to this matter because, if applicants would make their enquiries *more precise*, they would benefit by receiving more precise information. If they desire to do an export trade it would be in their interest to state whether they have already succeeded in obtaining any trade in countries abroad, whether they are represented by agents there, and if so by whom, and whether they are satisfied with their representation.

Applicants for information as to openings abroad may apply direct to H.M. Trade Commissioners and the Imperial Trade Correspondents in the British Dominions, the Board of Trade Correspondents in other parts of the Empire, and to H.M. Consular Officers in foreign countries, but it is generally desirable that they should apply, *in the first instance*, to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2, because by the adoption of this course much delay may be avoided in those cases in which the Department is already in possession of the required information.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

New Sources of Supplies Required.

Since the outbreak of the war, applications have been received at the Department of Commercial Intelligence from a large number of firms in all parts of the United Kingdom, and abroad, who wish to get into communication with British manufacturers or producers of various classes of goods which have previously been obtained from Germany and Austria-Hungary.

Applications have been recorded during the past week for the names of manufacturers or producers of the following (amongst other) articles; British manufacturers or producers of these articles now in a position to supply are invited to make application for the names of the enquirers :—

Bangles and bracelets, imitation silver.
Beads, composition, in place of those made in Germany and Austria.
Brass wire brushes for goldsmiths (for export).
Confetti.
Fine silver chain, machine made.
Gilt guard chains, as previously made in Germany.
Pendants for the North African market.
Persulphate of soda.
Piercing saws for metal.
Rubber tabs and collets for sock suspenders.
Stamped brass coats of arms, size about 8½ in. by 6½ in.
Thimbles for Italy.

NOTICE TO EXPORTERS.

In reading the following notices of possible openings for British goods abroad, regard should be had to the necessity for taking strict precautions against trading with the enemy—*see* the Notes on pp. 717–8 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 15th March—also to the restrictions on trading in certain goods and the special regulations in regard to trading with certain countries, which have been notified from time to time in the "Board of Trade Journal." *In any case of doubt or difficulty concerning the various regulations, information may be obtained either by letter or on personal application to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.*

CEYLON.

Manchester Goods; Hardware; Soap, etc.

The Principal Collector of Customs at Colombo (the Board of Trade Correspondent for Ceylon) reports that a firm of wholesale brokers, commission merchants and general agents at that port desires to obtain agencies for United Kingdom manufacturers or exporters of *Manchester goods* and *general merchandise*, particularly *hardware* and *soap*.

United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters of the goods mentioned, desirous of being represented in Ceylon, may obtain the name and address of the firm referred to on application to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. In making application the reference number (242) should be quoted. (D.C.I. 31,316.)

CANADA.

Cotton and Woollen Goods.

The Office of H.M. Trade Commissioner in Canada reports that an agent in Montreal, who has acted as traveller in the dry goods trade in the Dominion for about eight years, desires to obtain the representation, for the whole of the Dominion, of a United Kingdom manufacturer or exporter of *cotton goods or woollen goods*. The enquirer states that he wishes to represent *one firm* to whose interests he can devote his whole attention; he is prepared to work on a straight salary only.

Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters of cotton and woollen goods, desirous of appointing an agent in Canada, may obtain the name and address of the enquirer on application to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. In making application the reference number (243) should be quoted. (D.C.I. 29,560.)

* * * * *

The following enquiry has been received at the Canadian Trade Commissioner's Office, Portland House, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2, *whence further information may be obtained* :—

CANADIAN ENQUIRY.

Window Trimmings; Curtain Pole Ends; Fireplace Fittings; Metal Novelties; Motor Boat Supplies.

A Canadian firm, a member of whom is at present in the United Kingdom, is desirous of obtaining agencies for Canada for United Kingdom manufacturers of *interior window trimmings, curtain pole ends, fireplace fittings, metal novelties, such as inkstands, paper weights and paper cutters, and motor boat supplies*—see Notice to Exporters on p. 2. (D.C.I. 24,885.)

AUSTRALIA.

H.M. Trade Commissioner in Australia (Mr. G. T. Milne) has forwarded a copy of the specification, conditions and form of tender in connection with a call for tenders by the Melbourne City Council, as follows :—

Rotary Converter and Transformer.

Sealed tenders, on the proper forms, will be received up to noon on 30th July,* by the Chairman of the Electric Supply Committee, Town Hall, Melbourne, for the supply, delivery, and erection of a 2,000 k.w. *rotary converter*, with its *transformer and accessories.* (Specification No. 388.)

Tenders must be accompanied by a preliminary deposit of £1 1*s.*

Copies of the specification, etc. may be *obtained* from Messrs. McIlwraith, McEacharn & Co., Billiter Square Buildings, London, E.C. 3.

The above-mentioned copy of the specification, etc., may be *consulted* by British manufacturers of electrical converters at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. (D.C.I. 31,642.)

NEW ZEALAND.

Agencies desired: *See details in italics.*

A firm of wholesale merchants and manufacturers' representatives at Christchurch desires to get into touch with United Kingdom manufacturers who are anxious to open up business in New Zealand, with a view to obtaining their agencies. While the firm is prepared to handle on an agency basis any lines suitable for the New Zealand market, the goods in which it is especially interested are as follows :—

Motor cars, etc., and motor accessories.—Motor cars and motor cycles, and pumps, horns, repairing outfits, and tyres (pneumatic and solid) therefor; tyres for ordinary cycles; electric bulbs for motor lamps, brake linings, radiator hose, etc.

Paints, oils, etc.—Paints, grease, lubricating oils, metal polishes, petrol, disinfectants, etc.

Rubber goods, hardware.—Rubber tubing, garden hose, hardware.

Tobacco, etc.—Tobacco, cigarettes and cigars, pipes, tobacco pouches, etc.

Provisions.—Groceries, confectionery, tea, cocoa, coffee, etc.

* It will be observed that the time for the receipt of tenders is limited and this intimation will therefore be of use only to firms having agents in the Commonwealth who can be instructed by cable.

Openings for British Trade.

NEW ZEALAND—*continued.*

The firm claims to have a staff of travellers covering the whole of the Dominion, and calling regularly on all leading garages, cycle and motor cycle dealers, general merchants, stores, chemists, tobacconists, etc.

United Kingdom manufacturers, desirous of doing business in New Zealand, may obtain the name and address of the firm referred to on application to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. In making application the reference number (244) should be quoted.

In the case of such goods as manufacturers may not be able to deliver at present (see Notice to Exporters on p. 2), it is suggested that negotiations might be opened up now, so that business may be done directly circumstances permit.

(D.C.I. 28,697.)

Plant and Accessories for Hydro-Electric Power Systems. See notice on p. 42.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Plant and Accessories for Meat-Canning and Freezing Works. See notice on p. 48.

EGYPT.

H.M. Consul at Cairo (Mr. A. D. Alban) has forwarded a copy of the *cahier des charges* in connection with a call for tenders by the Department of Technical, Industrial and Commercial Education of the Egyptian Ministry of Education, as follows:—

Workshop Overalls. Sealed tenders, on the proper forms, will be received by the Director of the Technical School, Bulac, Cairo, for the supply of 305 sets of *blue linen overalls* (jackets and trousers), required for the school during the year 1917–18. No date for the receipt of tenders is specified.

A provisional deposit equal to 2 per cent., or a bank guarantee of 10 per cent., of the value of the offer must accompany each tender. The tenderer must be a person residing in Egypt, or must have a representative in that country, and must give in his offer an address in Egypt at which notices may be served upon him.

Copies of the *cahier des charges* and form of tender, may be *obtained* from the Model Workshops, Bulac, Cairo, where also samples of the overalls may be *inspected.*

The above-mentioned copy of the *cahier des charges*, together with particulars of the overalls required, may be *consulted* by British firms at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.

(D.C.I. 31,839.)

Ghafir Clothing. With reference to the notice on p. 628 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 21st June, relative to a call for tenders by the Egyptian Ministry of the Interior for the supply of *Ghafir clothing* (including *blue drill belts, drawers* and *quamis*), required by the Stores Department during 1917, the Department of Commercial Intelligence is notified by the London Office of the Inspecting Engineer to the Egyptian and Sudanese Governments (Sir A. L. Webb, K.C.M.G.) that the time for receipt of tenders has been extended, and that sealed tenders, on the proper forms, will now be received up to noon on 15th August by the Director, Personnel and Equipment Department, Ministry of the Interior, Cairo.

Copies of the conditions and form of tender, together with lists of the articles required, may be *obtained* by British firms on application to the Department of Commercial Intelligence. (D.C.I. 29,909; 32,092.)

Openings for British Trade.

GIBRALTAR.

Ready-made Clothing, etc.

The Acting Colonial Secretary at Gibraltar (the Board of Trade Correspondent for the Colony) reports that a general commission agent at that port wishes to get into touch with United Kingdom manufacturers with a view to obtaining their agencies for Gibraltar. The enquirer particularly desires to negotiate with United Kingdom manufacturers of *cheap ready-made clothing.*

United Kingdom manufacturers of cheap ready-made clothing, and other goods, desirous of being represented in Gibraltar, may obtain the name and address of the enquirer on application to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. In making application the reference number (245) should be quoted. (D.C.I. 31,124.)

RUSSIA.

Boots and Shoes; Leather and Leather Goods; Clothing; Haberdashery; Lace; Yarns; Floor Coverings; Textile and Domestic Machinery, etc.

A firm of agents in the United Kingdom, claiming experience of the Russian market, desires to get into touch with British manufacturers desirous of doing business with Russia in the following articles:—*Boots and shoes, leather and leather goods, wearing apparel, hosiery, haberdashery, fancy goods, lace, yarns, floor cloths and coverings, textile and domestic machinery, and Sheffield goods.*

Communications in this connection should be addressed to the Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Eldon Chambers, Wheeler Gate, Nottingham, marked on the envelope with the letter "P."

In the case of such of the goods as manufacturers may not be able to deliver at present (see Notice to Exporters on p. 2), it is suggested that negotiations might be entered into now with a view to trade when circumstances permit.

(D. C. I. 30,077.)

FRANCE (Algeria).

Textiles; Ironmongery; Coffees; Teas.

The British Vice-Consul at Oran (Mr. R. Barber) reports that an agent in that town desires to obtain agencies for United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters of the following goods, for which the enquirer states there is a large demand in Oran: *Cotton piece-goods, ironmongery, Rio and Santos raw coffees, and green teas from China.* [In the case of such of the goods as British firms may not be able to deliver at present (*see Notice to Exporters on p.* 2), it is suggested that negotiations might be entered into now with a view to trade when circumstances permit.]

United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters of the goods mentioned, desirous of appointing an agent in Oran, may obtain the name and address of the enquirer on application to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. In making application the reference number (246) should be quoted. (D.C.I. 30,128.)

PORTUGAL (Madeira).

Goods in Demand: *See Details in Italics.*

H.M. Consul at Funchal (Captain J. Boyle, M.V.O.) writes, under date 18th May, that United Kingdom firms could do a certain amount of business by sending commercial travellers to Madeira in order to study the market there and to learn what goods are actually in demand. Captain Boyle suggests that openings for trade would probably be found in such goods as: *Haberdashery, hosiery, grocery, drugs, glassware and chinaware, cooking utensils, leather goods, toys, etc.*

[*Note.*—In reference to the foregoing regard should be had to the existing restrictions on exports from the United Kingdom—*see Notice to Exporters on p.* 2.] (D.C.I. 26,854.)

Openings for British Trade.

ITALY.

The Acting British Consul-General at Turin (Mr. T. D. Dunlop) reports the receipt of the following enquiries from firms in that city :—

Scientific Apparatus and Appliances.

A firm of manufacturers and dealers in scientific and sanitary apparatus seeks to obtain agencies for United Kingdom manufacturers of *chemical machinery apparatus, bacteriological apparatus, microscopes, laboratory balances, rubber tubing, optical appliances, and sterilising and disinfecting apparatus.* (Reference No 247.) *See Note † following.* (D.C.I. 26,858.)

Tools; Files; Pig-Iron.

An agent, who holds a degree in commercial science, and who was employed in the United Kingdom for about ten years, seeks agencies for United Kingdom manufacturers of *machine and other tools, files, and pig-iron.* (Reference No. 248.) *See Note † following.* (D.C.I. 31,090.)

Piece Goods; Yarns; Hosiery; Raw Wool and Jute.

An agent and importer seeks agencies for United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters of *cotton and woollen piece goods, hosiery and yarns; also jute yarns and tissues; raw wool and raw jute.* (Reference No. 249.) *See Note † following.* (D.C.I. 31,285.)

Belting; Band Saws; Mineral Oils; Grease.

A firm of buying agents and importers of *leather and cotton belting, band saws, mineral oils, and grease,* desires to obtain agencies for United Kingdom manufacturers and producers of these goods. (Reference No. 250.) *See Note † following.* (D.C.I. 31,292.)

Heating, Refrigerating, Distilling and Disinfecting Apparatus; Stoves; Boilers; Ventilators; and Chemical Machinery.

A consulting engineer desires to obtain agencies for United Kingdom manufacturers of *heating, refrigerating, distilling and disinfecting apparatus, stoves, boilers, ventilators and chemical machinery.* (Reference No. 251.) *See Note † following.* (D.C.I. 31,293.)

Note †.—United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters of the goods mentioned, desirous of being represented in Turin, may obtain the names and addresses of the respective enquirers on application to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. In making application the relative reference number should be quoted.

In the case of such goods as manufacturers may not be able to deliver at present (see Notice to Exporters on p. 2), it is suggested that negotiations might be opened up now, so that business may be done directly circumstances permit.

MOROCCO (French Zone).

Bicycles, Parts, and Accessories.

The British Vice-Consul at Saffi reports that he has recently received two enquiries for the names of United Kingdom manufacturers of bicycles. The first enquiry was made by a local firm which has been established at Saffi for four years. This firm is particularly interested in importing bicycles in parts, as it has a workshop at which machines are assembled, and by importing in this way there would be a saving in freight rates and customs dues. A bicycle that would cost the firm c.i.f. Saffi about 110 francs would, it is said, suit the local market very well. The firm is also interested in bicycle parts and accessories. *See Note † following.*

The second enquiry was made by an engineer and mechanic who wishes to represent United Kingdom manufacturers of cheap bicycles. *See Note † following.*

The Vice-Consul adds that there are no bicycles to be had in Saffi at present, and he thinks that there is a small opening for cheap British bicycles. Beginnings must necessarily be small, but Saffi should be a good

Openings for British Trade.

MOROCCO (French Zone)—*continued.*

market for bicycles in the future, because there is a considerable mileage of good roads in the vicinity of the town, and roads connecting Saffi with neighbouring towns, notably Marrakesh, are under construction and will shortly be completed; the residential quarter of Saffi is at some distance from the business part of the town, and, with the completion of the port and the road to Marrakesh, many Europeans will, it is anticipated, come to Saffi to stay.

Note †.—United Kingdom manufacturers of bicycles, parts, and accessories, desirous of doing business in Saffi, may obtain the names and addresses of the respective enquirers on application to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. Correspondence with both enquirers should be in French. In making application the reference number (252) should be quoted. (D.C.I. 31,085.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Opportunity for Increased Trade— *For Goods see List.*

H.M. Consul-General in New York (Mr. C. Clive Bayley) has forwarded, under date 8th June, the following statistics of imports of various articles into the United States from Germany and Austria-Hungary during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1914, with comparative figures of imports from the United Kingdom during the same period:—

—	From United Kingdom.	From Germany.	From Austria-Hungary.
	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.
Furs and fur skins, undressed	1,992,216	2,697,794	46,330
Wearing apparel	1,106,509	563,728	58,084
Umbrellas, parasols, sunshades (silk, etc.) ...	30,461	41,945	2,465
Buttons	84,931	812,424	744,422
Beads and bead ornaments	13,293	819,725	753,056
Dolls (and parts)	2,484	1,791,913	4,592
Other toys	421,182	15,926,941	177,809
Lead pencils	280,817	356,331	—
Souvenir postcards	22,742	418,930	6,754
Musical instruments (including parts) ...	35,857	1,467,611	177,092
Razors	40,094	411,866	796
	Dozen.	Dozen.	Dozen.
Pocket knives	92,656	1,222,750	37,488
Scissors and shears	14,557	575,069	282
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Oxalic acid	905,153	6,668,291	—
Grass seed (except clover seed)	7,142,874	18,311,136	—
	Sq. yards.	Sq. yards.	
Dress goods	5,348,845	1,696,161	—
Linoleum	2,641,778	990,193	—
	Doz. pairs.	Doz. pairs.	Doz. pairs.
Stockings and half hose	17,604	2,375,494	3,784

Mr. Clive Bayley remarks that the above figures indicate that there is considerable opportunity for increases in shipments of United Kingdom goods to the United States, and adds that he will be pleased to procure any specific information desired by British manufacturers, if obtainable, in response to enquiries made through the Department of Commercial Intelligence.

[*Note.*—In reference to the foregoing, regard should be had to the existing restrictions on exports from the United Kingdom—*see Notice to Exporters on p.* 2]. (D.C.I. 34,451.)

Dollar = 4s. 1½d.

Openings for British Trade.

URUGUAY.

School Requisites.

The "Diario Oficial" (Montevideo) of 26th May notifies that tenders will be received at the "Secretaría-General de Instrucción Primaria," Montevideo, up to 4 p.m. on 14th August, for the supply of *school requisites* required for the year 1918. *Local representation is necessary.*

The conditions of tender, etc. may be consulted at the offices of the abovementioned "Secretaría."

PARAGUAY.

Goods in Demand— *See details in Italics.*

Information regarding the trade of Paraguay in 1916, together with particulars of openings for trade and methods of doing business with that country, appears on pp. 25-6 of this issue. There are said to be openings for trade in the following goods:—

Chemicals and drugs.
China and earthenware.
Corrugated iron, etc.
Cutlery.
Glassware.
Hardware.
Hollow-ware (enamelled and plain).
Iron and steel pipes and tubes.
Ironmongery.
Paper and stationery.
Perfumery.
Pianos and other musical instruments.
Provisions.
Sporting requisites.
Textiles.
Tools.
Wire.

PRINTED AND COMMERCIAL PAPERS POST FOR PLACES ABROAD.

With reference to the foregoing notices relative to openings for trade in the Self-Governing Dominions and elsewhere abroad, it should be borne in mind that *postage must be prepaid* on all communications addressed to H.M. Trade Commissioners and the Correspondents in the Dominions and Colonies of the Department of Commercial Intelligence, and to H.M. Consular Officers in foreign countries. *Care should be taken to ensure correct stamping, particularly when catalogues are sent. Packages sent at reduced rates by the Printed and Commercial Papers Post must be sent open* (see page 58 of the Post Office Guide).

SAMPLES ON VIEW.

Attention is called to the undermentioned samples which are on view in the Enquiry Room of the Department:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
Zirkite (Zirconia) Ore from Brazil	21st June, 1917	664
Dye and Dyed Material from Argentina	21st " "	666
Malva Fibre from Cuba	14th " "	610
Illipe Nuts from Dutch West Borneo	12th April, "	610
Diatomaceous Earth from Spain	29th March, "	834
Diatomaceous Earth from Oregon	15th " "	744
Three-ply Veneer from New Zealand	15th Feb., "	8
Fibre for Rope-making from Turkestan	25th Jan., "	1

EXHIBITIONS.

SAMPLES OF GERMAN AND AUSTRIAN GOODS.

Exhibition at the Department of Commercial Intelligence.

An Exhibition of samples of goods of enemy manufacture, including many recent additions, is now being held *in the new Sample Rooms of the Department of Commercial Intelligence (5th Floor), 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.*

The Exhibition is open to British manufacturers and exporters of British goods every week-day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The samples, which number approximately 3,000, are of considerable variety, and are labelled with prices (where available), and the name of the country in which the goods are sold. *Certain of the samples* represent quite recent designs from enemy sources, and should be of interest to British manufacturers desirous of obtaining information respecting the new styles of goods at present being manufactured in enemy countries.

The markets represented by the samples are as follows:—United Kingdom, British India, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Africa (South, East and North), Russia, Sweden, Netherlands, Denmark, France, Portugal, Italy, United States of America, Central and South America, Siam, China, and other Far Eastern markets.

A general list of the samples on exhibition appeared on p. 524 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 7th June.

EXHIBITION OF GERMAN AND AUSTRIAN CATALOGUES.

In order that British manufacturers may have an opportunity of familiarising themselves with German and Austrian methods of advertising, the Board of Trade have collected over 8,000 specimen catalogues of German and Austrian origin, and these may be inspected at the British Industries Fair Office, 32, Cheapside, London, E.C. 2.

A new index has been prepared, in which the catalogues are classified both as regards articles of manufacture and names of manufacturers, thus rendering identification of any particular catalogue a simple matter. Copies of this index may be obtained by United Kingdom manufacturers on application to the Comptroller-General, Department of Commercial Intelligence, British Industries Fair Office, as above.

RECENT MOTOR VEHICLE, ETC. SHOW AT JOHANNESBURG.

H.M. Trade Commissioner in South Africa (Mr. W. G. Wickham) has forwarded a copy of the April issue of the "African Motor" (Johannesburg), which contains a very full description of the exhibits of motor vehicles, etc. at the Annual Motor Show held by the South African Society of Motor Traders at Johannesburg from 4th to 10th April last. Almost all the exhibits were American.

The Show, it is stated, indicated the growth of the demand for motor vehicles, etc. in the Union. The issue of the "African Motor" referred to, which, it is stated, contains technical details of practically all types of motor vehicles, etc. at present selling in South Africa, may be consulted by British firms interested at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. (D.C.I. 31,146.)

GOVERNMENT NOTICES AFFECTING TRADE.

PROHIBITED EXPORTS.

Complete Lists Available.

The Department of Commercial Intelligence has received from the War Trade Department a number of copies of the List of Goods, the export of which from the United Kingdom to certain or all destinations is prohibited by the Royal Proclamation of 10th May, 1917, as amended by the Order-of-Council of 22nd June. The List is thus complete to date, and, within the limits of the available supply, British firms may obtain gratis copies of the List on application, either personally or by letter, to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.

SHIPMENT OF SPIRITS TO HOLLAND.

In modification of the notice which appeared on pp. 765–6 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 14th September last, relative to restrictions on exports to certain countries, it is notified by the Foreign Office that whiskey, rum, and brandy have been excepted from the existing restrictions on the shipment of spirits to Holland.

EXPORTS TO GREECE.

With reference to the notice on p. 697 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal" relative to the raising of the blockade of the Greek coast, the War Trade Department announce that "recommendations" issued by H.M. Minister at Athens before 2nd December, 1916, cannot be accepted in respect of goods which it is desired to export to destinations in those parts of Greece which were under blockade.

In respect of goods for the other parts of Greece the position remains as indicated on p. 158 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 26th April, *i.e.*, "recommendations" dated prior to 1st October, 1916, cannot be accepted.

(D.C.I. 31,724.)

APPROVED CONSIGNEES IN LIBERIA.

The Foreign Trade Department of the Foreign Office notifies that the name of the Rev. S. T. Prout has been removed from the list of persons and bodies of persons to whom articles to be exported to Liberia may be consigned.

PROHIBITION OF IMPORTS.

"Prohibition of Import (No. 17) Proclamation, 1917."

A Proclamation, dated 28th June, prohibits as from that date the importation into the United Kingdom of the undermentioned goods, exception being made in respect of such goods as are imported under licence given by or on behalf of the Board of Trade, and subject to the provisions and conditions of such licence:—

Carbons for arc lamps.
Carbons for searchlights.
Cartridges of all kinds and parts thereof.
Electric dry cells and carbons therefor.

CONTRABAND OF WAR.

Consolidated Amended Lists.

A Proclamation, dated 2nd July, adds to and amends the lists of articles to be treated as contraband of war, and consolidates and re-issues them in alphabetical form. It is hoped to publish the new consolidated lists of articles to be treated as absolute and conditional contraband in next week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal."

Government Notices affecting Trade.

NEW DEFENCE OF THE REALM REGULATIONS.

An Order-in-Council, dated 28th June, further amends the Regulations (called the "Defence of the Realm Regulations") under the Defence of the Realm Consolidation Act, 1914, for securing the public safety and the defence of the Realm. The Order referred to orders the following, amongst other. amendments to be made in the regulations:—

Docking of Merchant Ships carrying Ammunition or Explosives.

After regulation 38A the following regulation shall be inserted:—

"38B. Where any ammunition or explosive substance is carried on board any merchant ship for defensive purposes it shall be lawful for such ship to enter any dock, harbour or port in the United Kingdom, notwithstanding any restrictions imposed by statute or byelaw relating to explosive substances in force in the dock, harbour, or port, if all regulations made by the Admiralty for the safety of such ammunition and explosive substance are duly observed on board the ship; and if any person refuses to admit, or hinders or obstructs the entry of any such ship in respect of which all such regulations are observed into the dock, harbour, or port on the ground that she is carrying any ammunition or explosive substance, he shall, notwithstanding such restrictions as aforesaid, be guilty of a summary offence against these regulations."

Regulation of Shipping.

After regulation 39BB the following regulation shall be inserted:—

"39BBB. (1) The Shipping Controller may make orders regulating or giving directions with respect to the nature of the trades in which ships are to be employed, the traffic to be carried therein, and the terms and conditions on which the traffic is to be carried, the ports at which cargo is to be loaded or discharged or passengers embarked or disembarked (including directions requiring ships to proceed to specified ports for the purpose of loading or unloading cargo or embarking or disembarking passengers), the ports at which consignees of cargo are to take delivery thereof, the rates (maxima or minima) to be charged for freight or hire of ships and the carriage of passengers, the form of bills of lading and passenger tickets, and other matters affecting shipping, where it appears to the Controller necessary or expedient to make any such order for the purpose of making shipping available for the needs of the country in such manner as to make the best use thereof having regard to the circumstances of the time:

Provided that any order made under this regulation shall have effect subject to any regulations made or orders given under regulations 37, 38 or 39.

(2) Any order made under this regulation may contain such provisions as to entry, inspection of books and documents, or otherwise as may appear to the Controller necessary or expedient for the purposes of his duties.

(3) The Shipping Controller may by order requisition or require to be placed at his disposal, in order that they may be used in the manner best suited for the needs of the country, any ships, or any cargo space or passenger accommodation in any ships, or any rights under any charter, freight engagement, or similar contract affecting any ship, and require ships so requisitioned to be delivered to the Controller or any person or persons named by him at such times and at such places as the Controller may require, where it appears to the Controller necessary or expedient to make any such order for the purpose of making shipping available for the needs of the country in such manner as to make the best use thereof having regard to the circumstances of the time.

Such compensation shall be paid in respect of the use of a ship or cargo space or passenger accommodation requisitioned under this regulation and for services rendered during the use thereof, and for loss or damage thereby occasioned as in default of agreement may be determined

Government Notices affecting Trade.

NEW DEFENCE OF THE REALM REGULATIONS—*continued.*

REGULATION OF SHIPPING—*continued.*

by the Board of Arbitration constituted under the Proclamation of the third day of August, nineteen hundred and fourteen, respecting the requisitioning of ships by the Admiralty.

(4) Any order made under this regulation affecting any ship may be served on the owner of the ship, and shall be deemed to be sufficiently served if sent by registered post addressed to the managing owner, or other person to whom the management of the ship is entrusted by or on behalf of the owner, at his registered address.

(5) Any order under this regulation may be made either so as to apply generally to all ships or to apply to ships belonging to any particular owner, or to ships of any class or description, or so as to apply to any specified ship, and any such order may direct that all contracts or any class of contracts or any special contract affected by the order shall be abrogated, or shall remain in force notwithstanding anything in the order, but subject to any exceptions or modifications for which provision may be made by the order.

(6) If the owner, master or other person in charge of a ship or any other person affected by an order under this regulation acts in contravention of or fails to comply with any provisions of the order, or aids or abets any other person, whether or not such other person is in the United Kingdom, in doing anything which if done in the United Kingdom would be a contravention of any such provision, he shall be guilty of a summary offence against these regulations, and if such person is a company, every director and officer of the company shall also be guilty of an offence against these regulations unless he proves that the contravention took place without his knowledge or consent.

(7) The powers conferred by this regulation shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any prerogative, right or other powers of His Majesty, and where before the twenty-eighth day of June, nineteen hundred and seventeen, any ship or any cargo space or passenger accommodation in any ship, or any rights under any charter, freight engagement, or similar contract affecting any ship, has been requisitioned by the Shipping Controller, this regulation shall, after that date, apply as if the same had been requisitioned in pursuance of this regulation."

Additional Powers of Shipping Controller.

Regulation 39A, which relates to penalties imposed on persons neglecting to join requisitioned ships, is amended so as to relate to ships "chartered, hired, or requisitioned by the Admiralty or Army Council, *or the Shipping Controller*"; the extent of the amendment is indicated by the words in italics.

Regulation 39C, which relates to the prevention of congestion of traffic at ports and harbours, is amended to provide that directions issued by the Port and Transit Executive Committee are to be "subject to any instructions of the Shipping Controller."

Admittance to Shipbuilding Yards.

After regulation 29B the following regulation shall be inserted:—

"29C. As from the first day of July nineteen hundred and seventeen it shall not be lawful for any person being the owner of a ship, or employed as a ship's agent, shipbroker, or ship's husband, or as an inspector or surveyor of ships or their machinery, if he is not a natural-born British subject, or if his father is or was at any time the subject of a State at war with His Majesty, to enter or be upon any shipbuilding yard without the permission in writing of the Admiralty or Army Council, and it shall be the duty of the occupier of every shipbuilding yard to take such steps as may be practicable to prevent the admission to his shipbuilding yard of any such person save upon the production of such permission as aforesaid.

"If any such person enters or is in or upon a shipbuilding yard without such a written permission, or if the occupier of a shipbuilding yard fails

Government Notices affecting Trade.

NEW DEFENCE OF THE REALM REGULATIONS—*continued.*

ADMITTANCE TO SHIPBUILDING YARDS—*continued.*

to take such steps as aforesaid, or if any officer, servant, or agent of the occupier fails to comply with any directions given by the occupier for the prevention of the admission of such persons, he shall be guilty of a summary offence against these regulations.

"For the purposes of this regulation 'shipbuilding yard' means any premises in which any seagoing ships, boats, or vessels are made, equipped, finished, or repaired."

Additional Powers of Food Controller.

See notice on p. 17.

CONTROL OF SUPPLIES OF COTTON.

The Board of Trade have made an Order, dated 28th June, under the Defence of the Realm Regulations, with regard to cotton, of which the following are the operative clauses:—

(1) A person shall not without a licence (general or special) granted by or under the authority of the Board of Trade, nor otherwise than in accordance with the conditions, if any, subject to which such a licence is granted, purchase any raw cotton, and a person shall not sell or offer to sell raw cotton to any person except the holder of such a licence, nor to the holder of such a licence otherwise than in accordance with such conditions as aforesaid.

The conditions imposed by the Board of Trade may include conditions as to maximum price, provided that any price so fixed shall not apply to the sale of any particular parcel of raw cotton by a person who had previously entered into a contract for the purchase thereof so as to reduce the selling price of that parcel below the cost incurred by that person in purchasing the cotton and bringing it to the United Kingdom together with such margin to cover incidental expenses and profit as the Board of Trade may think reasonable.

(2) All importers and dealers in raw cotton and cotton spinners shall comply with any general or special directions which may be given by or under the authority of the Board of Trade as to the sale, disposal, delivery or use of raw cotton.

(3) Infringements of this Order are summary offences subject to penalties under the Defence of the Realm Regulations.

Cotton Control Board Appointed.

For the purpose of administering this Order the Board of Trade, in consultation with the representatives of cotton employers, operatives, importers and distributors, have set up a Cotton Control Board, of which the membership is as follows:—Mr. A. Herbert Dixon (Chairman), Mr. J. S. Addison, Mr. Percy Ashworth, Mr. A. Barnes, Professor S. J. Chapman, Lord Colwyn, Mr. James Crinion, Mr. J. Cross, Mr. F. Duxbury, Mr. E. Judson, Mr. J. A. Ormerod, Mr. John Smethurst, and Mr. E. F. Stockton.

For the present, all communications with regard to the Order should be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. H. D. Henderson, Cotton Control Board (Temporary Offices), 6, St. James' Square, Manchester.

SALE OF WOOL (GREAT BRITAIN) ORDER, 1917.

The Army Council has made the following Order, under date 22nd June, relative to the sale of wool:—

"1. No person shall sell raw wool grown or to be grown on sheep in Great Britain and the Isle of Man during the season of 1917, including fleece wool and skin wool, but not including daggings, locks, brokes, and fallen wool, otherwise than to persons authorised by or on behalf of the Director of Army Contracts, or at prices other than those set out in the schedule hereto annexed or at such other prices as in any particular case may be allowed by or on behalf of the Director of Army Contracts.

Government Notices affecting Trade.

SALE OF WOOL (GREAT BRITAIN) ORDER, 1917—*continued.*

"2. No person shall sell raw wool (as hereinbefore defined) grown or to be grown on sheep in Ireland during the season of 1917, otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of the Sale of Wool (Ireland) Order, 1917.

"3. No person shall make or take delivery of or payment for any wool of the description aforesaid otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of this Order, whether in pursuance of any contract entered into prior to the date hereof or otherwise.

"4. All persons having in their custody or control any stocks of wool of the description aforesaid are hereby required to sell such wool to any persons authorised by or on behalf of the Director of Army Contracts as may be required by him or on his behalf, and to make deliveries to such persons in such quantities and at such times and places as may be specified by him or on his behalf.

"5. No person shall mix or wind in any fleeces of the description aforesaid any brokes or dead wool, locks, daggings, or other matter whatsoever.

"6. The Order made by the Army Council relating to raw wool grown or to be grown on sheep during the season of 1917, and dated the 5th day of April, 1917, is hereby cancelled.

"7. This Order may be cited as the Sale of Wool (Great Britain) Order, 1917."

[*Note.*—The schedule referred to, which is of considerable length, is printed in the issue of the "London Gazette" of 29th June. The Order of 5th April, mentioned above, was published on pp. 106–7 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 19th April last.]

DEALINGS IN WORSTED AND HOSIERY LAPS AND WASTE.

With reference to the notice on p. 693 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 28th June relative to an Army Council Order respecting dealings in worsted and hosiery laps and waste, it is notified that the issue of the "London Gazette" of 29th June publishes the text of the Order, together with two Schedules of prices thereto.

TOPS AND MERINO NOILS.

The War Office (Wool Section) have issued the following announcements:—

Restrictions on Dealings in Tops.

In the Army Council Order, dated 12th June (see p. 639 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 21st June), the words "all qualities of tops described as 58's and below" do not include tops produced from mohair, alpaca, camel hair, cashmere or other material usually known as hair.

Licences for Disposal of Merino Noils.

It is desired to bring to the notice of all persons interested, that holders of merino noils who desire to obtain licences to dispose of such noils on the ground that they are unsuitable for the purposes of the Department, should in future submit their samples and offers to the War Department, Noil Section, 52, Leeds Road, Bradford, instead of to Room 551, Caxton House, Tothill Street, Westminster, S.W.1, as was arranged at first. It should be understood that the object of this change in procedure is to enable the Department to release more quickly the noils which are of no use to them.

ORDER AS TO PICRIC ACID.

An Order-in-Council, dated 28th June, repeals as from that date the exemption contained in paragraph (*b*) of Article 2 of the Order-in-Council of 27th March, 1905, whereby picric acid, when the quantity does not exceed 2,000 lb. in any one ship, boat, carriage, building or place, is under certain conditions exempted from being deemed to be an explosive within the meaning of the Explosives Act, 1875.

Government Notices affecting Trade.

USE OF TIMBER FOR ROAD WORKS.

The Secretary of the Local Government Board notifies that a Circular, dated 29th June, has been addressed to local authorities, to the effect that the attention of the Board has been drawn by the Controller of Timber Supplies to the grave difficulties which now obtain in regard to the provision of timber to meet the enormous present and prospective demands for purposes of national importance, and to the urgency of reducing to a minimum the consumption of timber for all but the most essential needs.

It is strongly urged by the Local Government Board that the use of timber for road works should be confined to the sole purpose of repairs; that the relaying of all wood paving should be deferred for the present; and that where works for the improvement of road surfaces cannot possibly be postponed, the local authorities should adopt some alternative method, such as surfacing with asphalte or other bituminous material, or by taking up a section of sound wood paving, which could be replaced with setts, and using the blocks thus set free for repairing worn out places.

Economy in the use of timber has a very special bearing on the problem of saving tonnage at the present time, and, the Circular concludes, in bringing these suggestions to the notice of local authorities, the Board feel sure that they will fully appreciate the seriousness of the position and do all in their power to give effect to them.

DIRECTIONS AS TO THE SALE OF COAL.

With a view to dealing with fluctuations in colliery prices which have recently occurred in certain districts owing to abnormal market conditions, and to preserving the regularity in the distribution of coal which is so necessary at the present time, the Controller of Coal Mines has issued a Code of Directions as to the Sale of Coal.

The Code, which is dated 28th June, deals with the following matters:—

I. Sale of coal for consumption in the United Kingdom.

II. Sale of coal for shipment to France and Italy and French and Italian Possessions and Protectorates.

(*a*) Coal prices.
(*b*) Exporters' services.
(*c*) Applications for export licences.

III. Sale of coal for shipment to destinations outside the United Kingdom other than France and Italy and French and Italian Possessions and Protectorates (including coal for the manufacture in the United Kingdom of coke-oven coke or of patent fuel for shipment to the destinations in question), or for use as bunkers (including coal despatched to coaling stations).

(*a*) Coal prices.
(*b*) Exporters' services.
(*c*) Applications for licences.

IV. General provisions.

The Directions mainly affect prices of coal for export and bunker purposes, for which a definite schedule of prices has been drawn up, but they also provide that the pit prices of coal for home consumption shall remain at the maxima prescribed by the Price of Coal (Limitation) Act, 1916.

Copies of the Code may be obtained on application to the Coal Mines Department of the Board of Trade, 8, Richmond Terrace, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1. (D.C.I. 31,949.)

NEW DUTIES OF MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

Transfer of Duties from the Board of Trade.

An Order-in-Council, dated 2nd July, orders that the duties performed by the Department of Labour Statistics of the Board of Trade are to be transferred to the Minister of Labour, and that such transfer takes effect as from the date of the Order.

Government Notices affecting Trade.

PETROL CONTROL DEPARTMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Board of Trade announce that the duties hitherto performed by the Petrol Control Committee with regard to the distribution of petrol for civil and industrial needs will in future be performed by a Petrol Control Department of the Board of Trade. The President has appointed Sir Evan Jones, Bart., M.I.C.E., to be Controller of the new Department, Mr. P. G. L. Webb to be Deputy Controller, and Mr. H. W. Cole to be Chief Clerk.

Sir Evan Jones will retain his position as Commissioner for Dyes.

The President of the Board of Trade has appointed Sir Walter Egerton, K.C.M.G., to be chairman of the Pool Board which is responsible for co-ordinating the work of the various oil distributing companies.

COMMITTEE ON THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRIC POWER.

Sir Archibald Williamson, Bart., M.P., has consented to act as Chairman of the Committee on Electric Power, in place of the Right Hon. F. Huth Jackson, who has resigned on medical grounds, and the following representatives of local authorities owning electric supply undertakings have been added to the Committee, viz.: Mr. W. B. Smith, Mr. Harold Dickinson, and Mr. E. F. Vesey Knox, K.C.

[The appointment of the Committee on the Supply of Electric Power by the President of the Board of Trade was notified on pp. 809–10 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 29th March, 1917.]

TRADING WITH THE ENEMY AMENDMENT ACT, 1916.

Appointment of Controller to fill Vacancy.

With reference to the notice on p. 577 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 14th June relative to the winding up of the enemy business of Frederick Mauch of 149, Aldersgate Street, London, E.C. 1, it is notified that Mr. Ernest James, 48, Gresham Street, London, E.C. 2, has been appointed Controller in place of Mr. Thomas James Bond, who has resigned the position.

SUPPLIES OF SHOT GUN AMMUNITION.

In view of the necessity of effecting further economies in the use of important raw materials, the Minister of Munitions notifies that it has been found necessary to take steps to impose restrictions upon the sale of shot gun ammunition. It will be necessary henceforward for farmers and others requiring such ammunition for the purpose of destroying vermin and of preserving crops, to obtain a purchase licence for the quantity desired, in England and Wales from a County War Agricultural Executive Committee, and in Scotland (*a*) from the local executive officers of the District Agricultural Committees, or (*b*) in certain cases from officials specially authorised by the Board of Agriculture for Scotland, or (*c*) in Islands where no such officer or official as specified in (*a*) or (*b*) is available, from a Parish Minister specially authorised by the Board of Agriculture for Scotland. This licence should be presented to the retailer from whom the customer is in the habit of purchasing his ammunition. Powers have been taken under the Defence of the Realm Regulations to make it illegal for shot gun ammunition to be sold to the general public except upon production of such licence. Steps are being taken to enable those who supply the general public to obtain supplies of shot gun ammunition in the ordinary course of business. It must, however, be distinctly understood that purchase licences will only be issued upon clear proof of the absolute necessity of obtaining shot gun ammunition for destroying vermin or preserving crops, and that the issue of such licences, even for those purposes, will be restricted within the lowest possible limits. It must be also understood that the supply of material for the manufacture of shot gun ammunition will be severely restricted, and it is accordingly imperative that those who require such ammunition for the

Government Notices affecting Trade.

SUPPLIES OF SHOT GUN AMMUNITION—*continued.*

purposes named should limit their demands to the lowest possible figure. It is hoped that these arrangements will enable legitimate demands to be satisfied. No licences will be issued to purchase shot gun ammunition either for the shooting of game for sporting purposes or for the destruction of vermin in order to preserve game, and no ammunition may be sold for these purposes.

GOVERNOR-GENERALSHIP OF NEW ZEALAND.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies announces that His Majesty has been pleased by Letters Patent to direct that the designation of the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of New Zealand should be changed to that of Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief.

LOSS OF MAILS FOR BRITISH, FRENCH AND DUTCH GUIANA.

The Postmaster-General announces that letter mails for British, French and Dutch Guiana containing correspondence posted between 17th May and 5th June, and parcel mails for British and Dutch Guiana containing parcels posted between 23rd May and 5th June, have been lost at sea through enemy action.

MINISTRY OF FOOD NOTIFICATIONS.

The Ministry of Food has issued the following notifications :—

Power to Requisition Supplies and Control Prices.

By the Order-in-Council referred to on pp. 10-13, the same powers are conferred on the Food Controller as the Admiralty, Army Council, and Ministry of Munitions already possess for requisitioning and controlling prices. Lord Rhondda is now empowered to requisition the whole or part of the output of any factory, and to pay a price based on the cost of production, with the addition of a reasonable pre-war rate of profit, without regard to the price ruling in the open market. For this purpose he is authorised to examine books and to ascertain such particulars as to output, cost and rate of profit as may be required for fixing a reasonable price. Similar powers have been taken to deal with goods requisitioned from growers or other producers. Where goods are requisitioned from a *bonâ fide* merchant or dealer the price is determined by the price paid by him for the goods, provided that such price is not unreasonable, and by the rate of profit which he would normally earn under pre-war conditions, provided that such profit was not excessive. Where, however, any middleman or speculator has acquired foodstuffs or other commodities otherwise than in the usual course of his business, no profit at all or a profit at less than pre-war rates may be allowed.

These powers have for some time past been exercised by the Admiralty, Army Council and Ministry of Munitions, and have enabled those Departments to purchase their supplies at reasonable prices and without regard to the market fluctuations due to abnormal war conditions.

The Oats (Export from Ireland) Order, No. 2, 1917.

By the Oats (Export from Ireland) Order No. 2, 1917, dated 29th June, the Food Controller has ordered that the Oats (Export from Ireland) Order, 1917, is to continue in force until 31st August, 1917.

New Appointment.

The Food Controller, with the consent of the Army Council, has appointed Mr. U. F. Wintour, C.B., C.M.G., hitherto Director of Army Contracts, to be Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Food in place of Sir Henry Rew, K.C.B., resigned.

Mr. Wintour will act as the Food Controller's principal adviser and, subject to his directions, will have entire charge of the organisation of the Ministry and of the administration of the policy as laid down from time to time by the Food Controller.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYED.

Report of Sub-Committee of the Reconstruction Committee.

The Minister of Labour calls attention to the Report which has been presented to the War Cabinet by the Reconstruction Committee in regard to the relations between capital and labour. This Report was drawn up by a Sub-Committee of the Reconstruction Committee, mainly composed of prominent representatives of employers' associations and trade unions, and it puts forward certain important proposals for the better regulation of industry, which, if carried out, will have far-reaching effects on the national welfare.

The War Cabinet are deeply concerned that timely and effective measures should be taken to deal with these questions, for they feel that the future of industry, and indeed of the country itself, are closely bound up with their successful solution. Moreover, they feel strongly that action cannot be deferred until after the war, as it is essential that the problems concerning the organisation of industry which peace will bring should be fully and frankly discussed between employers and employed before they actually arise. Further, as the trustee for the well-being of all classes of the community, the Government itself is vitally interested in the result of these discussions. The Sub-Committee thus states the matter in its Report :—

"In the interests of the community it is vital that after the war the co-operation of all classes established during the war should continue, and more especially with regard to the relations between employers and employed. For securing improvement in the latter, it is essential that any proposals put forward should offer to workpeople the means of attaining improved conditions of employment and a higher standard of comfort generally, and involve the enlistment of their active and continuous co-operation in the promotion of industry."

It is in order to meet these ends that the proposals made by the Sub-Committee are framed. The Sub-Committee proposes, *inter alia*, the establishment for each industry of an organisation, representative of employers and workpeople, to have as its object the regular consideration of matters affecting the progress and well-being of the trade from the point of view of all those engaged in it, so far as this is consistent with the general interest of the community. With a view to providing means for carrying out the policy indicated above, the Sub-Committee recommends that H.M. Government should propose, without delay, to the various associations of employers and employed the formation of joint standing industrial councils in the several industries, where they do not already exist, composed of representatives of employers and employed, regard being paid to the various sections of the industry and the various classes of labour engaged.

Before deciding to adopt these proposals, the Government has invited the general views of leading employers' associations and trade unions, to whom the Ministry of Labour has written. It should be understood that the proposals are applicable only to well-organised industries, and are intended to deal with only one aspect of the problem of industrial reconstruction; other aspects requiring other measures remain to be dealt with, but if the fundamental questions affecting the relations between employers and employed are satisfactorily settled on a permanent basis, the solution of all subsequent difficulties becomes much easier.

As the matter is an urgent one, the Ministry of Labour asks to be favoured with the preliminary views of these organisations on the Sub-Committee's proposals within a month. If it is finally decided to adopt the scheme recommended by the Sub-Committee, each of the trades affected will be invited to discuss the best method of putting it into operation. At present the Report is only being sent out to the employers' associations and the trade unions in the well-organised industries, in order to get their general criticisms and suggestions. Specially chosen officers have been appointed by the Ministry to assist in explaining the scheme. They will always be glad to give any assistance they can in this direction and to attend conferences summoned to consider it, either in London or the provinces.

Enquiries on the subject should be addressed to Arthur Greenwood, Esq., Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, London, S.W. 1.

TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

Report of H.M. Trade Commissioner.

A Report on the trade of South Africa for the years 1915 and 1916 by Mr. W. G. Wickham (H.M. Trade Commissioner in South Africa) has just been published.* In the course of the Report, after dealing with the character of the import trade of the Union, the effect of the war upon imports, the growth of foreign competition during the last two and a half years, and general business methods, Mr. Wickham goes on to advise United Kingdom firms of the steps that they ought to take *now*, notwithstanding the difficult circumstances in which they are placed, in order to retain their hold upon South African markets, and to make it more easy for them to resume their trade, and to extend their business, on the termination of the war.

Mr. Wickham writes that, so far, the South African has had little opportunity of judging what, if any, developments have taken place in manufacturing in the United Kingdom, and that local firms have not been overwhelmingly impressed with the little they have seen. Whatever British manufacturers are going to be able to do in the direction of capturing or recapturing the South African market, they must realise that the campaign is still in front of them. No doubt they are not, and will not be for a while longer, able to deliver their goods or even to show catalogues and prices. There is, however, very much that they can do and ought to do.

Firms should keep alive the goodwill of their connections by advertising and by explaining their actual position and temporary difficulties as fully as is permissible in the existing circumstances. The fullest consideration should be given to the difficult position of agents. A good agent is as valuable an asset to a manufacturer as any unit in his manufacturing organisation, and his services should be retained as a matter of course, as much as those of a manager or chief clerk would be in a period of strike or bad trade.

Manufacturers who have paid no retaining fee to an agent, merely because they could not deliver goods to his indents, have little claim on an agent's loyalty, and, in Mr. Wickham's opinion, have no right whatever to expect him to come back to them, and throw over American and Japanese agencies, after the war.

To firms who have not yet interested themselves in the South African market, but intend to do so after the war, Mr. Wickham suggests that they should make up their minds that the time for action is *now*. In spite of preoccupation and shortness of staff they must realise that the matter will not admit of postponement. In the majority of lines firms can, through the medium of the Department of Commercial Intelligence of the Board of Trade, get into touch with reliable agents who are willing to wait for deliveries, provided they have agencies ready to come into operation as soon as the war is over.

In this connection, Mr. Wickham offers the following advice to all who are intending to do business in South Africa when munitions are no longer wanted, alike to those who are only temporarily kept out of the market, and to those who desire to enter it for the first time:—"We at a distance have difficulty in obtaining information as to what is being made for war purposes which has a permanent value as a commercial requisite for civilian use after the war; as to what British manufacturers have learnt to make since the outbreak of war; and as to what they can make, are making, or intend to make of the many things wanted in South Africa and at present unobtainable or being procured from foreign sources. So far as is possible or permissible the fullest information should be given on these points, because the importer and consumer have nothing to judge from, except present inability to get what they want from the United Kingdom. It cannot be emphasised too often that, rightly or wrongly, the British manufacturer generally has a reputation for refusing to get out of grooves and make what is wanted. . . .

* Obtainable either through any bookseller, or directly from H.M. Stationery Office (see addresses on cover of the "Board of Trade Journal"), the reference number being Cd. 8,614, and the price 3d. (4d. inclusive of postage).

Trade with South Africa.

"Whether British manufacturers have been unduly conservative in the past or not does not signify, provided they will make it perfectly clear without delay that they are *not in grooves now*. Let them, so far as is allowed, prove the assertion with samples, with illustrated catalogues, or merely with statements of facts. . . . If facilities are given for any organised exhibition of goods in South Africa or in the United Kingdom, manufacturers should not fail to take advantage of the opportunity, and show, so far as possible, something more than fancy leather goods, colour printing, and toys. People want to know whether we are going to continue to confine artistic design to expensive handicrafts, or allow it to be reproduced as cheap repetition work; in fact, they want some tangible evidence, however small, that the whole of our commercial reorganisation is something more than talk.

"So much for the question of what we can make. Equally important is the question of *price*. Organisation and federation in industries to cheapen production by increasing the scale of manufacture are, of course, long overdue, particularly in certain branches of engineering. . . . It is essential that any organisation or federation should realise that it has got to mature its selling policy in addition to effecting economies in manufacture, and that this can only be carried out by the study of experts in the oversea market itself."

From the point of view of the British engineer, adds Mr. Wickham, it would be extremely unwise to wait until works are released for the production of commercial commodities, and the goods are ready for delivery, before beginning to look into the question of how best to market them. Here, again, the time is the present.

Other sections of Mr. Wickham's Report deal with industrial conditions in South Africa, the necessity for capital outlay, labour, agriculture, dairy produce, mining, railways and harbours, etc.

Appended to the Report are reports by the Imperial Trade Correspondents at Port Elizabeth, Durban, Bloemfontein and Bulawayo, together with a report on mining conditions in the Transvaal.

ENEMY PROPERTY AND TRADING WITH THE ENEMY LEGISLATION IN NIGERIA.

The Comptroller of Customs at Lagos (the Board of Trade Correspondent for Nigeria) has forwarded a copy of an Ordinance of the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria (No. 12 of 1917), assented to by the Governor on 17th May, to make provision for the vesting in, and the custody and disposal by, the Public Custodian of certain enemy property. This Ordinance, which is entitled the Public Custodian (Amendment) Ordinance, 1917, is to be read as one with the Public Custodian Ordinance, 1916 (No. 47 of 1916)—see notice on p. 624 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st March last—and provides, *inter alia*, that the Governor may order that all or any property in Nigeria belonging to an enemy or an enemy subject shall, with certain specified exceptions, vest in the Custodian, who may take possession of, realise, deal with, and transfer the same in as full and ample a manner as the owner thereof.

The Comptroller of Customs has also forwarded a copy of an Ordinance (No. 14 of 1917), assented to by the Governor on 17th May, being an Ordinance to amend the Ordinances relating to trading with the enemy. This Ordinance, which may be cited as the Trading with the Enemy and Export of Prohibited Goods Ordinance, 1917, makes provision for penalties for false statements, etc., in connection with trading with the enemy and the exportation of prohibited goods.

The above-mentioned copies of the Ordinances may be consulted by British firms at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. (D.C.I. 8,275; 30,990.)

ENEMY FIRMS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Firms Ordered to be Wound Up.

H.M. Trade Commissioner in South Africa (Mr. W. G. Wickham) reports, under date 16th May, that the Union Government have ordered the following enemy firms to be wound up, under paragraph (*b*) of Sub-section (2) of Section two of the Trading with the Enemy Act:—

R. Berg Hardware Company, Limited, East London. *Controller:* Mr. E. R. Syfret, St. George's Street, Cape Town. 7th March, 1917.

H. H. Boeker and Company, Johannesburg. *Controller:* Mr. E. C. Lowe, 44, Central House, Johannesburg. 5th April, 1917.

[Previous notices respecting the winding up of enemy firms in South Africa appeared on p. 297 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 10th May, 1917, and p. 63 of the "Journal" of 12th April.] (D.C.I. 31,136.)

FEDERATION OF FARMERS' CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS IN NEW ZEALAND.

With reference to the notice on pp. 641–2 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st March, relative to farmers' co-operative trading organisations in New Zealand, H.M. Trade Commissioner in the Dominion (Mr. R. W. Dalton) has forwarded, under date 26th April, an extract from the local press to the effect that an undertaking opening up great commercial possibilities has been initiated at Wellington, in the formation of the Farmers' Co-operative Wholesale Federation (N.Z.), Limited. This new enterprise is a combination of nine of the principal farmers' co-operative societies in the Dominion, for such purposes as will most effectively assist shareholder associations and companies, especially as regards imports and exports. The Federation proposes to collect commercial data regarding British and other markets, and to obtain and manage Dominion, British, and foreign agencies for goods which are of interest to the various associations. Altogether, the Federation aims at securing the fullest benefits for constituent associations by means of a comprehensive system of concerted action.

Mr. Dalton desires to impress on United Kingdom firms the importance of the farmers' co-operative associations in New Zealand, so far as the import trade is concerned, and he is of opinion that the formation of the Federation referred to above will greatly increase the associations' importance as importers of the various commodities required in the agricultural development of the country. A list of farmers' co-operative associations in New Zealand has been forwarded by Mr. Dalton, and a copy of it may be obtained by British firms on application to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. (D.C.I. 28,712.)

ENEMY BUSINESSES IN RUSSIA UNDER LIQUIDATION.

Notice to Creditors.

With reference to the notice on pp. 241–2 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 3rd May, and to previous notices, relative to enemy businesses in Russia under compulsory liquidation, H.M. Commercial Attaché at Petrograd (Mr. H. Cooke) has forwarded, under date 24th May, a further list of enemy businesses in respect of which closing orders have been made and temporary boards of liquidation and management appointed, together with the names of enemy firms in respect of which additional regulations for their liquidation and management have been made.

The list referred to, together with eighteen previous lists of liquidated enemy firms in Russia, which contain the dates of the separate official notifications concerning claims, and the address of the Board of Liquidation appointed in respect of each business, may be consulted by British firms interested at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.

[*Note.*—Particulars as to the period within which claims must be submitted, and the manner of their submission, etc., appeared on pp. 669–70 of the "Journal" of 9th December, 1915.] (D.C.I. 7,420.)

POSSIBILITIES FOR TRADE IN THE CAUCASUS.

H.M. Consul at **Batoum** (Mr. P. Stevens) writes that trade possibilities in the Caucasus and adjacent Russian territory were always good, and that, for well-known reasons, German trade held a paramount position in that region prior to the war. German firms and manufacturers were able to secure the great majority of orders for goods by means of their well-defined system of pushing trade. Agencies were established in most of the principal towns in the Batoum district, where large stocks of goods were kept on show and also for the purpose of meeting immediate demands, periodical visits were made by commercial travellers who spoke Russian, and, in this way, aided by widespread advertising in Russian, backed by catalogues and price lists (prices in most instances being quoted inclusive of customs duties, manipulation expenses, freight rates, etc.), German firms developed a large business in all kinds of their varied manufactured products.

It cannot be too frequently repeated that the high state of commercial efficiency which was attained by German firms was largely due to the diligent and unceasing activities of the agents referred to, who, whilst in the exercise of the duties entrusted to them, had the full support of their employers, and, with a view to securing all the trade they possibly could, were given a free hand to introduce methods which they saw most fitted the needs and established customs of the Caucasian markets.

Under these conditions German firms had a great advantage over their competitors, seeing that at any time when difficulties in negotiations arose, their agents and travellers were always in a position, by consultation between themselves, to decide questions on the spot, such questions as in ordinary circumstances their competitors would have to refer to their principals, who, probably lost business owing to this loss of time.

The discretionary powers extended by German firms to their agents and travellers frequently comprised, amongst others, the very important one of allowing credit to dealers in Russia. Mr. Stevens emphasises this because, he says, British firms seem to regard a system of credit as so reprehensible that, apparently, they would prefer to abandon the markets in the Caucasus rather than run the risk of a bad debt occasionally, although, in comparison with the volume of business transacted, and the profits made thereon, the amounts involved in such bad debts would prove insignificant.

British firms during the war have unfortunately been unable to show signs of energetic enterprise in the Caucasus, while American and Japanese and other foreign traders have made and are making great efforts to secure trade in this field. A good deal of *hosiery* and *haberdashery* is being imported into the Caucasus from Japan, and Japanese competition is steadily becoming a serious factor.

Conditions necessary for securing trade.—Preliminary organisation is very necessary and United Kingdom firms should make preparations as soon as possible. In order to obtain trade in the Caucasus it is essential that full support should be given by the manufacturer or shipper in the United Kingdom to his representative's actions—which should be restricted by power-of-attorney to a certain class of activity—in his transactions with dealers and tradesmen. To push sales numerous reliable agents must be appointed; they should be men who know Russian, and are generally familiar with business conditions, legislation affecting trade, and customs obtaining in the Caucasus. Commercial travellers with these qualifications should also be appointed to visit the traders of the nearest towns and those of the surrounding country at given intervals. These travellers should be attached to each agency. It is useless, however, having an agency at Odessa or Moscow for the Northern Caucasus, or at Rostov-on-Don for the Trans-Caucasus. An agent should reside at Rostov for business in the Don, Kuban, Stavropol and Ter Cossack territories, and another agent for the Trans-Caucasus should reside at Batoum, Tiflis or Baku. A number of agents residing even nearer to each other than the places just mentioned would, Mr. Stevens believes, obtain still better results.

Catalogues, price lists and other advertising literature should be prepared by persons knowing Russian thoroughly well, and should be extensively distributed. They should contain prices worked out, when practicable, in roubles and copecks, both with and without Customs duties, and charges and expenses,

including railway rates to places of delivery. Russian weights should be given.

A wider and more general system of banking facilities than has hitherto been placed at the disposal of traders should be provided.

Credit, where necessary, or asked for, should be prudently accorded after careful enquiry. Usually, a certain proportion of payment should be taken on receiving orders, and further payment should be required against receipt of shipping or railway documents, and the balance on delivery, or by bill at three, four, or up to six months.

Writing on the same subject, the British Vice-Consul at **Baku** (Mr. A. E. R. McDonell) states that, with few exceptions, British traders and manufacturers do not seem to have appreciated the importance of Baku as a centre for their operations, or as a market requiring any special attention. They have usually been content to appoint an agent in one of the large centres in Russia, or on the Continent, and to leave the appointment of a local representative in his hands. There are probably a number of United Kingdom manufacturers supplying the Baku district with a considerable quantity of goods through these central houses, who, did they but realise the strides in industry and development that are taking place yearly, might considerably increase their sales by appointing their own agents.

Baku is the point at which East and West meet, and for this reason, among many others, it calls for special study of local conditions. The oil industry in itself is a speciality, and works under special conditions as to labour and climate. The labour by which certain classes of machinery are worked is not very skilled; certain works have their machinery partially exposed to the very high winds and sand storms. In many cases these and other conditions require especial attention. In some instances the simpler forms of machinery are found to be more suitable than later and more intricate types.

As regards the question as to whether Baku is worth a special visit, Mr. McDonell states that being a large commercial centre in the Trans-Caucasus, Baku largely supplies the territory situated east of Batoum and the other oilfields of the Caucasus, as well as the North of Persia and Transcaspia, with many commodities. This last district is a large tract of country exporting many cereals and calling for increasing supplies of agricultural machinery. It is a country with great possibilities in the near future; extensive tracts of land are continually coming under irrigation, and the country contains much undeveloped mineral wealth. The Germans paid special attention to this part of the Russian Empire and latterly showed much energy in developing its resources, especially in commodities for export. All important Baku merchants have their agents or branch offices in Transcaspia, as well as in all the large towns of the Caucasus and the oil-producing centres.

Agents and representatives.—The appointment of suitable agents often presents many difficulties. Many of the larger and more responsible houses are often already engaged and under obligations to other manufacturers, while the smaller people are unable to comply with the terms asked. Undoubtedly the most satisfactory method is that of opening a branch office in some centre. This branch office should be controlled by an employee of the British firm, and it should be his duty to travel and appoint and inspect agents. This is, of course, only feasible where the business is large enough to warrant it. The prevailing custom of appointing a central agent and leaving him to appoint sub-agents appeals to the British manufacturer as being safer. The central agent takes all the risks of default or late payment on the part of his sub-agents, and for this very reason the best results are often not obtained. The system as a whole is much to be deprecated: the seller is entirely out of touch with the manufacturer; he consequently loses interest, and is very often unable to obtain the little improvement or alteration which may make an article saleable in his district; and, apart from this, there are, under this method, two parties taking profits or commission out

Possibilities for Trade in the Caucasus.

of the goods. Manufacturers not having a branch office should appoint their own agents, giving each a specified district, and should send a representative from time to time to inspect and report on progress and possibilities. Excellent results are shown where manufacturer and salesman are in close touch with each other. In the matter of travelling inspectors, British firms might often combine with each other to effect an economy in travelling and other expenses.

Banking facilities and credit.—A great deal has been written about the credit it is necessary to give in order to trade in Russia, and the prevalent idea seems to be that goods must be dumped and left until sold. What is really required is a certain amount of latitude in regard to first consignments, and a thorough understanding of Russian banking facilities. The Russian merchant does certainly ask for a certain amount of credit to be allowed him on a line of goods entirely new to his market; this seems to him to be sharing the risk fairly. If further orders are given and the manufacturer is not sure of his customer, or does not care to grant credit a second time, he should forward the goods and send the bills of lading to a local bank, with instructions to deliver them to his customer or agent only on receipt of certain sums of money or security for payment. Should he fear that the goods will not be taken up he can always demand a small payment with order so as to cover any loss entailed by a forced sale; such a preliminary payment would seldom be refused. In this manner the manufacturer is only out of his money for such time as it takes the goods to arrive at their destination. If the local agent has been able to obtain the first consignment on easy terms, and thus gained a market and subsequent orders from his customers, his bankers will usually help him to buy out the way bill for the next consignment on his furnishing proof of orders. For instance, when an order for a piece of machinery is placed by one of the large oil firms in the Baku district the local banks will make an advance as soon as the way bills come to hand.

Another point not thoroughly understood is the Russian promissory note or bill. This is drawn by the payee and may or may not be backed by a second signatory. It is a promise to pay at three, six or nine months, as the case may be, and bears the proportionate revenue stamp. If the drawer's credit is good it is discountable at a rate of from 6 per cent. to 8 per cent. per annum. It is presented at the end of its term through a bank, and if not met is sent to the public notary for protest. This protest has the effect of stopping the credit of the drawer and backer, legal proceedings in the meantime being unnecessary. In the case of an English draft or acceptance this is not possible; in the event of default the assistance of a solicitor has to be engaged, translations certified and made, and proceedings taken in court. This is often a lengthy matter and until the final decision is given by the courts the defaulter suffers no inconvenience.

Opportunities for the future.—For the duration of the war there seems to be very little possibility of anything but preparatory work being done. As regards this, considerable disappointment has been felt by local traders, who complain that correspondence remains long unanswered, or that a short reply is received stating that nothing can be done at present, and asking for further reference to the matter at some later date.

Suppliers wishing to obtain a footing in the Baku market should realise that this large industrial centre and all the country around has been virtually starving for supplies for the last two years. *As soon as communications re-open, supplies must be obtained at once from whatever source available.* At first the question of conditions and credits will play no part at all; the only question will be promptitude of delivery. United Kingdom manufacturers should, therefore, immediately send out representatives or write stating what they are prepared to supply at the earliest possible date after the resumption of communications. (D.C.I. 22,589.)

TRADE WITH PARAGUAY.

Trade in 1916. Openings for Trade, and Business Methods.

The following particulars relative to the foreign trade of Paraguay, and to the means by which business with that country is conducted, have been received from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Asuncion (Mr. F. Oliver), under date 23rd April:—

Imports.—The total value of imports into Paraguay in 1916 amounted to £930,305, as compared with £481,174 in 1915, and £1,623,999 in 1914. The value of the United Kingdom's share of the import trade in 1916 was £352,846, or 38 per cent., while that of Argentina was £322,278, and that of the United States £115,717, as compared with £155,820, £157,552, and £43,721, respectively, in 1915. The other principal sources of supply in 1916 were Italy and Spain, whence goods were imported to the value of £51,990 and £36,261, respectively. Towards the latter part of 1916 the import trade revived, owing mainly to stocks having been allowed to run unusually low.

Exports.—The value of the total exports from Paraguay in 1916 amounted to £961,492, as compared with £1,119,410 in 1915, and £916,874 in 1914, the principal countries of consignment in 1916 being Argentina, Spain, United States, and Uruguay, which received goods to the value of £707,850, £74,124, £46,481, and £45,422, respectively. Exports to the United Kingdom amounted to £15,015, as against £38,703 in 1915.

Openings for Trade.—The principal United Kingdom goods sold in Paraguay are textiles in general, and to a less extent iron and steel, drugs and chemicals, and provisions. As Germany was formerly the chief competitor in certain classes of *textiles*, the trade in textiles of British manufacture might be extended. American competition in textiles is not formidable in extent at present, but it is increasing.

There are also openings for *hardware, ironmongery, tools, cutlery, wire, corrugated iron, etc., iron and steel pipes and tubes, hollow-ware (enamelled and plain), glass, china and earthenware, paper and stationery, pianos and other musical instruments, and sporting requisites in general*, all of which were formerly imported mainly from Germany by German firms. *Drugs and chemicals* were also formerly imported from Germany. British *provisions, drugs, perfumery, and paper*, if pushed, would probably secure a much better sale than hitherto, and tasteful and attractive making-up and novelties are to be recommended.

Business Methods.—In normal times the larger firms generally import direct. In many cases the business is done through the local representatives of European firms, or through commission agents. *It is generally undesirable for United Kingdom exporters to deal direct with any but Asuncion firms. There are advantages in United Kingdom firms being represented by an agent at the capital.*

The smaller firms import mainly through Buenos Aires and Montevideo houses or agents.

Use is frequently made by Asuncion houses, especially since the war, of the facilities offered by the free-port area at Montevideo, where consignments of goods can be broken up and distributed in different directions, or warehoused for twelve months, free of charge.

British travellers who visit Paraguay for the most part represent Manchester shippers and other United Kingdom export merchants dealing chiefly in textiles; for these firms any other lines that may be handled are subsidiary.

Very few travellers visit Paraguay *principally* on behalf of British manufacturers of iron and steel, provisions, drugs and chemicals, paper, and sporting requisites; and, as very few British firms dealing in these goods are represented at Asuncion by agents, the consequence is that the sale of the goods is not adequately pushed.

For most goods, especially miscellaneous articles, European exporters quote f.o.b. London (or other port) or *ex* factory. The shippers pay freight, insurance, and charges to Buenos Aires or Montevideo, and add these to the invoice. The Asuncion importer then makes his own arrangements for river transport from those ports. For some goods, such as wire, corrugated iron, bagging, sugar, rice, and calcium carbide, the European manufacturers or merchants usually quote prices c.i.f. Buenos Aires or Montevideo.

Trade with Paraguay.

In the case of Manchester goods, prices are frequently "free Manchester," plus freight and other charges to Buenos Aires or Montevideo, as the case may be.

Some importers, especially new customers, or in cases where a new article is to be handled, require prices c.i.f. Asuncion.

As no arrangements are known to exist between the shipping companies for through freight tariffs from European ports to Paraguay, it is generally more favourable to the Paraguayan importer to make his own arrangements for transport from Buenos Aires or Montevideo. Where quotations are made c.i.f. Asuncion, and the river freight and charges are an unknown quantity, an outside figure to cover all contingencies will always be charged against the Asuncion importer's account. It would, says H.M. Chargé d'Affaires, facilitate business in many cases if arrangements for through freights from Europe to Paraguay were made. Where, however, goods are imported in large bulk, the importer may, nevertheless, prefer to take delivery of them at the ocean steamer's port of discharge.

The respective advantages of Montevideo or Buenos Aires as ports of transhipment of goods for Paraguay depend upon circumstances. For example, large importers at Asuncion might favour Buenos Aires because of the facilities there for collecting goods from different vessels lying in the port, and they may perhaps have special contracts with one of the river steamship companies, while there is also a better service of river steamers from Buenos Aires than from Montevideo. Others find that, although there is little difference in the freight, the handling charges are far higher at Buenos Aires than at Montevideo.

Credit.—In textiles, six months' credit (from date of invoice or of delivery) is general; in other trades shorter credit or cash against documents is usual. Since the war much of the import trade is for cash against documents.

Catalogues.—Catalogues should be in Spanish, and prices should generally be expressed in gold dollars (5 dols to the £1) or in both dollars and sterling. The metric system of weights and measures should be used as far as possible.

(D.C.I. 28,392.)

[*Note.*—In reading the foregoing, regard should be had to the restrictions on the export of certain goods from the United Kingdom—see Notice to Exporters on p. 2.]

PROPOSED STATE ASSISTANCE FOR PORTUGUESE INDUSTRIES.

The "Diario do Governo" (Lisbon) of 7th June publishes the text of a Bill presented to the Portuguese Chamber of Deputies, proposing to grant State assistance in the establishment of new industries and the development of existing ones.

Under the terms of the Bill the various concessions proposed to be offered by the Government will be granted, in preference, to the following industries:—The manufacture of materials for national defence purposes; manufacture of railway rolling stock; construction of vessels of over 1,000 metric tons; coal-mining; mining of manganese, tungsten, chromium, copper and its alloys, zinc, lead, and tin; manufacture of steam engines, motors, etc.; manufacture of machine tools, agricultural machinery, and implements and tools not as yet made in Portugal; manufacture of cement, hydraulic lime and bricks; utilisation of water power; manufacture of electrical material; manufacture of chemical and electro-chemical products; new industries connected with the utilisation of agricultural products; manufacture of artificial fertilisers; manufacture of soap; and the cork industry.

It is proposed that new industries should be granted an abatement of 50 per cent. in the payment of land and industrial taxes for a period of five years, and should also be exempt for a period of ten years from the payment

of Customs duties in respect of raw materials imported from abroad. Exemption from export duties for materials produced is proposed for a period of five years.

The Bill further provides for special arrangements between the Government and banking concerns, and also for the payment by the State of interest (not to exceed 3 per cent.) on capital issued by new enterprises.

In order to enjoy the privileges proposed, the projected enterprises must be Portuguese, at least 80 per cent. of the people employed must be Portuguese, and the fuel and raw materials used must be of national production unless they are not obtainable in the country or would cost at least 10 per cent. more than those of foreign origin. (D.C.I. 30,067.)

EXPORTS FROM SWEDEN.

Control of Business Transactions of Foreigners.

With reference to the notice on p. 593 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 14th June, relative to a Law providing for the control of business transactions of foreigners in Sweden, and more particularly the transactions of certain foreign export jobbers, it appears from a report in the German periodical "Nachrichten für Handel, Industrie und Landwirtschaft," that the Law referred to only applies to operations by foreigners for the purpose of buying goods in Sweden for export, where such operations do not fall under the provisions of the Law of 18th June, 1864. It prohibits such operations by foreigners except such as have obtained a licence for export and satisfied the conditions of the new Law.

MORATORIUM IN FRANCE.

With reference to the notice on p. 168 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 26th April last, and to previous notices, relative to special financial measures taken in France to meet the situation created by the war, it is notified that the French "Journal Officiel" of 20th June publishes a Decree, dated 19th June, prolonging for a further period of 90 days the Moratorium in regard to bills of exchange and bank deposits.

The Decree continues the provision of the Decree of 19th December, 1916, making it incumbent on the holder of a bill already prolonged to notify the drawer, by registered letter, within a period of three months from the date of the Decree, that the bill is in his possession. Failure to comply with this requirement deprives both drawer and intermediate endorsers of all moratorial interest.

The provision added in the Decree of 17th March (see reference above), making it incumbent on the holder of a bill to notify the drawer, by registered letter, in the three months which follow the three months alluded to above, that the bill remains unpaid and is in his keeping, is continued in the present Decree. Failure to comply with this requirement also deprives the holder of moratorial interest from the day of the expiration of the above accorded delay.

The text (in French) of the Decree may be consulted by British firms interested at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.

COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN CHINA.

Report on Foreign Trade in 1916.

The following particulars of commercial and economic conditions in China in 1916, and of the foreign trade of the country in that year, are taken from the "Report on the Foreign Trade of China, and Abstract of Statistics for 1916," recently published by order of the Inspector-General of Chinese Maritime Customs :—

Shortage of tonnage, high freights, increased cost of manufacture and scarcity of labour abroad, and consequent delays in delivery, all exercised a retarding influence on imports into China in 1916; while a great rise in the gold value of silver, added to the difficulty of finding cargo space for Europe, and certain restrictions regarding re-exports from the United Kingdom and other countries, interfered seriously with exports from China. Trade was also for a time hampered by a serious scarcity of silver, due to heavy shipments abroad. There was also considerable political unrest during the first half of the year.

The rice crop seems to have been abundant everywhere in China, and the harvests of most other agricultural products are reported to have been favourable; so that it may be safely said that it was only due to the conditions brought about by the war that trade was not exceedingly flourishing.

A very hopeful symptom is to be seen in the growth of all kinds of industries, and statistics show that the competition of certain home-made articles, such as cotton goods and matches, is being more and more felt by importers. In the Kwantung Leased Territory and elsewhere the Japanese have been showing a good example to the Chinese, and are manufacturing dyes, sulphuric acid, compounds of barium, caustic soda, creosote, and other chemicals; while the Ceramic Department of the South Manchuria Railway's Central Laboratory is turning out bowls, teacups, etc., for which there is a good demand. The Japanese are also making hardened bean oil, to be used in the manufacture of soap, stearine, and glycerine. At Tsingtau they are erecting a cotton mill, as well as a flour mill and a leather factory, and a refrigerating plant for cold storage is also in course of erection. Chinese factories are increasing in number; the formation of influential associations for the improvement of domestic products is a sign of the times, and there is every reason to hope that the energetic men who are responsible for their initiation will succeed in introducing improved methods that will largely increase the resources of the country.

It is often said that China needs all her produce to support her huge population, and that there is but a small surplus available for foreign trade; but it is forgotten that, at present, production is kept down by the difficulty of reaching markets, which compels producers to restrict their output to the consumption of circumscribed areas. It has previously been pointed out that the influence on the Chinese export trade of the few railways now in operation is already quite plain, and it is certain that, given an adequate railway system, practicable roads, and conserved waterways, exports from China could be increased to an extent that is hardly realised.

Cotton spinning and weaving industries.—The Report proceeds to compare the position of China with that of British India as regards exports of produce and manufactures, and states that, given a uniform currency, freedom from the hampering imposition of Customs duties and likin charges, the assistance of railways and good roads, the export trade of China would show a wonderful expansion. As a concrete example of the possibility of increasing the national wealth, the case of the Chinese cotton spinning and weaving industry is examined. In the Report for 1915 attention was called to the number of cotton spinning and weaving mills already established in China, and to the practical certainty that this industry will make rapid progress (see pp. 107–8 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 13th July, 1916). The Japanese are fully aware of this development, and they intend to increase the number of their mills in China.

The Report goes on to examine the causes which have enabled Japan, a country where cotton is not grown, to develop a big industry which competes strongly with the Chinese mills, and finds these causes in the imposition of

Commercial and Economic Conditions in China in 1916.

Customs duties and likin charges. As Chinese cotton is of short staple and unsuitable for finer counts than 20's, it is necessary, in order to spin these counts, to import Indian or American cotton, which Japan imports free (as it also does Chinese cotton). Thus, a three-picul* bale of yarn spun from foreign cotton in China is taxed to the extent of 4·17 Hk. taels,† while a similar bale spun in Japan and exported to China only pays an import duty of 2·85 Hk. taels per bale. The manufacture of coarser counts is also handicapped by likin and other charges, and, unless spinners confine themselves to cotton grown in their immediate locality, by export and coasting trade duties on raw cotton that is shipped.

In 1916 China exported 851,037 piculs of raw cotton, as compared with 725,955 piculs in 1915, while she imported 407,644 piculs of raw cotton in the former year, as compared with 354,390 piculs in the latter. Unless the quality of Chinese cotton can be improved, importations are likely to increase with the development of the Chinese spinning and weaving industries. The value of the cotton yarn imported into China in 1916 was 61,695,717 Hk. taels, as compared with 67,116,297 Hk. taels in 1915, and it is reasonable to assume, says the Report, that a continued development of the Chinese industry as indicated by these figures would eventually lead to a large decline in such imports and even provide a surplus of yarn for export.

The manufacture of flannelette and cotton blankets was commenced in China, but the industry has been killed by taxation, it having been found impossible to compete, with any prospect of success, with similar goods imported from Japan.

The cotton crop in China in 1916 was good. Some interesting experiments in cotton-growing were made in Shanghai, which showed that by improved methods of cultivation and careful selection of seeds from indigenous plants, the Chinese cotton crop could be trebled without increasing the acreage under cultivation.

It would, therefore, appear, says the Report, that with a considerable increase in the production of raw cotton, and the removal of existing handicaps to the development of the cotton spinning and weaving industry, a great expansion in this branch of manufacturing in China could be accomplished.

Silk industry.—Another Chinese staple, the export of which might easily be doubled, is silk. In 1872, the export of raw silk from China amounted to 63,192 piculs and of wild silk to 2,148 piculs. In 1913 the respective amounts were 119,344 piculs and 29,662 piculs, that is, in all, 149,006 piculs in 1913, as compared with 65,340 piculs in 1872. This advance has been made in the face of increasing disregard of all the precautions necessary for successful cultivation, so that it is justifiable to assume that the adoption of the Japanese policy for promoting this industry would give good results in China.

Tea.—The Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce has established a tea planting model farm in Anhwei, and the first batch of 39 packages of tea grown there passed through Kiukiang to Hankow during the year. This farm has been initiated as the commencement of a gradually extending reform in tea cultivation and production, with a view to regaining some of the ground lost by the trade.

Trade Notes from the Ports.

The quarterly memoranda on trade received from the ports continue to show that in the demand for foreign goods and the supply of exports all the factors of an expanding commerce were present during the year, but were checked chiefly by the disturbances due to war conditions.

* Picul = 133⅓ lb.

† The average value of the Haikwan tael in 1916 was 3s. 3 13/16d., and 2s. 7⅛d. in 1915. 100 Haikwan taels = 111·40 Shanghai taels, for which exchange quotations are made.

Commercial and Economic Conditions in China in 1916.

Manchuria.—In the Manchuria districts trade with Russia in 1916 was hampered by the fall in the rouble exchange, by the prohibition of exports from Russia and the high import duties levied on goods entering Russian territory, by the shortage of rolling-stock on the Chinese Eastern Railway system, and by low water and high freights on the Sungari; while a severely felt dearth of silver and of subsidiary silver coinage, added to the moratorium applied to the notes of the Bank of China and the Bank of Communications in May, increased the difficulties experienced by merchants. The harvests, however, were quite good, although unseasonable weather and the presence of an insect pest interfered with the spring crop of wild silk cocoons, which was short but of good quality. Unfortunately, the outturn of the autumn crop was also disappointing, and the total production of wild silk was estimated at only about one-fourth of the yield in 1915.

The chief feature in imports was the enormous increase in Japanese products, especially cotton goods, which are ousting British and American makes. Cheap cotton underwear, of very inferior quality and finish, was in great demand. The importation of Japanese kerosene oil also increased. Among exports there were large increases in frozen meats, groundnuts, animal tallow, and eggs, while timber was in such demand, owing to a shortage of supply from the United States, that prices were almost doubled, and many demands from South China and Singapore could not be met on account of high freights.

The demand for wild silk and for cocoons was very brisk, but the high exchange made business with Japan difficult.

Large quantities of bean oil were shipped to Europe and the United States, and the price rose 50 per cent., partly because this oil was in demand for replacing kerosene, the price of which made it too dear for general consumption in China.

A shipping combine, known as the "Amurski Flott," acquired the ownership of almost all the Russian steamers plying on the Sungari and Amur rivers, and the result of the combination under one management was a regular and reliable service.

The flour mills were very active. Foreign matches are giving way in the competition with those made in China. It was noted that the high steamer freights from Japan led to an increase of imports through the parcel post. The first consignment from the Tienpaoshan copper mine is reported from Lungchingtsun. It passed through in the form of large moulds of roughly separated metal, mostly composed of copper, but mixed with other metals. The Penkihu Coal and Iron Mining Company, with a view to doubling its output of iron, has increased its capital from 5,150,000 yen * to 8,650,000 yen, and new smelting furnaces are in course of construction. A company has been formed for opening up the Anshanchan iron mines, south of Liaoyang. Another company has been formed with a capital of 10,000,000 yen to establish a refinery—probably near Fushun—to make sugar from beets grown locally and to refine crude sugar from Java.

Northern ports.—From the northern ports good crops were reported, but all have the same complaints to make of the scarcity of silver, violent fluctuations in Chinese exchanges, high freights, and lack of tonnage.

Mild weather enabled the ice-breakers to keep the Hai River open to navigation throughout the winter, but the shipping companies, fearing a cold spell might close the port and imprison their steamers, did not take advantage of the conditions. A break in the banks of the Peiho, near Tungchow, diverted the clear waters from the upper reaches of the river and reduced the usual dilution of the muddy waters of the Hunho, which joins the Peiho below Yangstun. This caused so much deposit that dredging operations were rendered extremely difficult, and steamers were obliged to discharge at the mouth of the river.

Lower freights across the Pacific for a time assisted the export of hides, skins, cotton, and wool, which are discouraged from going to European ports

* Yen = 2s. 0½d. (at par).

Commercial and Economic Conditions in China in 1916.

by the embargo on re-exports. Straw braid, hemp, and jute were in good demand. All Japanese cotton goods were still coming in freely, having an advantage in freight over similar goods from Europe and America, and Chinese cotton cloth was making headway.

Upper Yangtze.—Trade on the Upper Yangzte was greatly interfered with by political disturbances. The rice crops were good, and trade should have been flourishing. The same complaints were made of scarcity of silver and violent fluctuations in exchange.

In Shasi the high price of kerosene is assisting the development of electric lighting.

Changsha reports the appearance of wolfram ore, containing only a moderate percentage of tungsten, but the export of which is likely to develop. Antimony fell greatly in price during the year, and Japan is said to be overstocked.

The demand for wood oil for the United States is growing, and it is now coming down to Hankow from Szechwan, to be packed in casks for export. Chinese yarn, cigarettes, and matches are competing successfully with those imported, and Japanese cotton goods are pushing out British makes in certain classes. Japanese electrical materials are being imported in considerable quantities. In the absence of aniline dyes a large trade is being done in indigo, and sapanwood and orpiment are much in demand. White alum also has found a larger market, being required for making dyes and for tanning purposes. Railway progress was checked through want of funds.

The Hwai River again overflowed, and the floods are said to have been the worst for 50 years. It is reported that the likin collected on the Shanghai-Nanking-Tsinanfu Railways amounts to 20 dols. per ton, or twice as much as the charge for freight. No piece goods can afford to travel by this route.

Southern Ports.—Passing to the more southern ports, very little variation from the conditions mentioned already is found. Scarcity of silver and subsidiary coinage, lack of tonnage and high freights, political unrest, increase in the importation of Japanese goods, and growing demand for Chinese industrial products, including flour, were in evidence everywhere.

In Canton the products of the local factories—cotton singlets and drawers, as well as hosiery—are firmly established in public favour. Silk socks, cool and of reasonable durability, can be bought for 80 cents, while cotton socks cost but 20 cents.

The production of various ores is increasing, but there is some difficulty in disposing of them, because smelters in the United Kingdom and the United States will pay only on the result of the outturn, as the ores cannot be satisfactorily purchased under a guarantee of percentage even after analysis, which has proved to be too risky in China, one sample giving quite good results while another will be inferior. The Japanese smelters, however, do not appear to be so particular and are willing to take risks, exporters buying without even a guarantee. Samshui reports the erection of works for the production of antimony regulus; Kinngchow, the export of magnetite ore; and Pakhoi, the export of manganese ore.

Since the arrival of the railway Mengtsz has become very progressive, and a scheme for waterworks is under way, while electric lighting has been installed.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

BRITISH INDIA.

Communiqué respecting the Exportation of Mica.

The official "Indian Trade Journal" (Calcutta) of the 25th May contains a press communiqué, dated 17th May, which has been issued by the Indian Department of Commerce and Industry in connection with the exportation of mica. The communiqué states that the Government of India is informed that there is a keen demand for ruby block mica in London for munitions purposes, and gives notice that all qualities and sizes, both of Government and trade descriptions, may be shipped freely to London without any restriction whatever. The Government agency for certifying exports no longer exists, and dealers and shippers are invited to sell their stocks of block mica freely for export to London.

Although mica may be consigned freely to any private importer in London, the British Government reserve the right to requisition any consignments on arrival if required for military munitions. There is no objection to shipments being made under contract for sale to the United States, on condition that the cases are shipped *viâ* London and landed there for inspection and, if necessary, requisition by the British Government. If not required for military purposes in London, re-export to the United States will be permitted. But in no circumstances whatever will direct shipments be permitted to the United States of America, or to any destination other than the United Kingdom. (C. 10,933.)

Exportation of Coffee to the United Kingdom Prohibited.

The Board of Trade have received from the India Office copy of Notification No. 5,557 C. W., dated 16th May, which has been issued by the Department of Commerce and Industry of India, prohibiting the exportation of coffee from British India to the United Kingdom, save under licence granted by the Chief Customs Officer at the place of export.

The exportation of coffee from British India save under licence is, therefore, prohibited in accordance with Notification No. 5,385 C. W. of the 12th May, as above amended, as follows:—

> To the United Kingdom, and to all destinations in foreign countries on the Mediterranean and Black Seas, other than France, Russia, Italy, Spain and Portugal, and to all Russian Baltic Ports.

[*Note.*—The Notification No. 5,385 C. W. of the 12th May above referred to, containing a consolidated list of the articles the exportation of which is prohibited from British India, will be published in the "Supplement" to the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 19th July, which will contain the lists of Prohibitions of Export in force in British India, the Self-Governing Dominions, &c.] (C. 10,990.)

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Importation of Tea prohibited, except Tea grown or produced in British Possessions.

The Board of Trade have received information from the office of the High Commissioner in London for the Commonwealth to the effect that a cablegram has been received from the Commonwealth Government notifying that a Proclamation was gazetted on 19th June prohibiting the importation into the Commonwealth, unless with the consent of the Minister for Trade and Customs, of tea other than that grown or produced in British Possessions. (C. 10,820.)

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Customs Decisions.

The Board of Trade have received copy of Decisions No. 23, dated 8th May, 1917, which have been issued by the Commissioner of Customs, containing decisions relative to the rates of duty leviable on certain articles on their importation into the Union of South Africa.

The following are the principal decisions specified therein:—

Articles.	No. in Tariff.	Rate of Import Duty.	Rebate allowed upon goods the growth, produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom and reciprocating British Colonies.
*Bars, trussed (iron partly manufactured, to be completed or further manufactured in the Union)	117C (1)	3 % *ad val.*	Whole duty.
Books, toys (painting books)	193	20 % ,,	3 % *ad val.*
Boot protectors ("perfection circlette" sole and heel protectors)	193	20 % ,,	3 % ,,
Camera, biofix (for taking animated photographs)	193	20 % ,,	3 % ,,
Carborundum grinding compound and grains (for sharpening tools)	193	20 % ,,	3 % ,,
Engraving machine and spares (for use by jewellers)	114A	3 % ,,	Whole duty.
"Matex" (as a tar)...	135A	3 % ,,	,,
Paper, damp-proof wrapping, lined and unlined (waterproof paper)	120	3 % ,,	,,
Pattern shapes (a bootmakers' appliance)	114A	3 % ,,	,,
Peptone	193	20 % ,,	3 % *ad val.*
Shoddy (flock)	159	3 % ,,	Whole duty.
Tartre trisulfite (concentrated solution of sodium bisulphite)	193	20 % ,,	3 % *ad val.*
Window holland (also used by bookbinders)	193	20 % ,,	3 % ,,

* Revised decision. (C. 10,801).

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

Import Duties on Petroleum and Tobacco.

Adverting to the notice which appeared on pp 568-9 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 22nd February, giving particulars of the import duties imposed under Notification No. 4075 on petroleum and tobacco, the "Federated Malay States Government Gazette" of the 11th May contains copy of Notification No. 1272 which cancels the above-mentioned Notification as from the 8th May, 1917. At the same time, the duties on these articles are re-imposed on the same scale, but the clause as to the method by which the valuation of the tobacco for duty purposes was determined is now omitted.

The clause which is now deleted read as follows:—

"The valuation referred to above is that contained in the invoice relating to the imported tobacco, unless there be no such valuation or the propriety of such valuation be questioned by any officer of Customs, in which cases the valuation referred to is that which may be put upon the tobacco by the Commissioner of Trade and Customs." (C. 10,989.)

Notification as to Export of Rubber and Tin.

The "Federated Malay States Government Gazette" of 4th May contains copy of Notification No. 1255, which prohibits the exportation of rubber and tin to all countries, except to the United Kingdom and the Colony of the Straits Settlements.

In connection with this prohibition, it is stated in Notification No. 1256

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES—*continued.*

that permits to export rubber or tin to India, Ceylon, Hong Kong or any British Protected State in Borneo or in the Malay Peninsula for local consumption may be obtained on application to the Commissioner of Trade and Customs, and that the export of rubber and tin to all other destinations will only be permitted if authorised by the Rubber Exports Committee.

(C. 10,988.)

GRENADA.

Importation Prohibited of certain Articles.

The Board of Trade have been informed that the importation by steamer into the Colony of Grenada of the undermentioned articles is prohibited by Proclamation, as from the 25th May, 1917, viz.:—

Carriages, carts and waggons (except spare parts), including bicycles, tricycles, motor cycles, and motor cars, but excluding motor ploughs, and trucks for agricultural purposes;
Clocks;
Confectionery;
Jams and jellies;
Musical instruments;
Perfumery;
Pictures;
Wood and timber manufactured—
Furniture;
Jewellery;
Sparkling wine and liqueurs;
Silken goods;
Guns, rifles, ammunition;
Electrical apparatus.

(C. 11,044.)

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Additional Cases where Licences to import Motor Cars may be granted.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 706 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal" relative to the prohibition of the importation of motor cars and accessories into the Colony of the Straits Settlements, the Board of Trade have received from the Colonial Office copy of a further telegram from the Governor, stating that in addition to the licences to import which may be granted in the cases specified in the notice referred to above, licences will also be granted to import omnibuses and motor cars to be used exclusively as public conveyances.

(C. 10,859.)

SWEDEN.

Duty-free Admission of Pork.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of translation of a Swedish Royal Decree, dated the 1st June, which provides that pork and bacon (fläsk), smoked, and other kinds (Nos. 55 and 56 of the Swedish Tariff), shall, until the 31st December, 1917, be exempt from Customs duty on importation into Sweden.

The Decree came into force on the 8th June. (C. 10,889.)

FRANCE.

Fees payable in Connection with the Issue of Import and Export Licences.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy of a French Presidential Decree, dated the 15th June and published in the "Journal Officiel" for the 19th June, which provides for the payment of a fee in connection with the issue of licences and permits in derogation of the French import and export prohibi-

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

FRANCE—*continued.*

tions. This fee, which is designed to defray the expenses of the administration of the import and export prohibitions, is fixed as follows :—

Import Licences.

Imports other than by parcel post		5 frs. per licence.
Imports by parcel post ...	10 parcels or more ...	5 frs. per licence.
	Less than 10 parcels...	50 cts. per parcel.

Export Licences.

Exports other than by parcel post		2 frs. per licence.
Exports by parcel post ...	10 parcels or more ...	2 frs. per licence.
	Less than 10 parcels...	20 cts. per parcel.

The fee is to be levied in respect of each operation effected in virtue of an authorisation to import or export goods. It is to be collected by the Customs authorities at the time when the import or export declaration, supported by the licence in virtue of which the operation is effected, is submitted to the authorities. (C. 11,011.)

Exportation of certain Articles to the United Kingdom, etc. authorised.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy of a French Ministerial Decree, dated the 18th June, which provides that felt and made-up articles (*confections*) of tissues *other* than of cotton or linen may be exported and re-exported from France, without special authorisation, when consigned to the United Kingdom, the British Dominions, Colonies and Protectorates, Belgium (the uninvaded territory), Japan, Russia, and American countries. (C. 11,031.)

FRANCE (Corsica).

Increase of the Customs Duty on Tobacco.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy of a French Presidential Decree, dated the 21st June, and published in the "Journal Officiel" for the 23rd June, which increases the rates of Customs duty on tobacco imported into Corsica. The new rates of duty, together with the former rates, are shown in the subjoined statement :—

	Rates of Duty.	
	Former.	New.
	Francs. *Per 100 kilogs.*	Francs. *Per 100 kilogs.*
Tobacco (including tobacco imported from Algeria and from French Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates)—		
Leaves or stalks, and tobacco waste	250	350
Manufactured—		
Cigars and cigarettes	500	600
Other	400	480

The Decree provides that consignments which are proved, in the prescribed form, to have been despatched direct to France prior to the date of publication of the Decree shall be admitted at the former Tariff rates of duty. (C. 11,137.)

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

FRENCH WEST AFRICA.

Valuation of Rubber for Export Duty.

According to a notice in "La Dépêche Coloniale" for the 24th April, the valuation of rubber exported from French West Africa in the period from the 1st April to the 1st October, 1917, has been fixed, for the purpose of assessing export duty, at 500 francs per 100 kilogrammes for exports from Senegal, French Guinea, the Ivory Coast (including Assinie), and Dahomey.

[*Note.*—Export duty is leviable at the rate of 7 per cent. on the valuation.] (C. 10,861.)

MEXICO.

Increase of the Stamp Tax on imported Cigars, Cigarettes, and Manufactured Tobacco.—*See* the notice under the head of "Excise Tariff Changes" at page 38 of the present issue of the "Board of Trade Journal."

COLOMBIA.

Importation of Foreign Alcoholic Liquors.

The Colombian "Diario Oficial" for the 25th April contains a Resolution of the Ministry of Finance to the effect that brandy, gin and other liquors of foreign production (other than those specified in Art. 1 of Decree No. 244 of 1906) are not covered by the Liquor Monopoly, and may be imported into, and sold in Colombia. Liquors of the kinds produced in Colombia, as specified in Art. 1 of Decree No. 244 of 1906, may, if of foreign origin, only be imported into the Republic by the Departments, or by the farmers of the Liquor Monopoly.

[*Note.*—In accordance with Art. 1 of Decree No. 244 of 1906, the following liquors of national manufacture are declared to be included in the Monopoly provided for by Legislative Decree No. 41 of the 3rd March, 1905:—Spirits made from the sugar cane; all compositions, such as rum, common white rum, and all other alcoholic beverages manufactured from cane; alcohol, whatever be the raw material from which it is manufactured; all fermented alcoholic beverages except beer, "guarapo," and "chicha."] (D.C.I. 30,773.)

PANAMA.

Tariff Treatment of certain Beverages.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy and translation of a Resolution (No. 99) issued by the Government of Panama, which, by way of interpretation of the Tariff Law, provides that kola wine, cherry wine, brandy cordial, cherry cordial, and the like, shall pay Customs duty at the rate of 0.40 balboa per litre, as fruit wines and cordials. Plain fruit juices, on the other hand, such as grape juice, blackberry juice, pineapple juice, and the like, shall pay 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, the duty applicable to aerated waters and elixirs. (C. 11,092).

URUGUAY.

Valuation of Silks for Tariff Purposes.

The following is a translation of a Decree of the President of Uruguay, dated the 20th April and published in the "Diario Oficial" of the 3rd May, to give effect to the Law of the 16th August, 1916, which provided that certain tissues and wares of pure or mixed silk should be subject to Customs duty at the rate of 12 per cent. *ad valorem* (with the addition of the relevant surtaxes)—*see* the notice at pages 222–223 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 19th October, 1916.

Article 1.—Cloths and tissues of silk weighing up to 40 grammes per square metre shall be valued for duty purposes at 12 pesos per kilogramme.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

URUGUAY—*continued.*

Article 2.—Similar goods containing up to 70 per cent. of some other fibre shall be valued in proportion to the percentage of silk which they contain.

Example.		*Pesos. Valuation per kilog.*
Silks weighing up to 40 grammes per square metre		12.00
	Pesos.	
A tissue with 40 per cent. of silk	4.80	
and 60 per cent. of cotton	0.60	
		5.40
A tissue with 70 per cent. of silk	8.40	
and 30 per cent. of cotton	0.30	
		8.70

Article 3.—Similar goods weighing more than 40 grammes per square metre shall be valued at 10 pesos per kilogramme.

Example.		*Pesos. Valuation per kilog.*
Valuation of silk weighing more than 40 grammes per square metre		10·00
	Pesos.	
A tissue with 40 per cent. of silk	4·00	
and 60 per cent. cotton	0·60	
		4·60
A tissue with 70 per cent. of silk	7·00	
and 30 per cent. of cotton	0·30	
		7·30

The foregoing valuations correspond to the articles included in Tariff Nos. 881 and 882—handkerchiefs of silk, and of silk and cotton,—993 and 994—"*género*" of silk, and 1033 and 1034—velvets.

Article 4.—The valuation assigned to gloves (Tariff Nos. 751-752), tulles (Nos. 1070-1071), and veils (Nos. 1073-1074) of silk, or of mixed silk and cotton, is 12 pesos per kilogramme. These goods are to be treated in the same way as tissues, *i.e.*, they shall be appraised according to the proportion of silk which they contain.

[Here follows an "Example" similar to that given under Article 2 above.]

Article 5.—The valuation of muslins and gauzes within the weight limit indicated in Article 1 shall be 12 pesos per kilogramme.

Article. 6.—Satins which under the existing Tariff are classified together with "silks," with the same valuations and duties, shall be dutiable as silks in accordance with Article 1.

Article 7.—Tissues and wares with admixture of other fibres (up to 70 per cent.)—Article 2 of the Law of August 16th, 1916—shall be assessed for duty as is indicated in this Decree, by inclusion of the value of the percentage of the fibres of cotton; and the levy of a duty of 12 per cent. [for the surtaxes, *see* the notice in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 19th October, 1916].

Article 8.—For the purpose of the application of Article 2 of the Law of the 16th August, 1916, in the analysis of tissues, the mineral dressing ("*carga mineral*") carried by the silk shall be regarded as forming an integral part of the said fibre. (C. 10,667.)

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

PORTUGAL.

Exemption of Materials and Goods from Import and Export Duties.

A notice appears on page 26 relative to proposed State assistance for Portuguese industries, in which it is stated that it is proposed to grant duty-free admittance into Portugal of raw materials for certain Portuguese industries, and to exempt from export duties the products of such industries.

EXCISE TARIFF CHANGES.

MEXICO.

Increase of the Stamp Tax on Tobacco.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy and translation of a Decree of the President of Mexico, dated the 18th May, which increases the Stamp Tax on native and foreign cigars, cigarettes, and manufactured tobaccos as from the 1st July, 1917. The Decree provides as follows:—

Article 1.—From the 1st of July, 1917, the stamps for manufactured tobaccos; cigars; sifted, shredded, cut or chewing tobaccos; and snuff, native and foreign, shall be sold at the prices and used in the manner stated below:

I. The stamps for ordinary native cigarettes and cigars (*cigarros y puros nacionales recortados*) shall be sold at the rate of $1.00, $2.00, and $5.00 per hundred, and used in the following manner:

The small boxes, packets, &c., must be stamped at the rate of one centavo for every five centavos of their value, by affixing the proper stamps in accordance with the prices stated above.

II. The same stamps shall be used for foreign cigarettes, but in double quantity, and proportionate to the value of the boxes, packets, &c., as in the case of the native cigarettes and cigars.

III. The stamps for native cigars of fine brands (*puros de perilla nacionales*) at $30.00, $12.00, and $6.00, according as they are intended for boxes of 15, 10, and 5 cigars respectively.

IV. The stamps for imported cigars shall be priced at $60.00, $24.00, and $12.00, according as they are intended for boxes of 25, 10, and 5 cigars respectively.

V. The stamps intended for native tobaccos, sifted, shredded, cut, or chewing, shall be sold at—

$4.00 per hundred, for packets containing up to 100 grammes, nett weight.

$10.00 per hundred, for packets containing more than 100 and up to 250 grammes nett weight.

$18.00 per hundred, for packets containing more than 250 and up to 500 grammes nett weight.

$36.00 per hundred, for packets containing more than 500 grammes and up to 1 kilogramme nett weight.

The stamps mentioned in the preceding section shall be used as follows:—For packets containing up to 100 grammes nett weight, one stamp of those sold at $4.00 per hundred; for packets containing more than 100 and up to 250 grammes nett weight, one stamp of those sold at $10.00 per hundred; for packets containing more than 250 grammes and up to 500 grammes nett weight, one stamp of those sold at $18.00 per hundred; and for packets containing more than 500 grammes and up to 1 kilogramme nett weight, one stamp of those sold at $36.00 per hundred.

Excise Tariff Changes.

MEXICO—*continued.*

VI. For sifted, shredded, cut, or chewing tobacco, of foreign origin, the same stamps shall be used as for native tobacco, but to double the amount fixed in the preceding Section.

For native and foreign snuff, the same stamps shall be used as for sifted native or foreign tobacco, but to double the amount to be affixed to that class of tobacco, in accordance with the nett weight.

Article 2.—Native manufactured tobaccos which are exported shall not be subject to the tax to which this Decree refers, but in order to enjoy this immunity, the manufacturers must comply with the provisions of Articles 43, 44 and 45 of the Regulation of the Tobacco Stamp Tax Law, issued on the 10th of December, 1892.

Supplementary Articles.

Article 1.—This Decree shall come into force on the 1st July, 1917.

Article 2.—Cigarette manufacturers must affix to the boxes, packets, etc., in which the tobaccos are sold to the public, a notice stating the price at which the packets are to be sold, in accordance with which they shall affix the requisite stamps.

Article 3.—The stamps for tobaccos which remain in the hands of manufacturers on the 30th of June, 1917, must be delivered to the Stamp Offices concerned, to be exchanged for stamps of the new issue.

Article 4.—Firms engaged in the manufacture of tobacco, shall present at the Stamp Offices concerned a detailed statement showing the quantities, classes, and values of the boxes, packets, etc., of cigarettes which they have in stock on the 30th of June, 1917; so that after the correctness of the statement is confirmed, the difference may be collected between the value of the stamps already affixed to the packages, and the value of those which should be affixed in accordance with the present Decree.

Article 5.—All regulations prior to this date which fixed stamp prices for the various classes of tobaccos mentioned in this Decree are hereby abrogated. The Regulation of the 10th of December 1892, and subsequent Orders, in so far as they do not conflict with this Decree, remain in force. (C. 10,953.)

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Internal Revenue Duty on Imported Cigars, Cigarettes and Tobacco—Valuation Tariff.

With reference to the notices in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 1st April, 1915 (pp. 46-47), the 10th February, 1916 (pp. 420-421), the 26th April, 1917 (p. 193), and the 10th May, 1917 (p. 307), on the subject of the Argentine internal revenue duty on cigars, cigarettes, and tobacco, the Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy and translation of a Decree, dated the 14th May, 1917, which, in execution of the legislative provisions on the subject, establishes a revised Valuation Tariff for the purpose of assessing the internal revenue duties payable on cigars, cigarettes and tobacco of foreign origin. The text and translation of this Decree, which contains also certain general regulations relating to the procedure for the payment of the tax, may be seen by British traders interested, on application, at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. (C. 11,054.)

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

BRITISH CARGO STEAMSHIP SERVICES.

The Department of Commercial Intelligence is prepared, on application, to furnish available information regarding British cargo steamship services trading between the United Kingdom and all ports of the world. Applicants for information are requested to state their requirements clearly, particularly indicating the ports or districts between which cargo is to be carried.

BRITISH FORWARDING AGENCIES.

Information regarding British forwarding agencies from the United Kingdom to all parts of the world may also be obtained on application to the Department of Commercial Intelligence. Firms requiring information are requested to give full details, especially in regard to the ports or districts between which goods are to be carried.

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE BRITISH PRIZE COURTS OVERSEA.

Malta.

The "London Gazette" of 29th June notifies that proceedings are in progress before the Prize Court at Malta in respect of certain goods *ex* the vessel "Barrowmore." Appearance should be entered by all persons claiming an interest as soon as possible.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Announcements under the following headings appear in the section of the "Journal" devoted to "Government Notices affecting Trade":—

Docking of Merchant Ships carrying Ammunition or Explosives.
Regulation of Shipping.
Additional Powers of Shipping Controller.
Admittance to Shipbuilding Yards.

ITALY.

Control of Railway Transport.

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" (Rome) of 7th June contains a Decree, dated 13th May, varying the ordinary conditions of the transport of goods in Italy, with the object of making the utmost use of wagons, and so reducing the consumption of coal.

Article 1 of the Decree provides that the Administration of State Railways is authorised (*a*) to accept goods for slow and rapid transit, on conditions designed to secure that full use is made of the transport facilities provided by the Administration; (*b*) to send consignments to two or more destinations by the same truck; (*c*) to accept goods for rapid transit which, according to the railway tariff, should only be accepted for slow transit, and (*d*) to despatch by passenger train articles prescribed by the tariff to be despatched only by goods train.

Article 2 authorises the Administration to suspend temporarily the acceptance of consignments for slow and rapid transit of certain goods.

Article 3 provides that the regulations contained in this Decree apply also to private railways, and to tramways working in conjunction with State railways, and that they may also be extended to international services.

The above mentioned issue of the "Gazzetta" may be consulted by British firms interested at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. (D.C.I. 30,070.)

Shipping and Transport.

GUATEMALA.

Railway Development in 1916.

The following notes on railway development in Guatemala in 1916 are taken from the annual statement of the Minister of Development ("Fomento"), published in "El Guatemalteco" of 3rd May:—

Guatemala Railway.—Liquid fuel has been substituted for coal, petroleum storage tanks having been constructed at Puerto Barrios, Morales, Zacapa and El Rancho. River defence works have been undertaken on various sections of the line.

Western Railway.—New rails have been laid on the branch line to San Antonio Suchitepéquez which permits the use of heavier locomotives. For the same purpose, bridges on the Las Cruces—Champerico branch have been re-built. A direct train service has been established between the capital and Ayutla on the Mexican frontier.

Quezaltenango—San Felipe Railway.—During the latter months of the year an American engineer made a new survey for the projected Quezaltenango—San Felipe Railway by an alternative route to that previously suggested *viâ* the slopes of the Zunil Volcano. The proposed new route would follow the western bank of the Samalá river, and would thus avoid the necessity of constructing a number of bridges and the boring of numerous tunnels. Moreover, by the route now suggested the line would pass through productive districts and close to the main roads. The scheme as now put forward proposes the use of the rack system in places.

Various improvements have also been carried out on the Verapaz, Central, and Urban Railways.

MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

CANADA.

Manufacture of Metallic Magnesium.

The Imperial Trade Correspondent at Toronto (Mr. F. W. Field) reports, under date 3rd May, that a Canadian company at Shawinigan Falls, Quebec, is manufacturing metallic magnesium, which is claimed to be of a higher quality than that manufactured in Germany. The magnesium is being produced in the form of wire, ribbon, ingots and powder.

Production of Ferro-Molybdenum.

Mr. Field also reports that a firm at Belville, Ontario, which has six electric furnaces for the treatment of molybdenite ore, has an output of from 500 to 700 lb. of ferro-molybdenum per day. It is claimed that the molybdenite ores worked at this plant produce very hard and tough high-speed tool steel. The firm intends to increase the number of its furnaces in the near future, and contemplates running these furnaces night and day in order to produce an output of 1,100 lb. per day of 24 hours. (D.C.I. 27,903.)

Output of Gold, Molybdenite and Ferro-molybdenum in Jan.-March, 1917.

According to returns collected by the Ontario Bureau of Mines for the three months ended 31st March, 1917, the output of *gold* in the Province in that period was 127,692 oz., as compared with 107,818 oz. in the first three months of 1916. The production of *molybdenite concentrates* amounted to 25,073 lb., a total considerably in excess of that for the entire year 1916. In addition, 41,967 lb. of ferro-molybdenum were produced.

Installation of Mineral and Metal Working Plants.

According to the same source of information, flotation methods are now in use at several Ontario mines for recovering silver from tailings dumps. A nickel company at Port Colbourne is proceeding with the construction of a new refinery. In the Toronto Harbour industrial area a firm is erecting a new electric steel and forging plant, which is expected to be ready for operating in July. (D.C.I. 28,511.)

Minerals, Metals and Machinery.

NEW ZEALAND.

Proposed Hydro-Electric Power Installations in the North Island.

With reference to the notice on p. 743 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 15th March, relative to investigations which were being made in connection with proposals to instal hydro-electric power systems in the North Island, H.M. Trade Commissioner in New Zealand (Mr. R. W. Dalton) has forwarded a copy of a Report on the subject, by the Chief Electrical Engineer to the Public Works Department of the Dominion, from which the following notes have been taken:—

The scheme of development recommended is that three sources of water-power should be developed in the first place, namely, Lake Waikaremoana for the Hawke's Bay district; Arapuni Gorge (about 8 miles from Horahora), or some other place to be selected, for the Auckland district; and the Mangahao River for the Wellington district. These three sources in a natural course of extension will be linked up, thereby enhancing the value of each source by adding to the security of supply and enabling a continuous output to be maintained throughout the whole of the North Island.

As regards the Wellington scheme, it is proposed to develop the Mangahao River source of supply by tunnelling through the range of mountains from the Mangahao into the Tokomaru Valley, there diverting a part of the Tokomaru River, and then from this valley through into the Valley of Mangaore, with a power station situated within three miles of the railway at Shannon. It is possible that in the course of time the requirements of the Wellington district will necessitate a further development in the Taranaki district, where there is more than one promising source of power. The cost of providing headworks, power-station, and plant for 25,000 horse-power required for the Wellington scheme would be, at normal prices, £420,000. The area to be supplied from this source is to include the whole of the Wellington Province as far north as Taihaipe and Wanganui, and the southern portion of Hawke's Bay. It is proposed in the first place to run trunk lines to Wellington, Palmerston North, Wanganui, and Masterton as chief centres, and from these centres, as well as from intermediate points on the trunk line, to provide the necessary distribution lines and sub-stations to serve the surrounding districts. The cost of providing the trunk lines, distribution-lines, sub-stations, and other services to give a supply in bulk to local distributing authorities and to large power users throughout this area would be £580,000, making a total expenditure on this scheme of £1,000,000.

The suggested source of supply for the Auckland district, *viz.*, the Arapuni Gorge, is capable of providing 120,000 horse-power of energy, but, as only 30,000 horse-power are required for known purposes, the initial cost of installation of hydraulic works for such a partial development would make it unduly expensive. Further consideration is therefore being given to this project, with a view to ascertaining whether, within a reasonable time, there is likely to be a market for energy which would justify a scheme for developing the entire horse-power of the Gorge. The extent of the initial installation of power plant and equipment proposed for the Auckland district is a power plant of 30,000 horse-power, with trunk lines to Auckland on the north and Te Kuiti and Rotorua on the south, with depôts at intervals, and a system of primary distribution to serve the intermediate towns and surrounding districts. In order to provide for this plant and equipment a sum of £1,200,000 will be required.

It is recommended that the development of Lake Waikaremoana should be deferred for the present, and that the Auckland and Wellington schemes should proceed simultaneously. The development of the Lake Waikaremoana source, it is suggested, should be made dependent upon the construction of the Napier-Gisborne railway. The railway would open up a better road for the transmission-lines, and render them more accessible for construction and maintenance. There is every reason also in favour of operating this railway electrically.

The survey work in connection with the Wellington scheme is more advanced than in the case of the Auckland scheme, and, if labour is

Minerals, Metals and Machinery.

NEW ZEALAND—*continued.*

obtainable, which is very doubtful, the headworks for the former could be put in hand at once and prepared in readiness for machinery and pipe-lines, which, however, could not be obtained during the war. A beginning could perhaps be made by constructing railways for access to the headworks.

(D.C.I. 28,713.)

SOUTH AFRICA.

Report of Commission on State Mining.

With reference to the notice on p. 380 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd November last, relative to the appointment by the Government of the Union of South Africa of a Commission to enquire into and report upon the advisability of State mining, H.M. Trade Commissioner in South Africa (Mr. W. G. Wickham) has forwarded, under date 21st May, a copy of the majority and minority Reports of this Commission. The conclusion of the majority of the Commissioners is that the onus lies upon those who advocate State mining to prove that the Government will derive greater benefits by itself working the gold-bearing areas on the Rand, and particularly the Far East Rand, than it secures from the present system of leasing, with a participation in the profits. This onus had not been discharged to the satisfaction of the majority of the Commissioners, and they do not recommend the Government of the Union of South Africa to engage directly in mining for any minerals. Should, however, State mines be created, the Commissioners recommend that (*a*) they should be financed from the General Loan Fund, and that (*b*) the control of any State mines should be directly under the Minister of Mines, who should have the power to appoint an independent State Mining Board, consisting of five members, including experienced business and technical men, to assist him in the discharge and exercise of such duties, functions, and powers as are usually discharged and exercised by boards of directors of companies engaged in mining, and that the organisation, methods, and practice of the best managed mining undertakings on the Rand should be adopted in connection with State mines. The two minority Reports favour the principle of State mining.

The above-mentioned copy of the Reports may be consulted by British firms interested at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. (D.C.I. 31,144.)

Recent Motor Vehicle, etc. Show at Johannesburg. See notice on p. 9.

TEXTILES AND TEXTILE MATERIALS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton **imported** into the United Kingdom during the week ended 28th June, 1917, was 54,173, (including 2,363 bales British West African) and the number imported during the twenty-six weeks ended 28th June, 1917, was 1,509,155 (including 1,879 bales British West Indian, 6,494 bales British West African, 14,125 bales British East African, and 2,205 bales foreign East African). The number of bales **exported** during the week ended 28th June, 1917, was 2,500, and during the twenty-six weeks 163,982.

For further details see p. 53.

Announcements under the following headings appear in the Section of the "Journal" devoted to "Government Notices affecting Trade":—

Sale of Wool (Great Britain) Order, 1917.
Dealings in Worsted and Hosiery Laps and Waste.
Restrictions on Dealings in Tops.
Licences for Disposal of Merino Noils.
Control of Supplies of Cotton.

Textiles and Textile Materials.

BRITISH INDIA.

Imports of Cotton Goods into Calcutta in 1916-17.

The following information regarding imports of cotton manufactures into Calcutta during the year ended 31st March, 1917, is taken from the Report on the Maritime Trade of Bengal for that year, by the Collector of Customs at Calcutta:—

A comparison between the figures of cotton manufactures imported in 1916-17 and those for 1915-16 shows the continued adverse effect of the European war on the trade of Bengal. While, on one hand, the volume of imports of *twist and yarn* and of *piece goods* both declined by 16 per cent., the value of all *cotton goods* imported increased by 13 per cent. as compared with 1915-16. The fact that the total value of imports of all cotton goods amounted to 232,000,000 rupees, only less by 6 per cent. than the value (245,900,000 rupees) of such imports in 1914-15, which, though covering the first period of the war, would include few shipments against contracts not placed before August, 1914, shows that the spending power of the population of British India has not been seriously diminished. Had there been unrestricted traffic between the United Kingdom and India, the probabilities are that this deficiency would have disappeared. Having regard to all the circumstances, the trade of the year in cotton manufactures was by no means bad. The outlook for the current year, however, is not so promising. The high cost in Europe of the raw material, the growing scarcity of operatives, the greater cost of manufacturing, the high freight rates, and the increased Customs duties as from 1st March, 1917, make prospects decidedly unfavourable.

Imports of *twist and yarn* in 1916-17 amounted to 7,735,833 lb., as compared with 9,156,752 lb. in 1915-16, a decrease of 1,420,919 lb., while the value increased by 1,917,000 rupees, the values for the two years being 10,034,000 rupees in 1916-17, and 8,117,000 rupees in the previous year. Imports of *grey yarns* showed a decline in quantity of 844,000 lb. from those of the previous year, or nearly 20 per cent, while *coloured and fancy yarns* declined 12 per cent., from 4,824,000 lb. in 1915-16 to 4,248,000 lb. in 1916-17. Imports of Japanese yarns increased from 220,000 lb. to 1,946,000 lb. in 1916-17, but how much of this increase was due to the advantage of uninterrupted shipping it is difficult to judge.

As regards *piece-goods*, imports in 1916-17 amounted to 975,615,902 yards, as compared with 1,167,628,549 yards in 1915-16, a decrease in quantity of 192,012,647 yards, but values rose from 189,279,000 rupees in the latter year to 207,156,000 rupees in the former, an increase of 17,877,000 rupees. A comparison of the figures for 1915-16 with those of 1916-17 shows a fall of 252,500,000 yards in *grey goods*, but, on the other hand, *coloured and white goods* have increased by 31,000,000 yards and 30,000,000 yards respectively. The notable set-back shown in the latter in the previous year was thus recovered, while grey goods have been subjected to greater competition on the part of the Japanese and indigenous productions. As in the case of twist and yarn, the abnormally high price of the raw material advanced the average cost of piece goods. A comparison of trade by various countries shows that imports from the United Kingdom have declined from 1,138,000,000 yards in 1915-16 to 935,000,000 yards in 1916-17. Imports of Japanese goods increased from 19,000,000 yards in 1915-16 to 33,000,000 yards in 1916-17. Imports from Italy showed a slight increase of 200,000 yards, while imports from other countries, chiefly Holland, declined from 5,900,000 yards in 1915-16 to 2,000,000 yards in 1916-17.

Imports of *other cotton fabrics* in 1916-17 showed an increase in value of 6,692,000 rupees as compared with the previous year, the figures being 14,860,000 rupees in 1916-17 and 8,168,000 rupees in 1915-16. The sharp decline in imports of *cotton hosiery* in 1915-16 was recovered in 1916-17, the values being 2,959,000 rupees in 1915-16 against 7,467,000 rupees. Japan was the greatest contributor under this heading, and imports from that

Textiles and Textile Materials.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

country showed an increase of 4,300,000 rupees, or 161 per cent. *Handkerchiefs and shawls* fell by 10 per cent. in value, imports from European countries other than the United Kingdom having declined by 82 per cent., while both the United Kingdom and Japan showed small increases.

Rupee = 1s. 4d.

TRINIDAD.

Export of Ginned Cotton in 1916.

The Acting Collector of Customs at Port-of-Spain (the Board of Trade Correspondent for Trinidad) reports, under date 31st May, that 7,923 lb. of ginned cotton were exported from the Colony in 1916. There were no exports of ginned cotton from Trinidad in 1914 and 1915. (D.C.I. 31,639.)

RUSSIA.

Area under Cotton in the Trans-Caucasus in 1916.

The "Vyestnik Finansov" (Petrograd) of 7th/20th May publishes a statement showing that the area sown with cotton in the Trans-Caucasus amounted to 127,500 dessiatines in 1913, 148,900 dessiatines in 1914, and 115,500 dessiatines in 1915. The area sown in 1916 is estimated at 87,000 dessiatines only, representing a decrease of about 25 per cent. as compared with 1915, and of about 40 per cent. as compared with 1914.

Dessiatine = 2·7 acres.

AGRICULTURAL & FOREST PRODUCTS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the Inspectors of Corn Returns in the week ended 30th June, 1917, were as follows:—

Wheat	78s. 3d.
Barley	73s. 11d.
Oats	55s. 1d.

For further particulars see p. 53.

BRITISH INDIA.

Winter Oilseeds: Final Estimate of Area and Yield in 1916-17.

The official "Indian Trade Journal" (Calcutta) of 1st June publishes a final general Memorandum on the 1916-17 winter oilseeds (rape, mustard and linseed) crops in British India. The Memorandum is based upon reports received from Provinces containing 99·2 per cent. of the total area under rape and mustard, and 98·9 per cent. of the total area under linseed in British India. Of the Native States, estimates are furnished only by Hyderabad and the Native States in the Bombay Presidency (including Baroda).

The total area under *rape and mustard* is now reported to be 6,507,000 acres, as compared with 6,437,000 acres (finally revised estimate) in 1915-16, and the total yield is estimated at 1,186,000 tons, as against the previous season's yield of 1,102,000 tons (revised final estimate).

The total area under *linseed* amounts to 3,533,000 acres, as compared with 3,334,000 acres (finally revised estimate) in 1915-16, and the total estimated yield is 520,000 tons, as compared with 476,000 tons, the revised final estimate of the 1915-16 yield.

Agricultural and Forest Products.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

In addition to the areas for which particulars are given above, the crops are grown in certain other tracts in British India, and the average areas so grown for the last five years have been some 51,000 acres under rape and mustard and some 37,000 acres under linseed, and it is estimated that the yield from these areas will be 9,000 tons of rape and mustard and 5,000 tons of linseed.

The condition of the crops is generally reported to be good, except in Assam where the rapeseed crop suffered through drought, and in Bengal where the linseed crop was at first adversely affected by heavy rainfall and later by drought.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

Food value of the "Go-ta-ni Bean."

The Chief of Customs at Mombasa (the Board of Trade Correspondent for the East Africa Protectorate) has forwarded, under date 2nd May, a copy of a Report made by the Government Analyst at Nairobi on the "Go-ta-ni bean," which is produced by a grower near Mombasa. The Government Analyst is of opinion that these beans may prove a useful food for human consumption, and might be marketed as "soda beans." They do not, however, compare favourably with haricot or butter beans as a table vegetable. The percentage of albuminoids and oil is exceptionally high, while the moisture is low. The Chief of Customs adds that the original grower and supplier of this bean informs him that he has supplied seed to a number of planters in the East Africa Protectorate, and would be glad to receive enquiries from intending buyers.

The name and address of the above-mentioned grower may be *obtained* by British firms interested on application to the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2, where also the Report referred to, including a full analysis of the bean, may be *consulted.* In making application for the name the reference number (253) should be quoted. (D.C.I. 29,781.)

GUATEMALA.

Crop Results, 1916.

The following particulars regarding Guatemalan crops in 1916 are taken from the annual Statement of the Minister of Development ("Fomento"), published in the official "El Guatemalteco" of 3rd May:—

Weather conditions during the year were, in general, favourable for the crops, and the yields, with few exceptions, have exceeded those of previous years. Fortunately the locust pest has now been practically overcome.

The total yield of the harvests is sufficient for internal requirements so far as alimentary products of prime necessity are concerned, with the exception of wheat and rice. Although the cultivation of these latter crops is annually increasing the supplies are still far from sufficient to satisfy the national consumption.

Although Guatemala has abundance and variety of fruit, none, with the exception of bananas, was exported in past years, but now, owing to the efforts of two fruit companies, a considerable quantity of fresh and preserved fruit is being exported.

Maize, the principal means of sustenance for the Guatemalans, is sown in all districts of the Republic, but the methods of cultivation employed are so primitive that the yield is out of all proportion to the area sown. Things are gradually improving, however, and the yield of 1916 (6,110,900 quintals) shows an increase of 1,110,000 quintals over the harvest of the previous year.

Wheat of the best quality is produced, and there are extensive areas capable of yielding the grain not only in sufficient quantities for internal consumption, but also a considerable surplus for export. Owing to various causes, however, its cultivation is on such a small scale that scarcely more than one-third of the nation's requirements are available. The Government has taken

Agricultural and Forest Products.

GUATEMALA—*continued.*

measures to increase the production of this cereal, but, notwithstanding this, development is very slow. In 1916 the total yield of wheat was 344,041 quintals, adecrease of 26,254 quintals as compared with the 1915 production, due to excessive rains experienced in certain zones.

Rice.—The cultivation of this cereal is increasing in various parts of the Republic, the yield last year amounting to 135,547 quintals.

Kidney Beans.—The crop suffered somewhat owing to heavy rains. Although the harvest is not yet finished there is every reason to believe that the production will not be less than 180,000 quintals.

Bananas.—According to Departmental reports, the production of bananas and plantains amounted to 9,351,485 bunches, of which 3,177,426 bunches of bananas were exported.

Sugar.—In spite of excessive rains the sugar harvest reached 971,623 quintals, an increase of 118,377 quintals over the 1915 production.

Coffee.—The 1916 coffee harvest was as abundant as that of the previous year in spite of severe rains in the lower parts and premature frosts in the higher regions. Although it is not possible to state the exact yield, as in certain parts the harvest is not yet completed, it will no doubt approximate to 950,000–1,000,000 quintals.

Amongst other products of the Republic may be mentioned maguey fibre, the yield of which in 1916 amounted to 67,744 quintals; tobacco, 8,502 quintals; caoutchouc, 6,931 quintals; cocoa, 5,193 quintals; chicle gum, 4,079 quintals; and oats, 2,900 quintals.

Quintal = 101·4 lb.

ARGENTINA.

Wine Production in 1916.

According to statistics published in the March issue of the Monthly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, issued by the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture, the production of wine in the Republic in 1916 was as follows, the corresponding figures for 1915 being added for purposes of comparison :—

Provinces and Territories.	1915.	1916.
	Litres.	Litres.
Federal Capital	259,000	335,042
Buenos Aires	1,586,800	3,086,230
Mendoza	388,266,000	360,784,890
San Juan	80,628,400	74,186,640
Santa Fe	256,500	418,493
Córdoba	977,900	726,052
Entre Rios...	369,400	963,328
San Luis	182,000	203,610
Santiago del Estero	109,000	98,460
La Rioja	2,330,300	2,010,724
Catamarca	2,833,900	2,967,749
Tucumán	270,600	175,200
Corrientes	200	950
Salta	2,867,000	3,630,070
Jujuy	110,100	553,540
Rio Negro	1,299,400	1,380,598
Total	482,346,500	451,521,576

Litre = 1·76 pints.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BRITISH INDIA.

Products of Village Industries in the United Provinces.

The Department of Commercial Intelligence has received from the India Office a copy of an illustrated catalogue and price list of the Village Industries of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. These industries maintain at Cawnpore, under the supervision of the Government of the United Provinces, an emporium for the display and sale of Indian wares, and among the articles listed, and illustrated in this catalogue are *brass and other metal wares, pottery, silks and embroideries, cotton and woollen textiles, carpets, furniture* and *miscellaneous fancy goods.*

The above-mentioned catalogue may be consulted by British firms interested at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. (D.C.I. 31,475.)

CANADA.

Manufacture of Aspirin and Phenacetine.

The Imperial Trade Correspondent at Toronto (Mr. F. W. Field) writes, under date 3rd May, that a Canadian company in that city is producing phenacetine and aspirin, and intends to experiment with other lines of chemical products formerly imported into Canada from Germany. The aspirin produced by this company is stated to meet the B.P. specification.

(D.C.I. 27,903.)

Production of Potash from Feldspar.

According to the 14th May issue of the "Weekly Bulletin" of the Canadian Department of Commerce at Ottawa, a Canadian company has been formed for the production of potash from feldspar under a special process. The company's plant will be situated at Gravenhurst, Ontario, and it is stated that, while satisfactory experiments have been made in the production of caustic potash, attention will be given first to the production of muriate of potash.

The above-mentioned issue of the "Bulletin," which contains an article on the production of potash from feldspar, may be consulted by British firms interested at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Proposed Establishment of Meat-Canning and Freezing Works in Mashonaland.

With reference to the notice on p. 614 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 14th June relative to a proposed scheme for the establishment of a meat-canning factory in Mashonaland, H.M. Trade Commissioner in South Africa (Mr. W. G. Wickham) has forwarded a copy of the prospectus, as published in the local press, of the Rhodesia Meat Packing Co., Ltd., which has been formed, with a nominal share capital of £100,000, to carry out the scheme. It is proposed to acquire a piece of land situated at Odzi station, with water rights on the Odzi river, for the purpose of erecting meat-canning and freezing works. The capacity of the factory is to be approximately 75 beasts per day. It is the intention of the company, as soon as the canning works are in operation, to proceed with arrangements with a view to the freezing and export of meat for shipment overseas. (D.C.I. 31,326.)

DENMARK.

Decree Prohibiting Speculative Transactions in Goods.

H.M. Minister at Copenhagen has forwarded, under date 24th May, a translation of a Decree issued by the Ministry of the Interior with the object of preventing the inflation of market prices of goods by speculative transactions. The Decree, which is dated 19th May, is to the effect that the price of goods may not be increased by trade profits arising from the sale of goods from producer to producer, from

Miscellaneous.

DENMARK—*continued.*

importer to importer, from dealer (wholesale) to dealer, from retailer to retailer, or by similar transactions between firms or persons in the same branch of trade, during the ordinary transit of goods from the producer or importer to the consumer.

Prices may also not be increased by the re-sale of goods in the inverse direction. Should such sale take place no profit may be taken by the seller or by the purchaser if he re-sells the goods. (D.C.I. 29,893.)

SWITZERLAND.

Restrictions on the Distribution of Alcohol.

The official "Recueil des Lois Suisses" (Berne) of 11th June contains the text of a Decree, dated 1st June, dealing with the distribution of alcohol, both potable and industrial, by the "Régie Suisse des Alcools." This Decree abrogates the Decree of 9th July, 1915, on the same subject.

The issue of the "Recueil des Lois Suisses" referred to may be consulted by British firms interested at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2. (D.C.I. 30,770.)

JAPAN.

Increased Production of Scientific and other Instruments.

H.M. Commercial Attaché at Yokohama (Mr. E. F. Crowe, C.M.G.) reports that the manufacture of scientific and other instruments in Japan has reached considerable dimensions, as is shown by the following comparative statement of the values of these instruments imported into and exported from Japan respectively in 1916:—

Imports.	£	Exports.	£
Microscopes	4,000	Surgical instruments	82,000
Surgical instruments	14,000	Philosophical instruments ...	35,000
Drawing instruments	8,000	Other scientific instruments ...	50,000
Philosophical instruments ...	24,000		
Other scientific instruments ...	10,000		
	£60,000		£167,000

Germany and the United States have supplied most of the imports of scientific instruments into Japan in the past; but Japan is now exporting to China, Australia, British India, Russia, and even to the United Kingdom and the United States. (D.C.I. 30,781.)

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.*

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of May, 1917, have been published, and may be purchased* at a cost of 9d. per copy (post free 11d.).

Attention is further called to the fact that the two volumes of the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1915 have been issued, and may be purchased* at a cost of 5s. 10d. (post free 6s. 5d.) for the first volume, and 4s. 3d. (post free, 4s. 9d.) for the second. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives in the first volume abstract tables for the years 1911–1915, and detailed statements of imports and exports of principal articles consigned from and to specified countries; and in the second volume particulars of the imports from the various countries returned for consumption, details as to Customs revenue, transhipments and articles in bond,

* See Note at foot of next page.

with particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country and British possession, and of the trade at each port of the United Kingdom.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.*

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" (price 1d., post free 3d.) is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important contents of the June issue:—State of the Labour Market in the United Kingdom in May; Labour in the Textile Trades in Germany and certain adjacent neutral countries; Employment in Germany, Holland, Norway, Denmark, Canada, and the United States; Course of the Retail Prices of Food in the United Kingdom, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Canada, New Zealand, and the United States; and Membership of Trade Unions in 1915.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Trade of South Africa. Report on the Trade of South Africa for the years 1915 *and* 1916, *by Mr. W. G. Wickham (H.M. Trade Commissioner in South Africa.* [*Cd.* 8614]. *Price* 3*d.* (*post free* 4*d.*).

See Notice on pp. 19-20.

Reconstruction Committee. Sub-Committee on Relations between Employers and Employed. Interim Report on Joint Standing Industrial Councils. [*Cd.* 8,606.] *Price* 1*d.* (*post free* 1½*d.*).

See Notice on p. 18.

War Agricultural Committees. Copies of certain letters respecting the breaking up of grass land for the 1918 *harvest written to War Agricultural Committees by the President of the Board of Agriculture and Sir Arthur Lee.* (*H.C.*61) *Price* 2*d.* (*post free* 2½*d.*).

Interim Report of the Committee on the Production and Distribution of Milk. [*Cd.* 8,608.] *Price* 2*d.* (*post free* 2½*d.*).

Index to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Registration of Firms Bill [*H.L.*], *afterwards the Registration of Business Names Bill* [*H.L.*] [*H.C.* 68]. *Price* 2*d.* (*post free* 2½*d.*).

Trading with the Enemy. Consolidating Statutory List of Persons and Firms in Countries, other than Enemy Countries, with whom Persons and Firms in the United Kingdom are Prohibited from Trading. (*With notes to British Merchants engaged in Foreign Trade*). *Complete to* 22*nd June*, 1917. *Price* 6*d.* (*post free* 7½*d.*).

Army. Memorandum on War Office Contracts. [*Cd.* 8,447.] *Price* 3*d.* (*post free* 4*d.*).

This is a paper handed in to the Committee on Public Accounts by the Director of Army Contracts, and deals with the methods adopted by the War Office Contracts Department in making purchases of supplies for the Army.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. Sixteenth Annual General Report of the Department, 1915-16. [*Cd.* 8,574.] *Price* 1*s.* (*post free* 1*s.* 3*d.*).

This Report contains particulars of the administration and funds of the Department, with details of the Department's operations in connection with agriculture, technical instruction, fisheries, statistics and intelligence, veterinary work, transit, and markets.

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* Copies of Government publications may be purchased through any Bookseller, or directly from H.M. Stationery Office at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2., and 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W. 1; 37, Peter Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 23, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or from E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies, the United States of America, and other Foreign Countries, of T. Fisher Unwin, Ltd., London, W.C. 2.

FOREIGN & COLONIAL PUBLICATIONS.

The following is a list of the more important Articles on trade subjects contained in the Foreign and Colonial Publications recently received and filed for reference at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, and which are available for inspection at the Offices of the Department, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2:—

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS.

Agricultural, Dairy and Forest Products.

Wine Production in France in 1916.
"*L'Economiste Français*" (Paris), 16th June.

Flour Trade of the Straits Settlements.
"*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 25th May.

Use of Rubber Products in Greece.
"*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 24th May.

Cattle Census of Bengal.
"*Indian Trade Journal*" (Calcutta), 25th May.

Forest Administration in Assam and Madras.
"*Pioneer Mail*" (Allahabad), 19th May.

Plantation and Wild Rubber Production in French Indo-China.
"*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 6th June.

Textiles and Textile Materials.

Hand-Loom Weaving at Changsha, China
"*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 4th June.

Mousseline and Silk Production in Japan.
"*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 5th June.

Railways, Shipping and Transport.

Motor Traction in Industry.
"*L'Economiste Français*" (Paris), 9th June.

Railway Development in Bolivia.
"*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 26th May.

Railway Development in Peru.
"*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 25th May.

Metals, Mining and Minerals.

Coal Production in France: Present and Future Prospects.
"*L'Economiste Français*" (Paris), 9th June.

(1) Metal Tube Market in Germany.
(2) Semi-Manufactured Iron and Steel Market in Germany.
"*Börsen-Zeitung*" (Berlin), 13th June.

(1) Platinum Situation in the United States.
(2) Iron Production in South Manchuria.
"*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 5th June.

Metals, Mining and Minerals—*continued.*

Iron and Steel Industry: Prospects in Upper Silesia.
"*Börsen-Zeitung*" (Berlin), 11th June.

(1) Mine-Timbering Methods in Siberia.
(2) Mining Industry of Peru.
"*Engineering and Mining Journal*" (New York), 9th June.

Hardware Markets in Canada.
"*Hardware and Metal*" (Toronto), 26th May.

(1) Camphor Trade Situation in South China.
(2) Coal Fields of South China.
"*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 6th June.

Commercial, Financial and Economic.

Sweden: Trade and Shipping of Gothenburg in 1916.
"*Handelsberichten*" (The Hague), 7th June.

Spain: Savings Banks in 1916.
"*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 26th May.

South Africa: Imports and Exports in 1916.
"*South African Commerce*" (Cape Town), May.

Canada: Trade of the Prairie Provinces in 1916.
Supplement to "*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 22nd May.

Machinery and Engineering.

Power Resources of Italy.
"*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 24th May.

Irrigation in British India.
"*Indian Engineering*" (Calcutta), 19th May.

Rebuilding Used Machine Tools in the United States.
"*Iron Age*" (New York), 14th June.

Miscellaneous.

French Pharmaceutical Products in Chile.
"*L'Exportateur Français*" (Paris), 14th June.

Leather Industry Situation in Germany.
"*Frankfurter Zeitung*" (Frankfort), 19th June.

Boot and Shoe Import Trade of Brazil.
"*Commerce Reports*" (Washington), 26th May.

Match and Paper Pulp Industries in British India.
"*Indian Trade Journal*" (Calcutta), 25th May.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS—*continued.*

Miscellaneous—*continued.*

Potash Situation in the United States.
"*Engineering and Mining Journal*" (New York), 9th June.

Paint Markets in Canada.
"*Hardware and Metal*" (Toronto), 26th May.

Miscellaneous—*continued.*

Bristle Trade of Siberia: Efforts to Eliminate German Influence.
"*Weekly Bulletin*" *of the Canadian Department of Commerce* (Ottawa), 4th June.

Peat Industry in France.
"*L'Exportateur Français*" (Paris), 14th June.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

British India—Department of Statistics:—
Agricultural Statistics of India, 1915-16, Vol. I.
Work of the Forest Department in India.

Australia—Statistical Register of New South Wales for 1914-15 and previous years.

New South Wales—Official Year-Book for 1915.

Canada—
Ontario Bureau of Mines, 1916, Vol. XXV.
Part. I—Statistical Review, Mines of Ontario, Iron Deposits of Hunter Island, Iron Pyrites Deposits in South-Eastern Ontario, Study of Certain Minerals from Cobalt, Ontario, the Boston Creek, Goodfish Lake and Kowkash Gold Areas.
Part II.—Lead and Zinc Deposits in Ontario and in Eastern Canada.
Part III.—The Geology of Kingston and Vicinity.

East Africa Protectorate—Annual Report for 1915-16 of the Chief of Customs.

South Africa—Trade Commissioner's Department:—
Reports on South African Export Trades for various periods.
Resolutions adopted at Annual Maize Conference, 1916.

Federated Malay States—Chief Secretary's Annual Report for 1916.

TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES IN LONDON OF THE SELF-GOVERNING DOMINIONS.

These Enquiry Offices are *maintained* in London at the following addresses *by the Governments indicated, viz.*:—

Dominion of Canada	19, Victoria Street, S.W. 1; also Portland House, Basinghall Street, E.C. 2 (Office of the Canadian Government Trade Commissioner).
Commonwealth of Australia	Australia House, Strand, W.C. 2.
New South Wales	Sydney House, 26-7, Cockspur Street, Trafalgar Square, S.W. 1.
Victoria	Melbourne Place, Strand, W.C. 2.
Queensland	409, West Strand, W.C. 2.
South Australia	112, Strand, W.C. 2.
Western Australia	Savoy House, 115-6, Strand, W.C. 2.
Tasmania	56, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.
Dominion of New Zealand	413, Strand, W.C. 2.
Union of South Africa...	Trades Commissioner, 90, Cannon Street, E.C. 4.

Trade enquiries in regard to Rhodesia may be made at the office of the British South Africa Co., 2, London Wall Buildings, E.C. 2.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the **Number of Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 26 weeks ended 28th June, 1917:—

—	Week ended 28th June, 1917.	26 Weeks ended 28th June, 1917.	Week ended 28th June, 1917.	26 Weeks ended 28th June, 1917.
	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	44,722	1,120 202	200	37,431
Brazilian	—	13,111	—	—
East Indian	4,992	63,103	—	6,571
Egyptian	2,096	248,618	2,300	117,269
Miscellaneous	2,363*	64,121†	—	2,711
Total	54,173	1,509,155	2,500	163,982

* Including 2,363 bales British West African.

† Including 1,879 bales British West Indian, 6,494 bales British West African, 14,125 bales British East African, and 2,205 bales foreign East African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn,** per quarter of 8 bushels Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors of Corn Returns in the week ended 30th June, 1917, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years, pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Week ended 30th June, 1917	78 3	73 11	55 1
Corresponding Week in—			
1910	30 4	19 5	17 4
1911	32 1	25 10	19 9
1912	38 2	31 7	23 11
1913	33 1	25 2	21 0
1914	34 4	24 6	19 9
1915	49 5	35 3	31 1
1916	46 3	49 1	30 10

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local Inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure, that Officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial Bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

BRITISH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

The following is a list of Chambers of Commerce established in certain foreign countries in the interest of British trade:—

Argentina ... British Chamber of Commerce for the Argentine Republic, Calle Reconquista 46, Buenos Aires.
(Agent in London—Mr. J. Ballantyne, River Plate House, 13, South Place, E.C. 2.)

Belgium ... British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium (Incorp.). During the war the address will be: c/o London Chamber of Commerce, 97, Cannon Street, E.C. 4.

Brazil... ... British Chamber of Commerce in Brazil, Rua da Quitanda, No. 143, Rio de Janeiro.
British Chamber of Commerce of São Paulo, 26 Rua 15 de Novembro, São Paulo.

China... ... British Chamber of Commerce, 1, The Bund, Shanghai.
British Chamber of Commerce, British Municipal Council Buildings, Hankow.
British Chamber of Commerce, Canton.
Changsha Chamber of Commerce, Changsha.
Chefoo Chamber of Commerce, Chefoo.
Foochow Chamber of Commerce, Foochow.
Mukden British Chamber of Commerce, c/o British Consulate-General, Mukden.
Newchwang British Chamber of Commerce, c/o British Consulate, Newchwang.
Swatow Chamber of Commerce, Swatow.
Tientsin British Chamber of Commerce, Tientsin.
Peking British Chamber of Commerce, Culty Chambers, Peking.

Egypt ... British Chamber of Commerce of Egypt, 6, Rue de l'Ancienne Bourse, Alexandria, and Savoy Chambers, Cairo.
(Agents in Suez and London—Messrs. Back & Manson, Egypt House, 36, New Broad Street, E.C. 2.)

France ... British Chamber of Commerce, Paris (Incorp.), 6, Rue Halévy, Paris, IXème.
(Correspondents in all the principal towns of France. Commercial Representative in France of the Commonwealth of Australia.)
British Chamber of Commerce for the French Riviera and Principality of Monaco, 4, Avenue Massena, Nice.

Italy ... ... British Chamber of Commerce for Italy, 7, Via Carlo Felice, Genoa (with Sample Show Rooms for British goods).
Branches—75, Via Delle Terme, Rome.
12, Via Silvio Pellico, Milan.
Scali d'Azeglio 3 p. p., Leghorn.
24, Guglielmo Sanfelice, Naples.

Morocco ... British Chamber of Commerce for Morocco, Tangier.

Persia... ... British Chamber of Commerce, Bushire.
British Chamber of Commerce, Mohammerah.

Persian Gulf... Basrah British Chamber of Commerce, c/o Eastern Bank, Basrah.

Portugal ... British Chamber of Commerce in Portugal, 4, Rua Victor Cordon, Lisbon.
Branches—39, Rua do Choupelo, Vila Nova de Gaia, Oporto.
81, Rua dos Netos, Funchal, Madeira.

Roumania ... Branch of the British Chamber of Commerce of Turkey and the Balkan States—*See* under Russia.

Russia ... Russo-British Chamber of Commerce, 4, Gorochovaïa, Petrograd.
Branch—Kondratenko St., No. 17–19, Odessa.
Agency in Kiev.
Roumanian Branch of the British Chamber of Commerce of Turkey and the Balkan States, c/o the Anglo-Russian Commission, 15, Fontanka, Petrograd.

Spain ... ... British Chamber of Commerce for Spain, 9, Plaza de Cataluña, Barcelona.
Branch—Avenida Conde Peñalver (Gran Via), 20, Madrid.
(Delegates at Cartagena, Valencia and Canary Islands.)

Tunis ... ... British Chamber of Commerce, Rue Es-Sadikia, 35, Tunis.

Uruguay ... British Chamber of Commerce in Uruguay, Calle Rincon, 506, Montevideo.

N.B.—Some of these Chambers issue periodically a Journal or annual report, which may be *inspected* at the Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.

The Department of Commercial Intelligence is a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest is collected and classified in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies are given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters. As far as is possible, the Department supplies, on personal or written application, information with regard to the following subjects: Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender, and other openings for British Trade; Lists of manufacturers at home and lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Tariff and Customs Regulations; Commercial Statistics; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers; Sources of Supply, Prices, etc., of Trade Products; Shipping and Transport, etc., etc.

Samples of foreign competitive goods and commercial products which are received from abroad from time to time are exhibited at the Offices of the Department.

Samples of goods of German and Austrian manufacture which are sold in British markets abroad and in certain foreign markets are on exhibition in the Sample Rooms of the Department—*see Notice on p. 9.*

The British Industries Fair, 1917, was held at the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Imperial Institute, London, from 26th February until 9th March. Concurrently with the London Fair, a Fair was held at Glasgow. It is the intention of the Board of Trade to hold a Fair every year.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is published weekly, and is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Department of Commercial Intelligence, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" may be obtained through any bookseller or directly from H.M. Stationery Office (see addresses on cover), or (in Ireland) from Messrs. E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin. The price is 3d. per copy, exclusive of postage, or 15s. 2d. per annum, post free in the United Kingdom, the rate for places abroad, inclusive of postage, being 19s. 6d.

All applications regarding advertisement rates, etc., should be sent direct to the sole Contractors for Advertisements, Messrs. Laughton & Co., Ltd., 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

All communications intended for the Department of Commercial Intelligence should be addressed to: **The Comptroller-General, Department of Commercial Intelligence, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.**

H.M. TRADE COMMISSIONERS IN THE SELF-GOVERNING DOMINIONS.

Canada and Newfoundland...	H.M. Trade Commissioner, 363, Beaver Hall, Montreal. Telegraphic Address, "Britcom."
Commonwealth of Australia.	H.M. Trade Commissioner, Commerce House, Melbourne. Telegraphic Address, "Combrit"; and 81, Pitt Street, Sydney. Telegraphic Address, "Combritto."
New Zealand	H.M. Trade Commissioner, P.O. Box 369, Wellington. Telegraphic Address, "Advantage."
South Africa	H.M. Trade Commissioner, P.O. Box 1346. Cape Town. Telegraphic Address, "Austere."

NATIONAL INSURANCE (UNEMPLOYMENT) ACTS, 1911 TO 1916.
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

Decisions by the Umpire.

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Minister of Labour hereby gives Notice of the following decisions by the Umpire on questions whether contributions are payable:—

A. The Umpire has decided that contributions ARE PAYABLE in respect of:—

2349X. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of concrete or artificial stone pipes, poles, slabs, sleepers, etc., or in the manufacture of any other pipes etc., for use in war. (Application 493X.)

This decision modifies decision B. 1768 ("Board of Trade Journal" of the 7th September, 1916). In accordance with Section 3 (2) of the National Insurance (Part II. Amendment) Act, 1914, contributions in respect of workmen covered by this decision but previously excluded in virtue of decision B. 1768 are payable as from the 5th July, 1917.

Correction.—Decision A. 2326X ("Board of Trade Journal" of the 28th June, 1917) should read, "Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making *chargers* for small arms ammunition."

Note.—Decisions in which the Umpire has decided that contributions are payable under the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Act, 1916, are indicated by the letter X at the end of the number, *e.g.*, 1554X. Contributions under these decisions are payable as from the 4th September, 1916.

Where no reference is given to an Application, the question has been decided by the Umpire, without notice, as a matter not admitting of reasonable doubt, in accordance with paragraph (2) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations.

Decisions relating to individual workmen which raise no question of general interest, or which merely apply a principle laid down in a previous decision, are not published.