

# THE Board of Trade Journal.

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[No. 860

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.—registered telegraphic address, "Advantage, Stock, London ;" Code, 5th Edition A.B.C. ; telephone number, 12807 Central. A statement of the objects and work of the Branch will be found on p. 440.

Attention is directed to the **Sample Room** at the above address, the latest additions to which are the following :—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
Millboard for Egyptian Government Contract ... ..	15th May, 1913	335
Grey Linen Cloth for Swedish Government Contract ... ..	" " "	336
Drop Forge Keys—enquiry by a Canadian Company... ..	" " "	332
Cactus Fibre extracted by a newly-invented machine ... ..	10th April, "	97
American Cotton Goods Sold in Hayti... ..	3rd " "	18
Manketti Nuts and Oil from German South West Africa ... ..	" " "	44
Oil Silk : Enquiry from the United States ... ..	27th Mar., "	711
" Bayahonde" Gum from Hayti... ..	" " "	737
Baobab Fibre, and Corlage made therefrom, from French West Africa ... ..	6th " "	578
Rubber produced in the Kasai District (Congo State) ... ..	20th Feb., "	441
Peppermint Oil and Menthol from the Hokkaido (Japan) ... ..	13th " "	408
Corundum from Namaqualand ... ..	16th Jan., "	149
Raisins from Persia ... ..	2nd " "	40
Soapstone ("Kheel") and Soap Manufactured therefrom, from the Crimea ... ..	19th Dec., 1912	631
Tobacco from Beirut ... ..	24th Oct., "	199
Raw (ginned) Cotton from the Argentine ... ..	17th " "	151

Attention is called to the following notices :—

	Page.
Register of British firms who may desire to receive Confidential Information relative to openings for trade ... ..	440
List of Trade Enquiry Offices in London of the Self-Governing Dominions ... ..	441
List of the more important Articles on trade subjects contained in Foreign and Colonial Publications, &c. received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch ... ..	435

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The East Indian Railway Company is prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of (1) *helical and volute springs*, (2) *steel material (angles, plates, joists, &c.)*, (3) *wrought iron bars, &c.*, (4) *galvanised sheets, &c.*, (5) *pig iron*, in accordance with the specifications, which may be seen at, or obtained from, the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

**Springs ;**  
**Steel Material ;**  
**Wrought Iron ;**  
**Galvanised**  
**Sheets ; Pig Iron.**

*Openings for British Trade.*

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, at the said address, marked "Tender for Helical Springs," or as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on 28th May. The charge for each specification is £1 1s., which will not be returned.

**CANADA.**

Reports have been received from H.M. Trade Commissioner for Canada, and the Imperial Trade Correspondents at Quebec and Toronto, notifying the formation, &c. of companies, and the inception of enterprises, which may afford opportunities to manufacturers in the United Kingdom, as follow :—

- Electric Power Plant.** A coal, railway and power company contemplates large extensions to its power plant and the electrification of its colliery plant. *See Note* †. (10,347a.)
- A company has been formed in a town in Ontario, with a capital of 15,000,000 dols. (about £3,083,400), for the purpose of producing, refining and treating natural or artificial gas, petroleum, &c. *See Note* †. (10,328.)
- Gas Pipes, Petroleum Refining Machinery, &c.** A lumber and concrete company in Ontario is contemplating the purchase of the following new equipment :—a 5 ton brick-making machine ; tile-making machinery ; cement and stone screenings mixer ; three 5 h.p. and one 10 h.p. electric motors ; a machine for making cement fence posts ; boilers ; dynamos ; and hoisting elevators. *See Note* †. (10,347b.)
- Brick and Tile-Making Machinery ; Electric Motors, &c.** A company, with a capital of 4,000,000 dols. (about £822,200), has been incorporated in Ontario to carry on the business of a malting company. *See Note* †. (10,019.)
- Malting Plant.** A town in Prince Edward Island is contemplating the purchase of a chemical fire engine. *See Note* †. (10,347c.)
- Chemical Fire Engine.** A town in Ontario intends improving its drainage system, and will require sewer pipes ; another town in Ontario is about to purchase 5,000 feet of cast-iron pipes and 15 hydrants. *See Note* †. (10,347d.)
- Sewer and Cast Iron Pipes.** A company has been incorporated in Quebec Province with a capital of 20,000 dols. (about £4,100) to carry on the business of printers, engravers, lithographers, bookbinders, &c. *See Note* †. (10,018a.)
- Bookbinding and Printing Machinery.**

*Note* †.

*Note* †.—The names of the companies, &c. to which the foregoing notices relate may be obtained by manufacturers in the United Kingdom desirous of supplying plant, &c. on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

*Openings for British Trade.*

**CANADA**—*continued.*

**Cement-making Plant.** A firm of cement manufacturers in Ontario is contemplating the purchase of additional machinery for its plant. *See Note* †. (10,317e.)

**Motor Fire Engine.** A city in New Brunswick contemplates purchasing a combination gasoline fire engine, with pumps, chemical extinguisher, and hose reel. *See Note* †. (10,317f.)

A company has been formed in Quebec Province with a capital of 99,000 dols. (about £20,300) to manufacture furniture, doors, sashes, mouldings, and other articles of wood. *See Note* †. (10,018b.)

A company with a capital of 1,000,000 dols. (about £205,500) has been incorporated in Quebec Province to carry on the business of a light, heat and power company, by means of natural or artificial gas. *See Note* †. (10,018c.)

The authorities of a town in Alberta will probably shortly ask the sanction of the ratepayers to an expenditure of 320,000 dols. (about £65,800) on additions to the municipal electric power plant by means of gas-fired steam turbines of 5,000 k.w. capacity. *See Note* †. (10,703.)

*Note* †.—The names of the companies, &c. to which the foregoing notices relate may be obtained by manufacturers in the United Kingdom desirous of supplying plant, &c. on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

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*The following commercial enquiries have been received at the Offices of the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W., whence further information may be obtained:—*

**Commercial Enquiries.**

**CANADIAN ENQUIRIES.**

A correspondent at Trenton, Ontario, desires to hear from United Kingdom manufacturers of **brass nails, window fastenings** and other hardware.

A Vancouver firm, dealing in advertising specialities of all kinds, desires to hear from United Kingdom manufacturers of **labels, diaries, memorandum books, signs of all kinds, cheap specialities for distribution at exhibitions, celluloid and aluminium specialities, enamelled badges, and buttons, &c.**

Enquiry is made by a merchant at Halifax, Nova Scotia, for the names of United Kingdom manufacturers of **architectural terra cotta, facing bricks, chimney pots, vitrified bricks, &c.**

A Toronto firm of manufacturers and distributors desires to correspond with some large **automobile supply** firms in the United Kingdom.

### Openings for British Trade.

#### CANADA—continued.

A correspondent at Berlin, Ontario, desires to secure the agency of first-class United Kingdom furniture and hardware firms.

A grain shipper at Montreal makes enquiry for the names of importers of oats and wheat at Hull.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the foregoing enquiries, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

\* \* \* \* \*

*The following commercial enquiries have been received at the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., whence further information may be obtained:—*

#### HOME ENQUIRIES.

A London firm whose Mexican branch reports an opening for Canadian sardines, canned salmon, and also match splints, invite offers from Canadian producers who are in a position to ship supplies.

A United Kingdom firm manufacturing constructional ironwork, baths and other sanitary goods, stable fittings and general castings, wishes to arrange for the sale of these goods in Canada.

An application has been received for the addresses of Canadian producers and shippers of infusorial earth.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the foregoing, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

#### AUSTRALIA.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for Australia (Mr. G. T. Milne) reports that tenders will be received at the office of the Deputy Postmaster-General, Melbourne, up to 3 p.m. on 8th July, for the supply of *indiarubber covered tinned copper wire* (Schedules No. 872 and 873); and *batteries and battery material* (Schedule No. 880). (10,198.)

H.M. Trade Commissioner also reports that tenders will be received at the office of the Postmaster-General, Sydney, up to 3 p.m. on 9th July, for the supply of 8 *multiple magneto switchboards of two sections*, and one *cable turning section* (Schedule No. 205).

*See Note† on next page.*

(10,198.)

The Imperial Trade Correspondent at Perth (Mr. C. R. Penny) reports that tenders will be received at the office of the Deputy Postmaster-General, Perth, as follows:—

(1) Up to 3 p.m. on 11th June\*, for the supply of 576 220-volt *metal filament lamps* (Schedule No. 274).

(2) Up to 3 p.m. on 9th July, for the supply of *indiarubber-covered copper wire* (Schedule No. 265); and *cotton, silk or wool-covered wire* (Schedule No. 266).

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

*Openings for British Trade.*

**AUSTRALIA**—*continued.*

(3) Up to 3 p.m. on the 16th July, for the supply of *copper wire, tapes and binders* (Schedule No. 260); 92 tons of *hard drawn copper wire* (Schedule No. 273); and 10 tons of *bronze wire* (Schedule No. 267).

(4) Up to 3 p.m. on 23rd July, for the supply of *telegraph instruments and parts* (Schedule No. 254); *telephone instruments and parts* (Schedule 255); and *telephone switchboards and parts* (Schedule No. 256).

(5) Up to 3 p.m. on 30th July, for the supply of *glassware, battery material, and chemicals for batteries* (Schedule No. 259); 132 tons of *galvanised iron wire* (Schedule No. 262); *galvanised iron and steel stranded wire* (Schedule No. 268); and 7 *steel towers, 40 feet high* (Schedule No. 269).

(6) Up to 3 p.m. on 6th August, for the supply of *miscellaneous apparatus* (Schedule No. 258); 86,000 *telegraph and telephone porcelain insulators* (Schedule No. 261); *iron work* (Schedule No. 263); and 1,000 *tubular iron or steel poles 20 feet long, and fittings* (Schedule No. 264). See Note †. (10,200.)

*Note†.*—A deposit of 5 per cent. on the first £1,000, and of 2½ per cent. on the amount above that sum, is required with each tender. The tenderer, if not resident in Australia, or if a company registered outside the Commonwealth, shall name an agent in Australia to receive notifications of acceptance and other notices under the contract.

For copies of the specifications and forms of tender, application should be made to the High Commissioner in London for the Commonwealth of Australia, 72, Victoria Street, S.W., where also preliminary deposits may be paid. Copies of the specifications and forms of tender may be seen by makers in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

H.M. Trade Commissioner also reports that tenders are invited by the Commonwealth Department of Trade and Customs for the supply, delivery and temporary erection (for inspection and testing purposes), and maintenance for a specified period, of (1) an *automatic flashing post light* for Fort Point, Port Darwin, and (2) an *automatic light* for erection on a steel tower 40 feet high for Emery Point. The illuminant is to be dissolved acetylene in each case.

Sealed tenders on the proper form, marked "Tender for Automatic Post Light for Fort Point," or as the case may be, will be received, up to noon on 1st July,\* by the Comptroller-General of Customs, Melbourne, from whom copies of the specifications and forms of tender may be obtained. Tenderers may submit alternative designs if they so desire. *Tenders must be accompanied by a deposit on the following scale:—*£2 for tenders under £200; £5 for tenders between £200 and £500; £10 for tenders between £500 and £1,000; and 1 per cent. of the amount of the offer for tenders over £1,000; maximum deposit £500. *Local representation is necessary.*

Copies of the specifications, conditions, and forms of tender may be seen by British manufacturers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above. (10,202.)

\* For note see foot of preceding page.

*Openings for British Trade.*

**AUSTRALIA**—*continued.*

An old-established Sheffield firm is desirous of finding a suitable agent for the sale in Australia of high-speed steels, tool steel, twist drills, and other articles of interest to engineers.

**High Speed and Tool Steels, Twist Drills, &c.** Communications regarding this enquiry should be addressed to the High Commissioner for Australia, 72, Victoria Street, London, S.W., quoting the reference No. 781/13. (10,580.)

**SOUTH AFRICA.**

H.M. Trade Commissioner for South Africa (Sir R. Sothern Holland) reports that, according to a notice in the "Cape Provincial Gazette" of 25th April, Mr. C. H. Mallison, the principal sheep and wool expert to the Union Government, will shortly be visiting the United Kingdom, and will execute commissions for the purchase of thoroughbred sheep for South African farmers.

Communications on the subject should be addressed to Mr. Mallinson, c/o the High Commissioner for South Africa, 72, Victoria Street, London, S.W. (10,565.)

H.M. Trade Commissioner also reports that a firm of manufacturers' agents in Johannesburg wishes to secure the representation of United Kingdom exporters of *frying oil*, for frying fish, for which refined cottonseed oil and, to a small extent, olive oil are used.

The name and address of the firm may be obtained by United Kingdom exporters on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. Any further communications should be addressed to H.M. Trade Commissioner for South Africa, Norwich Union Buildings, Capetown. (10,560.)

**EGYPT.**

H.M. Consul at Cairo (Mr. A. D. Alban) reports that tenders are invited by the Egyptian War Department for the supply and delivery of 11,000 yards of flannelette, 30 inches wide, and in accordance with the sealed pattern kept at the office of Sir A. L. Webb, as below. *A cash deposit of £ E.4, or a bank guarantee of 10 per cent. of the value of the offer, is required to qualify any tender.*

Tender forms and specifications may be obtained from Sir A. L. Webb, K.C.M.G., Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W. Tenders\* will be received, up to 15th June, by the Financial Secretary, War Office, Cairo. A copy of the specification may be seen by makers in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (10,548.)

\* Domicile (legal) in Egypt is necessary for the contractor. For conditions under which temporary or permanent (legal) domicile may be obtained by firms in the United Kingdom at the British Consulate at Cairo, see p. 176 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 26th January, 1911, and p. 176 of the issue of 25th April, 1912.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**EGYPT**—*continued.*

H.M. Consul also reports that tenders\* are invited by the Egyptian Ministry of Finance for the supply of 7,390 okes  
**Olive Oil.** 272 dr. (about 20,330 lbs.) of pure olive oil.  
 Sealed tenders, accompanied by a sample of the oil it is proposed to supply, will be received, up to noon on 3rd July, at the "Economat Central, Ministère des Finances," Cairo, whence copies of the *cahier des charges* may be obtained and the sealed samples inspected. 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.*

A copy of the *cahier des charges* may be seen by manufacturers in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (10,767.)

According to the May issue of the Journal of the British Chamber of Commerce of Egypt, the Egyptian Government is considering the development on a large scale of the power at present running to waste through the Assuan Dam. The scheme under consideration provides that the power afforded by the head of water maintained in the dam should be utilised to drive turbines, which in turn would enable dynamos to develop electric power. The amount of power thus afforded would be immense, but it is stated that the Government will probably only set up a comparatively small installation in the first instance, as a scheme so large as to take advantage of all the water passing through the dam would naturally require the expenditure of a very large capital sum of money. The electrical power thus obtained will be utilised by the Government in the manufacture of chemical manure, in a similar manner to the processes adopted in Norway, where the power made available by waterfalls has been converted to this use. The form of manure which the Government will most probably decide to produce is calcium cyanamide, which is so rapidly coming into favour with the farmer.

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**NORWAY.**

H.M. Consul at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray) reports that tenders† are invited by the Norwegian State Railway Authorities for the supply of the following:—

- (1) A *cable crane* for mounting the Jora Bridge. Sealed tenders, marked "Anbud paa leveranse av kabelkran till Jora bro," will be received, up to 3 p.m. on 30th May, at "Banedirektörens kontor, Statsbanerne," Christiania, where copies of the specification and conditions may be seen.

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\* For note, see foot of preceding page.

† It should be noted that in all Norwegian Government contracts a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. (sometimes more) is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**NORWAY—continued.**

- (2) *Tools, Decauville railway material and drain pipes.* Sealed tenders, marked "Aubud paa materialer og redskaper," will be received, up to 4th June, at "Overingeniörens Kontor, Statsbanerne," Kongsberg, where copies of the specifications and conditions may be obtained.
- Tools; Decauville  
Railway  
Material; Drain  
Pipes.**

No special form of tender is required, but *local representation by a resident agent (not necessarily a Norwegian) is essential.*

A copy of the specification and conditions (in Norwegian) in the case of (1), together with a drawing, may be seen by United Kingdom manufacturers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. A copy of the specification, &c. in regard to (2) is expected to be received shortly, when it will also be available for inspection, as above.

(10,549; 10,635.)

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**SWEDEN.**

The "Post-och Inrikes Tidningar" (Stockholm) of 15th May states that the Swedish Legislature has approved the proposal submitted by a Special Committee for the construction of a State Railway from Karungi to Haparanda at a cost of 1,495,000 kronor (about £83,000), and also for a branch line from Boden at a cost of 172,000 kronor (about £9,500).

**Railway  
Material.**

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**NETHERLANDS.**

H.M. Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Turing) reports that tenders will be received by the Colonial Office at The Hague, up to 27th May, for the supply and delivery of *metal superstructures with accessories for 38 bridges for main traffic (contract 599); asphalted cast-iron straight tubes and accessories (contract 600); metal superstructures with accessories for 3 bridges for ordinary traffic (contract Lit. X. 18), and mild steel (contract Lit. Y. 18).*

Specifications relating to the above contracts may be purchased from "Mart. Nijhoff, Lange Voorhout 9," The Hague, at a cost of 10 gulden (16s. 8d.) for contract 599, 3 gulden (5s.) for contract Lit. X. 18, and 1 gulden (1s. 8d.) for each of the other contracts.

(10,455.)

The "Nederlandsche Staatscourant" of 14th May notifies that tenders will be opened on 4th June at the offices of the Koloniaal Etablissement, Westerdoksdijk, Amsterdam, for the supply to the Netherlands Colonies of *cotton and linen goods, buttons, nails, combs, leather goods, cork, paints, &c.* Detailed specifications of the material required may be purchased from Gebroeders van Cleef, Hofspui No. 28a, The Hague.

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**Cotton and Linen  
Goods, Buttons,  
Nails, Combs,  
Leather Goods,  
Cork, Paints, &c.**



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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**FRANCE.**

An enquiry has been received at the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris from a French firm desiring the agency of United Kingdom manufacturers of foodstuffs and groceries in Toulon and the Department of Var. (Reference No. 1,008.)

Foodstuffs; Groceries. of United Kingdom manufacturers of foodstuffs and groceries in Toulon and the Department of Var. (Reference No. 1,008.)  
 Communications in connection with the above should be addressed to the Secretary, British Chamber of Commerce, 9, Rue des Pyramides, Paris. (10,475.)

Harbour Works. See notice on p. 420.

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**FRANCE (ALGERIA).**

Harbour Works. See notice on p. 421.

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**PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.**

With reference to the notice on p. 65 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 10th April and to previous notices relative to a call for tenders for the supply of a coaling plant at Lourenço Marques, H.M. Consul-General at that port (Mr. E. MacDonell) now reports that the contract has been awarded to a United States firm for the sum of £23,250. (C. 4,054.)

Coaling Plant for Lourenço Marques: Contract Awarded.

of 10th April and to previous notices relative to a call for tenders for the supply of a coaling plant at Lourenço Marques, H.M. Consul-General at that port (Mr. E. MacDonell) now reports that the contract has been awarded to a United States firm for the sum of £23,250. (C. 4,054.)

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**SPAIN.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 14th May states that tenders are invited by the Ministry of "Fomento," Madrid, and will be opened on 16th August, for a concession for the construction and working of a "strategic" railway from Huelva to Ayamonte, passing by way of Gibraltón. A deposit of 149,166 pesetas (about £5,520) will be required to qualify any tender. An option on the concession is held by the Sociedad Española de Ferrocarriles Secundarios.

The cost of constructing the line is put at 14,916,625 pesetas (about £552,000), on which amount a maximum of 5 per cent. interest will be guaranteed by the State. The rolling stock required will consist of 4 locomotives, 5 brake vans, 16 passenger coaches, and 78 goods wagons.

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**ITALY.**

The "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin) of 8th May announces, on the authority of the German Consul in Rome, that the Municipal Authorities of that city have made arrangements for the carrying out of the following important works, at the upset prices indicated:—  
 Market hall 4,000,000 lire; secondary school, 4,000,000 lire; primary school, 3,500,000 lire; a new primary school in the Roman Campagna, 2,000,000 lire; a new fire brigade station and the purchase of fire engines, &c., 1,200,000 lire; enlargement of Verano cemetery and the construction of a new cemetery, 1,500,000 lire; water works, 1,100,000 lire; and sewerage and drainage works, 6,500,000 lire.

25 lire = £1

*Openings for British Trade.*

**ITALY—continued.**

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" (Rome) of 16th May publishes a decree ratifying the concession granted to the "Società Veneta per costruzione ed esercizio di Ferrovie Secondarie Italiane" for the construction and working of an electric tramway from Valdobbiadene station to the Piazza di Valdobbiadene.

**Electric Tramway  
Material.**

**ITALY (SICILY).**

With reference to the notice on p. 118 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th January relative to a call for tenders for constructing a breakwater at Palermo, H.M. Consul at that port (Mr. R. G. Macbean, M.V.O.) reports that the contract has been awarded to an Italian firm for the sum of 7,000,000 lire (£280,000).

The name and address of the successful contractor may be obtained by manufacturers and contractors in the United Kingdom on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (10,234.)

**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA).**

H.M. Consul at Sarajevo (Mr. F. G. Freeman) reports that sealed tenders will be received at the "Landesregierung," Sarajevo, (1) up to 11 a.m. on 9th June, for the purchase of timber-felling rights in the forest areas of Crnagora-Slatinica-Racica and Grusca-Rakitnica; (2) up to 11 a.m. on 9th July, for the purchase of similar rights in the forest areas of Gracanica, Maglaj and Gradacac; and (3) up to 11 a.m. on 31st July, for the purchase of similar rights in the forest area of Mount Kozara. Full particulars can be obtained on application to the "Forstwirtschaftlichen Departement der Landesregierung," Sarajevo. *Local representation is advisable.* (10,765; 10,636; 10,550.)

**Timber-felling  
Plant.**

**BULGARIA.**

H.M. Legation at Sofia reports that tenders are invited by the Bulgarian Directorate-General of Railways and Ports for the supply and delivery of 12 goods locomotives and tenders. Tenders will be received by the "Kreis-Finanz-Verwaltung," Sofia, up to 3 p.m. on 17th June. *Tenderers must include with their tender an undertaking to pay 5 per cent. of the value of the order should they fail to accept the contract within 15 days from its adjudication to them.* A manufacturer who has not previously supplied locomotives to the Bulgarian State Railways must send with his tender a declaration by the authorities of a railway that he has executed a contract for the supply of locomotives to them to their satisfaction.

**Goods  
Locomotives.**

Copies of the form of tender, with specifications and drawings, may be obtained from the "General Direction der Bulgarischen Staatsbahnen, Zimmer No. 81," Sofia, on payment of 30 francs (24s.) per set.

A copy of the specification (in German), together with form of tender and drawings, may be *seen* by locomotive builders in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (10,637.)

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**SERVIA.**

The British Vice-Consul at Belgrade (Mr. C. L. Blakeney) reports that tenders are invited by the Directorate of the Servian Telephones for the supply of *telephone apparatus and instruments*, including 225 *common battery wall telephones*, 200 *common battery portable telephones*, 200 *table telephones*, &c. Sealed tenders (in French or German), marked "Offre pour téléphones," and accompanied by a *deposit of 20 per cent. of the amount of the offer*, should be addressed to the "Direction des Téléphones Serbe," Belgrade, whence further particulars may be *obtained*. Each tender must bear a stamp of 10 frs. (8s.). No date for the receipt of tenders is given. *Local representation is necessary*. The name of an agent in Belgrade who is willing to act for manufacturers in the United Kingdom may be *obtained* on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where also a list of the articles required, as well as the conditions of tender (all in French), may be *seen*. (10,551.)

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**MOROCCO.**

The Acting British Consul-General at Tangier (Mr. H. B. Johnstone) reports that tenders are invited by the Special Committee for Public Works for the construction of a shed for the Customs Service at Tangier, at an estimated cost of 18,607 frs. (£744). Tenders will be received by "Mons. le Président du Comité Spécial des Travaux Publics, Dar En-Niaba," Tangier, up to 11 a.m. on 30th June. *A deposit of 400 frs. (£16), together with a certificate of competency to execute the contract, must accompany each tender. The contractor must elect domicile in the neighbourhood of the works.* A copy of the *cahier des charges* may be *seen*, and copies of the form of tender to be used *obtained*, by contractors in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (10,149.)

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

H.M. Consul-General at Chicago (Mr. H. D. Nugent) reports that an agent in that city, claiming considerable experience as a salesman of structural building materials and machinery, desires to secure the representation of United Kingdom manufacturers of such materials and machinery. The name and address of the agent may be obtained by manufacturers in the United Kingdom on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. Any further communications regarding the enquiry should be addressed to the British Consulate-General, Chicago. (9,986.)

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*Openings for British Trade.*

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (PHILIPPINE ISLANDS).**

The following information is from the report by H.M. Vice-Consul at Manila (Mr. W. M. Royds) on the trade of the Philippine Islands in 1912, which will shortly be issued:—

A gas company, the first in the Philippine Islands, was established in Manila in 1912, and is expected to commence supplying gas by October next. The price of electric light, which at present has no competitor, is exceedingly high, and it is believed that there is a good opening for gas, which is also likely to be much used for cooking purposes. Most of the material for the preliminary work has already been ordered.

Coal for manufacturing the gas will probably be obtained from Australia, and negotiations are proceeding with the view of contracting for the amount which will be regularly required.

**Sugar Machinery.** See notice on p. 428.

**MEXICO.**

**Oil Pipe Line ;  
Oil Refinery Plant.** See notice on p. 423.

**BRAZIL.**

The "Diario Oficial" (Rio de Janeiro) of 26th April publishes a decree earmarking a sum of 316,591 milreis (about £21,100) for dredging the river Merity in the State of Rio de Janeiro. The work will be carried out under the direction of the Public Works Department.

The "Diario" of 27th April contains decrees (1) approving the plans and estimate of 4,468,717 milreis (about £298,000) for the carrying out of important permanent way alterations, as well as the erection of station and warehouse buildings on the Serrinha-Curityba section of the Paraná Railway; (2) approving the plans and estimate of 639,740 milreis (about £42,650) for the laying of the first section, 10 miles long, of the projected Barreiros—Sértãozinho Colonial Railway in the State of Pernambuco; (3) granting a three months' extension for the reconstruction of the line between Serrinha and the 124th kilometre on the Paraná Railway.

**ARGENTINA.**

The "Boletin Oficial" (Buenos Aires) of 17th April publishes a decree empowering the Central Argentine Railway Company to prepare the necessary plans for the construction of a 5½ mile section of line from a point on the Yocsima section to "La Estanzuela" quarries.

The "Boletin" of 19th April contains a decree authorising the Buenos Aires Great Southern Railway Company to construct a 4-mile section of the Olavarría—San Jacinto railway.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**ARGENTINA**—*continued.*

The "Boletin" of 21st April publishes a decree authorising the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture to expend a sum of 559,690 pesos currency (about £49,000) for the erection of schools of agriculture.

**Building Materials:**  
**Agricultural Accessories.**

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**PERSIA.**

**Machinery for treating Date Fibre, &c.;**  
**Agricultural Machinery and Implements, &c.**

See article on pp. 401-4.

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**EXHIBITIONS.**

**UNITED KINGDOM.**

The Board of Trade is notified that a Commercial Motor Vehicle Exhibition is to be held at Olympia, London, W., from 18th to 26th July. Information respecting the exhibition may be obtained on application to the Exhibition Manager, Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, Limited, Maxwell House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C. (C. 3,939.)

The Board of Trade is also informed that the Thirty-fifth Annual Brewers' Exhibition and Market is to be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, N., from 1st to 7th November next. For particulars, application should be made to the Managing Director of the Exhibition, at 46, Cannon Street, London, E.C. (C. 3,976.)

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**SAMPLES OF HARDWARE, &c. OF FOREIGN MANUFACTURE SOLD IN NEW ZEALAND.**

**Exhibition at the London Chamber of Commerce.**

With reference to the notice on p. 17 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 3rd April regarding the exhibition in this country of samples of hardware, hollow-ware and tools of foreign manufacture sold in New Zealand, which have been collected by H.M. Trade Commissioner (Mr. W. G. Wickham), it is notified that an exhibition of these samples is open in the Lecture Room of the London Chamber of Commerce, Oxford Court, Cannon Street, E.C., and will remain open between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily (Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.) until 7th June, for inspection by British firms who may be interested. The collection of samples includes such goods as *household hardware, lamps, locks, cutlery, tools, &c.* Details are also given as to country of manufacture, price, landed cost and other matters affecting the trade. (9,543.)

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## COUNTRIES IMMEDIATELY AFFECTED BY THE BALKAN WAR: NOTICES TO SHIPPERS AND OTHERS.

### **Blockade of Montenegrin Coast Raised.**

With reference to the notice on p. 240 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st May relative to the blockade of the Montenegrin coast by the officers in command of the British, Austro-Hungarian, French, German and Italian naval forces, it is notified in the "London Gazette" of 16th May that the blockade was raised as from 2 p.m. on 14th May.

### **Greek Moratorium Prolonged.**

With reference to the notice on p. 183 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 24th April and to previous notices relative to the extension of the Moratorium in Greece, it is notified that H.M. Minister at Athens has now telegraphed to the effect that the Moratorium has been further extended for one month, that is, until 19th June.

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## PROTECTION OF TRADE MARKS IN NETHERLANDS EX-TERRITORIAL DISTRICTS.

H.M. Minister at The Hague reports that a new Law, dated 19th March, to regulate the protection of trade marks in certain Netherlands Consular Districts, was published in the "Staatscourant" of 9th April. Under the terms of this Law the right to the exclusive use of a factory or trade mark within the district of Consular Officers exercising judicial power shall belong to the person in whose name that mark has been registered in the Netherlands, in conformity with Article 5 or 8 of the Netherlands Trade Marks Law, if that person is a Netherlands subject or a subject of a power which grants reciprocity towards the Netherlands in respect of the recognition and protection of factory and trade marks in ex-territorial countries.

A translation of the Law, together with an explanatory memorandum, may be seen by firms in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C. 3,468.)

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## NEW COMPANY LAW IN MISSOURI, U.S.A.

The Acting British Consul at St. Louis, Mo. (Mr. W. K. Small) has forwarded a copy of a Law recently passed by the State of Missouri to place the operations of domestic and foreign investment (stock and bond selling) companies under the control of the State Bank Commissioner. This Law is modelled on that which has been in force in Kansas for some time.

The text of the new Law may be seen by firms in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C. 4,107.)

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TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

The following summary table has been prepared at the Board of Trade showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to February, 1913, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, viz., the two months ended February. The corresponding figures for 1912 and 1911 are added for comparison :—

	Imports (see NOTE). TWO MONTHS ended FEBRUARY.			Exports (Domestic) (see NOTE). TWO MONTHS ended FEBRUARY.		
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1911.	1912.	1913.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia* ... ..	16,733,000	15,627,000	18,324,000	19,178,000	20,554,000	17,894,000
Germany ... ..	72,199,000	81,375,000	87,561,000	61,294,000	64,548,000	78,133,000
Belgium† ... ..	27,491,000	27,778,000	28,839,000	21,704,000	21,445,000	21,556,000
France ... ..	57,891,000	54,373,000	54,869,000	34,969,000	35,513,000	39,567,000
Spain ... ..	6,151,000	6,300,000	8,362,000	6,087,000	6,873,000	6,791,000
Italy ... ..	23,037,000	21,179,000	22,107,000	13,435,000	14,293,000	15,200,000
Austria-Hungary... ..	19,746,000	23,326,000	21,507,000	14,440,000	15,742,000	17,099,000
Egypt ... ..	4,490,000	4,171,000	4,620,000	7,355,000	7,543,000	6,860,000
United States ... ..	52,553,000	57,870,000	65,204,000	76,661,000	82,683,000	86,543,000
Japan‡ ... ..	9,404,000	10,571,000	12,395,000	6,471,000	6,928,000	9,209,000
British India ... ..	15,282,000	17,458,000	20,676,000	26,018,000	27,445,000	30,130,000
Canada ... ..	14,555,000	16,618,000	21,728,000	6,616,000	7,883,000	8,680,000
British S. Africa¶ ... ..	6,184,000	6,578,000	6,636,000	8,491,000	10,469,000	12,208,000
United Kingdom ... ..	100,129,000	108,361,000	113,533,000	73,384,000	77,907,000	85,618,000

\* European, Russo-Finnish, and Black Sea Frontiers.

† Value of principal articles only.

‡ Exclusive of trade with Taiwan (Formosa) and Chosen (Corea).

¶ Including bullion.

A comparison of the total figures for the three months ended 31st March is possible for five countries, as follows, viz. :—

	Imports (see NOTE). THREE MONTHS ended MARCH.			Exports (Domestic) (see NOTE). THREE MONTHS ended MARCH.		
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1911.	1912.	1913.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany ... ..	112,205,000	129,596,000	129,260,000	96,652,000	101,591,000	120,160,000
Belgium* ... ..	43,633,000	42,251,000	44,905,000	34,094,000	35,152,000	34,603,000
France ... ..	90,989,000	81,363,000	82,651,000	56,732,000	59,226,000	65,346,000
United States ... ..	81,520,060	90,698,000	97,592,000	109,717,000	124,869,000	124,750,000
United Kingdom ... ..	149,465,000	156,638,000	165,204,000	114,248,000	118,621,000	127,308,000

\* Value of principal articles only.

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade are as follow :—

	Imports (see NOTE). MONTH of JANUARY.			Exports (Domestic) (see NOTE). MONTH of JANUARY.		
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1911.	1912.	1913.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Mexico* ... ..	1,852,000	1,517,000	1,983,000	2,207,000	2,991,000	2,836,000
Australia* .. ...	4,890,000	7,417,000	6,360,000	5,356,000	6,982,000	6,370,000

\* Including bullion and specie.

The revised valuations of the foreign trade of Germany and Switzerland have now been completed for 1912. The final results for that year and those for 1911 are stated in the following table, in which the provisional totals heretofore stated for 1912 are also shown :—

*Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

	IMPORTS (See NOTE).			EXPORTS (Domestic) (See NOTE).		
	1911.	1912.		1911.	1912.	
		Provisional Values.	Revised Values.		Provisional Values.†	Revised Values.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany ... ..	477,195,000	<i>506,023,000</i>	523,861,000	398,548,000	437,022,000	440,376,000
Switzerland* ... ..	72,094,000	<i>73,519,000</i>	79,164,000	50,292,000	54,304,000	54,305,000

\* Including bullion.

† In the case of Germany and Switzerland the system of official valuations is adopted for Imports only; the Export values are all declared (see below).

The values stated for the latest year shown in the foregoing statements are provisional and subject to rectification. In some cases all the values are those *declared* by importers or exporters, as in the United Kingdom; in others they are based on an official schedule of values which is subjected to revision after the close of each year, the values used in the current returns being those fixed in the latest completed revision. In general, the values so fixed represent the level of prices in the preceding year. The countries adopting the system of official values annually revised are:—Austria-Hungary, Belgium, France, Italy, Spain, and (for imports) Germany and Switzerland, but exports from Switzerland and Germany are returned at “declared” values. For the first quarter of 1911 about one-third of the exports from Germany were returned at official values. *The figures in italics are based, wholly or mainly, on the prices of some earlier year than that under which they are shown.*

In the case of Russia, Germany, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, Canada, and the United Kingdom, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of “nationalised” goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if datiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

For detailed particulars regarding the trade of the several countries, reference should be made to the “Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions, including figures received up to 30th April, 1913,” to be obtained (price 4½d., exclusive of postage), either directly or through any bookseller, from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C., and 54, St. Mary Street, Cardiff; or H.M. Stationery Office (Scottish Branch), 25, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies, the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of T. Fisher Unwin, London, W.C.



## BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

**Egypt, Alexandria.**—The following information is from the report by H.M. Vice-Consul at Alexandria (Mr. A. B. Geary) on the trade of that district in 1912, which will shortly be issued:—

*Credit and business methods.*—In recent years a large number of mushroom commercial firms have sprung up in Egypt, with very little capital, which exist precariously on long credit. Twenty years ago the longest credit ever given was for three months, but at the present time credit for 15 to 18 months, sometimes extended until after the re-sale of the goods purchased, is freely given by firms which endeavour to bolster up goods of inferior quality by granting this excessive credit. The European firms which act thus aim at providing for the inevitable loss by a comparatively wider margin of profit and by the supply of inferior and cheaper qualities of goods.

The sound plan for the European seller is to find out by careful enquiry the houses of reputable standing with a solid basis, and to avoid the selection of inexperienced and unreliable agents, who abound in Egypt. With this end in view, application should be made to the British Chamber of Commerce at Alexandria, and travellers should be sent from time to time. The expense of this will often be amply repaid by the increase of business, but it is extraordinary how British firms shrink from this outlay. When the right agents have been found, as favourable terms as possible should be accorded, remembering that the average customer of the retail trade in Egypt expects considerable latitude in the matter of credit, and credit from the home manufacturer of three to six months is now regarded as equivalent to cash against documents in the old days. Competition with cheap inferior goods in a country where cheapness rather than quality attracts the average purchaser is only possible by giving all encouragement to the honest agent who conducts his business on a solid basis, with sufficient capital behind him as guarantee.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Norway: Correction.**—With reference to the notice on p. 243 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st May relative to British trade in Norway, it is notified that the paragraph referring to the Kragerö district should read as follows, and not as printed:—

The British Vice-Consul at Kragerö (Mr. T. Parker) writes that Continental travellers (there are about ten German travellers to one from the United Kingdom in the Kragerö district) issue price lists in Norwegian and quote in Norwegian currency. Mr. Parker advocates the use of the metric system in quotations for Norway, and mentions *cinematograph films* and *gramophone records* as articles which he thinks would find an opening in his district.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Mexico, Vera Cruz.**—The following information is from the report by the Acting British Consul at Vera Cruz (Mr. J. S. Hutchison) on the trade of that district in 1912, which will shortly be issued:—

The decrease in the value of the imports into Vera Cruz in 1912, amounting to £418,137, is undoubtedly largely due to the disturbed condition which has prevailed throughout Mexico, and if the increase of £236,035 in the value of the imports of arms and explosives (which cannot be considered under present conditions as being a natural

*British Trade Abroad.*

commercial expansion) be deducted, the decrease actually amounts to over £600,000, which is fairly proportioned over all the principal articles imported.

The proportionately large decrease in the value of imports from the United Kingdom during the year is mostly accounted for by the practical cessation of all coal imports, due to the substitution of oil as fuel, this item accounting for nearly 50 per cent. of the whole decrease. Other items, such as machinery and metals and metalware, show a large decrease, easily accounted for by the disturbed and unsettled conditions entailing the frequent suspension of factories and shutting down of mines.

*General conditions.*—The commercial and industrial conditions prevailing during the year 1912 in the Vera Cruz consular district have been very unsatisfactory, although the effects of the disturbed conditions were not so severely felt there as in the interior and northern States.

Apart from the condition produced by the continued revolutionary disturbances, the labour difficulties have been many and great. The cotton mills have been hampered during the whole year by a succession of strikes, many of them on the most unreasonable and frivolous grounds; a change, however, for the better in this industry, and an elimination of these constant strikes, is hoped for as the result of the majority of the mills having conceded the employees' demand for the establishment of the British scale of wages and piece-work payments, which came into force at the beginning of 1913. In the port of Vera Cruz there has also been constant trouble with the stevedores and pier labourers, which greatly hampered the business of the port.

The British Vice-Consul at Jalapa (Mr. D. B. Van der Goot) reports that the conditions during the past year in that district were better than might have been expected from the generally disturbed condition of the Republic. Crops have been fair and prices good, but planters have had greater difficulties in obtaining loans than formerly.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Colombia.*—H.M. Legation at Bogotá reports that the country is in a somewhat unsettled state, partly due to the forthcoming elections to the Lower Chamber. It is reported that both American and German firms have considered it advisable to withdraw credit for the time being.

(10,322.)

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*Brazil.*—The Acting British Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. E. Hambloch) reports that the import trade of Brazil as a whole, and especially of Rio de Janeiro, is likely to undergo considerable modification in the near future. The purchasing power of the country is bound to be affected by the adverse conditions of the rubber and coffee industries. Whatever the future may have in store for Brazil as a producing country, the present purchasing power is created almost entirely by coffee and rubber. The financial situation, which is rightly regarded with considerable alarm by all thinking people in Brazil, is accentuated by the gloomy prospects of these industries.

(C. 4,118.)

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*British Trade Abroad.*

**Persia, Bushire.**—The following information is from the report by H.M. Vice-Consul at Bushire (Mr. H. G. Chick) on the trade of that district for the Persian fiscal year ended 20th March, 1912, which will shortly be issued:—

Conditions are primitive in the immediate hinterland of Bushire, and there is little fresh ground to be exploited by United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters in the immediate present. The interior is not yet a country for the commercial traveller.

Railway transport might change matters, but the only openings which now suggest themselves as possible are:—

The introduction or adaptation, in the neighbourhood of the ports, of *machinery for the treatment of date fibre and for the manufacture of matting, rope and many similar products;*

*Agricultural machinery*, with which experiments have never been made in the hinterland of Bushire, and which is an economic need, though sales could only be properly developed by a firm with an agency in the country, able to find out requirements on the spot, and to educate the people up to a demand for it;

The manufacture in Europe of such implements as *iron bills or spade heads* of a particular shape;

Machine-made imitations at cheaper prices of woven *abbas* (woollen or camel's-hair cloaks);

Imitations of the national felt head-dress of the Southern Persian called *kulaks*, now sold in bazaars for 4 to 8 krans (1s. 6d. to 3s.) each;

Imitations of their national footwear (*maliki's*), often home-made, but commonly sold for 6 to 10 krans (2s. 3d. to 3s. 9d.) per pair in bazaars of towns. The above remarks apply solely to the rural and tribal districts of the littoral; the demand for European articles and the general standard of living and luxury in the towns is on a considerably higher scale.

No separate statistics are available as regards the consumption of goods along the littoral, but prices are largely governed by the state of business up-country.

*Insecurity of caravan routes.*— Since 1908 deterioration in the state of security throughout Southern Persia has been marked; anarchy has each year been worse than in the similar season of the previous year, and the effect on trade is clearly defined in many ways. It may, however, be said at once that the fact that the total import and export trade through Bushire in the year under report (1911-12) showed a large increase on the trade of 1910-11 has little relation to the real position in the interior. As far as imports were concerned, the bulk of the increase was in cottons, and was due to the excessive credit allowed by some firms, to competition for vanity's sake between Persian importing agents, and also to confidence, unfortunately misplaced, in the early restoration of order in Fars; as regards exports, the increase was entirely due to a larger export of opium, the market value of which had advanced greatly on that of 1910-11, and to the export of grain from the littoral in the immediate vicinity of Bushire, which is comparatively little affected by insecurity in the interior.

*British Trade Abroad.*

The actual results of the insecurity on the roads and disorder throughout the province are not easily apparent from the trade statistics, and require explanation. They may be summed up under the headings of (a) enormously increased prices of transport into the interior; (b) losses by Persian merchants unable to obtain in the local centres a selling price sufficient to cover both original invoice price and cost of transport; (c) limitation of area of market for goods from the Persian Gulf when thrown into competition with goods transported more cheaply from the north; (d) impossibility of safe communication between provincial centres like Shiraz and the surrounding country districts, owing to continuous fighting, raiding and marauding, and, consequently, reduced sales to the country districts; (e) congestion of goods in the provincial centres as the result of the above causes, combined with excessive quantities of goods ordered from Europe; (f) in consequence, largely increased indebtedness of Persian firms working on European credit or forced sales of goods at prices involving a heavy loss in order to meet bills and obligations.

Financially, the full effect of this year of large import and dislocation of sales may not be apparent for some little time to come, but there is every reason to apprehend a crash in the near future, when even Persian merchants with large capital of their own—and they are not many—will be badly hit. Already cautious firms are reducing their imports and commitments in Southern Persia; some agencies in the provincial centres have been closed, other firms are seeking safer markets than Persia, while the outstandings of many Persians, outwardly prosperous, are such as to have swallowed up all their private capital.

*Railway developments.*—Considerable interest has been awakened by the announcements of projects for concessions for a Trans-Persian railway, and for a line from Mohammerah on the Persian Gulf through Arabistan, Luristan and Western Persia to Khurramabad, though neither of these railways would be likely to affect the trade radiating from Bushire. Persian merchants on the Bushire-Shiraz-Isfahan route have a better knowledge of, and are more in touch with, the economic advantages derived from railway traction in India and Europe than are the merchants in most parts of Southern Persia, and apart from the question of quicker transport by rail, the trading population is generally alive to the restrictions placed on Persian trade at present by the prohibitive price of transport by caravans. The export trade of Southern Persia is, as regards the interior, reduced to such produce as will repay the cost of transport to the coast. Grain and most seeds and berries will not stand it under existing conditions if they are to be brought from beyond the first coastal range.

*Collection of debts.*—It may not be generally understood by United Kingdom exporters, when they find themselves involved in difficulties with their clients, how easy it is for Persian debtors to defy their creditors, and how slender the means which the Consul, with the best will in the world, is able to employ for the recovery of a claim. So long as business is good and a profit is realised, the Persian importer is generally ready to pay both principal and interest; but

*British Trade Abroad.*

when times are bad all sorts of excuses are made, *e.g.*, interest must be foregone, or shipments were not up to sample or not according to instructions, and so delivery will not be taken, or the debtors will declare themselves unable to pay and allege that their house property is encumbered. In the last resort, the agent of the foreign owner usually applies to the latter's Consular representative to recover the claim. The Consul has to refer to the Karguzar (agent of the Persian Foreign Office in each town where foreign traders are interested), who can summon the debtor to hear the claim and can order his detention on the premises if the case is flagrant. As, however, there is no code of commercial law in Persia, procedure in such cases is entirely by rule of thumb, and a successful issue is only obtained by the Consulate constantly worrying the Persian official for a settlement of the case, and by the employment of stratagem, tact and resourcefulness by the Consul as against the debtor. All too often the agent of the claimant thinks that he has done his duty when he has made a complaint to the Consulate, and is unwilling for private reasons to adopt a strong line against the defendant. The Consul is then left to fulfil the functions of plaintiff, plaintiff's solicitor and counsel as well. On the other hand, the Persian official feels himself bound to support his own national to a certain extent in order to escape the accusation of partiality to foreign interests. The tendency is, therefore, for the Persian official to steer a middle course and prevail on the debtor to pay only a portion of the sum due, and to urge that the plaintiff should accept that portion.

The same process occurs when a disputed claim is taken to the Karguzaret. Each party calls in one or two merchants from among his friends to act as assessors. In many cases the assessors either champion the party on whose behalf they were nominated, or, if his case is a bad one, are disinclined to pronounce openly in favour of the opposite party; the result is that a compromise agreeable to both parties is generally sought.

Unfortunately, in nine cases out of ten, difficulties for the foreign merchant do not close with the settlement at the Karguzaret, and there is no machinery to compel a Persian debtor to pay the sum compromised according to the settlement. The powers of compulsion possessed by Karguzars are very limited. Imprisonment, if pressed for by a foreign Consulate, does not correspond with the severe punishment which it means in Europe; it is simply detention for a few days or weeks, and usually gives the recalcitrant debtor an opportunity to retaliate by mortgaging his property elsewhere, and pleading that his business reputation has been ignored and that he is unable to pay anything.

The absence of a written code of commercial law, with penalties for infraction, is at the bottom of the present unsatisfactory position of trade in Southern Persia. On the other hand, in a country like Persia, where commercial customs are so diverse in different districts, it will always be difficult to get the mercantile classes to recognise a uniform law. Amongst the reforms needed may be mentioned:—

(a) A better acquaintance of Karguzars with international commercial usages and law.

*British Trade Abroad.*

(b) The conduct of enquiries into claims to be more formal than at present and more like a court with a judge.

(c) Karguzars, as judges, to take a more decided line in saying what evidence is admissible or not, and what party is juridically in the right or wrong.

(d) The pronouncement and recording of definite judgments and sentences.

(e) The depositing of security by the party adjudged liable to pay.

(f) Above all, the construction of prisons on the lines of those in India, in which prison labour shall be a deterrent to the fraudulent.

The keeping of no proper account books and the practices followed by many Persian traders, who work on credit supplied them by European firms, of paying for their household wants, buying other goods for their own speculations and purchasing properties all out of the proceeds of goods sent on credit or under lien, are at present unchecked, but need to be assigned a fixed punishment.

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**China, Mengtsz.**—The following information is from the report by Mr. Assistant-Consul H. W. Gammon on the trade of Mengtsz in 1912, which will shortly be issued :—

For the information of any firms desirous of doing business direct with Chinese merchants in the province of Yünnan, it may be mentioned that, with the exception of a tobacco company, there is at the present time no British firm established either in Mengtsz or Yünnanfu. Several large firms in Tonkin and two important German firms maintain foreign agents in one or other of the towns, and in view of the possibility of commercial developments in the Province it would be very desirable if some British firm of standing in China could see its way to open an agency in either Mengtsz or Yünnanfu, or at least to send a representative to investigate local conditions.

REVIEW OF THE COMMERCIAL SITUATION IN  
GERMANY IN 1912.

The following information is from the report of H.M. Commercial Attaché at Frankfort-on-Main (Sir F. Oppenheimer) on the trade of Germany in 1912, which will shortly be issued :—

From an economic point of view 1912 was a year of many records in Germany, due to a record demand at home and abroad. Never before has so great a number of countries shown a similar demand, collectively or individually; never before has the world been so busy manufacturing, carrying and buying.

The leading figures of the German home and foreign trade in 1912 show that Germany had her full share in satisfying the universal demand for merchandise. The value of the German exports (including bullion and specie) in 1912 amounted to over 9,000,000,000 marks, against 8,200,000,000 marks in 1911; the value of the German imports (including bullion and specie) amounted to roughly 10,700,000,000 marks (provisional figures), against 10,000,000,000 marks in 1911. The German production of coal in 1912 amounted to 177,000,000 tons,

*Review of the Commercial Situation in Germany in 1912.*

as against 160,000,000 tons the year before; the home consumption of coal amounted to 156,000,000 tons, as against 144,000,000 tons; and of coke to 24,000,000 tons, as against 21,000,000 tons. The German production of raw iron amounted to roughly 18,000,000 tons, against 16,000,000 tons; the German consumption of iron amounted to 10,400,000 tons, as against 8,900,000 tons in 1911.

The German harvest, the total quantities of which created a record, added considerably to the activities of the year. The following table shows the quantities harvested in 1912, as compared with former records:—

	1912.		Former Records.	
	Tons.	Year.	Tons.	Year.
Wheat ... ..	4,360,624	1911	4,066,335	1911
Rye ... ..	11,598,289	1909	11,348,415	1909
Barley ... ..	3,481,974	1907	3,497,745	1907
Oats... ..	8,520,183	1907	9,149,138	1907
Potatoes ... ..	50,209,466	1905	48,323,353	1905

The intense production, natural and artificial, resulted in an increased use of transport both by land and water. The total receipts of the German railways in 1912 amounted to over 3,100,000,000 marks—which represents an increase of about 200,000,000 marks, or 6·8 per cent., as compared with 1911. The value of the passenger traffic increased by 50,000,000 marks (5·5 per cent.) and the goods traffic by 150,000,000 marks (7·5 per cent.). This increase was reached in spite of the fact that in several of the industrial centres the railway system broke down under the demands made upon it. In the Ruhr district, where the collapse amounted to a national calamity, the local railway traffic board, consisting of business men, had estimated the probable increase in the local traffic for 1912 at 7 per cent.—it actually amounted to 16·6 per cent. in a year in which natural conditions favoured inland navigation to an exceptional degree. During the month of November the daily shortage of trucks in this industrial centre amounted to over 7,000 trucks—for the whole month of November it amounted to 230,000 trucks.

To remedy the shortcomings which the traffic of 1912 revealed, the Prussian State Railways have issued a railway loan (1913) of no less than £27,000,000, partly because it was declared that the shortage of trucks was only an incident of the congestion, which was pre-eminently due to an insufficiency of the lines and the goods stations serving the various industrial centres. Of this loan £9,500,000 are to be spent upon new rolling-stock for the existing lines; £5,500,000 in multiplying existing lines; £5,000,000 for stations, &c.

The steamship companies benefited from the great industrial activity, and, as there was a shortage of tonnage in addition, 1912 will long be reckoned among their best years. Even if the profits were somewhat curtailed by the increased cost of coal and by the increased wages paid to sailors and dock workers, the various steamship companies have declared eminently satisfactory dividends and have been able to add not inconsiderable sums to reserves. The dividends declared in 1911 had already been well above the average—yet in most cases there was a further rise for 1912.

*Review of the Commercial Situation in Germany in 1912.*

Manufacturers complained, as usual, that the boom was one of production but not of profits, because the world's demand had raised the cost of raw materials, the cost of which had been further increased by increased freight charges; that wages were on a rising scale owing to the increased cost of living; that the bank rate was abnormally high; that cash was scarce and payment for orders executed difficult to obtain; and that in many cases orders could only be obtained for counter orders—a practice to which very important concerns especially in the machinery industry have resorted.

The manufacturers' complaints concerning the state of the money market were only too well founded. The following are the average annual discount rates (1907-12) in Berlin in comparison with the rates in the other European money markets:—

—	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Berlin ... ..	6·03	4·76	3·92	4·35	4·40	4·95
London ... ..	4·93	3·01	2·82	3·71	3·47	3·77
Paris ... ..	3·46	3·05	3·00	3·00	3·13	3·33
Vienna ... ..	4·89	4·25	4·00	4·19	4·28	5·14
Amsterdam ... ..	5·10	3·33	2·88	3·37	3·44	3·45

The percentage of the total German export consumed by the Balkan belligerents in 1911 amounted altogether to 2·2 per cent. of the total German export; to the individual States it amounted to:—

Country.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Value in Marks.
Turkey in Europe ... ..	0·6	0·8	1·0	0·9	75,300,000
Turkey in Asia ... ..	0·4	0·4	0·4	0·5	37,300,000
Bulgaria ... ..	0·3	0·3	0·2	0·3	23,900,000
Servia ... ..	0·3	0·2	0·3	0·3	21,300,000
Greece ... ..	0·2	0·2	0·2	0·2	17,800,000

The Balkan war damaged pre-eminently the exports of the German woollen industries, the produce of which occupies the first place in the German exports to Greece, Bulgaria and Servia. But the German textile industries, and more especially woollens, are no longer of the former paramount importance in the German foreign trade; they have long since been surpassed by others, *viz.*, iron (machinery), coal, &c. Indirectly the war injuriously affected also certain German exports to Austria-Hungary and Italy, whose nationals carry on the trade in German commodities with the Balkans (*e.g.*, colour printing, fine leather, &c.). On the other hand the war directly assisted the German export of automobiles, leather goods, ambulance supplies, &c.

The German boom was and still is endangered by the condition of the money market, and it is surprising how thoroughly this difficulty so far has been overcome. It is true there has been an increasing number of bankruptcies, but a number among them could



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*Review of the Commercial Situation in Germany in 1912.*

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be traced more directly to the difficulties of exporting in consequence of the war than to the difficulties of the money market. Nor must it be forgotten that the great increase in the German population produces every year a vast number of new industrial and commercial entities, so that a moderate percentual increase in the rate of the bankruptcies need have no exceptional causes. However, a comparison of the returns of individual quarters shows that in 1912 exceptional causes must have been at work; while the year's average of bankruptcies rose by 5.4 per cent., the increase for the last quarter alone rose by 7.2 per cent. This increase compares very favourably with the increase for the first quarter of 1908—the year of the last industrial slump—when it amounted to nearly 30 per cent.

The present difficulties of the money market have their origin in the Morocco crisis. In consequence of the international tension very considerable amounts of foreign money were then withdrawn. These repayments were effected with comparative ease; certainly the effect upon the German money market did not result in the anticipated difficulties. To avoid as far as possible similar manipulations in the future it was decided that as far as possible the German money market should be kept independent of foreign supplies.

The Morocco crisis was followed by a period of rapidly-developing trade, a good harvest, and a speculative fever—all of which made unprecedented calls upon the money market. For a short period American offers were accepted to ease the market. The Reichsbank found itself compelled to issue a warning against the reckless grants of credit, and advised the banks to practise moderation, whereby alone a paralysation of the money market could be avoided. In response to the official warning a great number of credits used for speculative purposes were undoubtedly closed earlier in the year, and resulted in individual loss and embarrassment; but in the case of the industrial companies the reduction of the open credits naturally resulted in the issue of new shares and debentures, wherewith to repay the banks. The wisdom of this policy is doubtful, for while the status of the various banks was thus improved the companies withdrew further supplies from public circulation.

After the efforts made at educating the public, it proved all the more disappointing that during the recent international crisis large sums should have been withdrawn from savings banks and banks to be hoarded in private homes, chiefly in the districts near the frontiers and especially the eastern frontier. Not only the rural population seemed panic stricken; professional men and leading financiers indulged in this practice of "storing gold in their stockings." Certain it is that the sum total of gold thus withdrawn from circulation is sufficiently vast to have affected and to be still affecting the German money market. These sums will gradually be restored to the banks as the political clouds disperse; yet it is not expected that their return will ease the money market. For the same confidence which will prompt the timid to give up their gold will induce all those industrial concerns which are still in need of funds to offer new issues to the public. There will ensue a plethora of issues, and

*Review of the Commercial Situation in Germany in 1912.*

not private issues alone; there will be municipal loans and State loans, German and foreign. The call for cash will resound with renewed vigour.

Though it appears paradoxical, many believe that the industrial boom, which two wars have failed to affect, will be killed by the peace. Others on the contrary, while not denying the difficulties, present and future, of the money market, believe that peace will serve as a fresh impetus because the loans which will have to be raised by the present belligerents will eventually help German foreign trade; part at least of the money raised will have to be spent on replenishing military stores, on new armaments, on building, and on railway construction, in all of which Germany stands a very fair chance of successful competition.

Similar arguments are being used concerning the effect of the vast military contribution which is to be levied in Germany; the sum of £50,000,000, at present lying idle in small sums scattered all over the Empire, is to be placed in the hands of one of the largest employers in the world. A vast dead capital will thus be suddenly made alive and through innumerable channels will instil its life into the most varied home industries. Thus while all agree that the immediate outlook, chiefly on account of the German money market, is one of anxiety, some already derive fresh hopes for the future from the expected additional burdens.

*German foreign trade generally.*—The annual value of the foreign trade of Germany (excluding bullion and specie) in each year since 1907 was as follows:—

				Imports. Marks.	Exports. Marks.
1907	...	...	...	8,748,700,000	6,846,200,000
1908	...	...	...	7,666,600,000	6,399,200,000
1909	...	...	...	8,526,900,000	6,594,200,000
1910	...	...	...	8,934,100,000	7,474,700,000
1911	...	...	...	9,706,000,000	8,106,100,000
1912	...	...	...	10,292,100,000*	8,888,600,000

\* Provisional. For definitive figures see article on pp. 397-8.

Since the 1908 crisis, in which the value of the imports receded by about 1,000,000,000 marks, the values, both of imports and exports, show a very steady rise. In 1912 the value of imports for the first time exceeded 10,000,000,000 marks. The value of the exports has risen by approximately 30 per cent. since 1907. Yet it must be remembered that these rises are due also to the increased value of many commodities, chiefly of raw materials, so that the increased value does not necessarily point to a corresponding increase in the export traffic. The figures supplied show that the rate of the increase is more rapid in the exports than in the imports. The former applies, however, less to the export of finished goods than to that of raw materials and half-finished goods. In 1907, finished goods plus half-finished goods participated in the export to the extent of 67·7 per cent.; this share subsequently dropped to 64 per cent., but in 1911 rose again to 65·1 per cent. The figures for 1912 are not yet available. Unfortunately German statistics differentiate only between raw materials on the one hand and half-finished and finished goods on the other; but the

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*Review of the Commercial Situation in Germany in 1912.*

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increase in the export is pre-eminently due—not to that of finished articles—but to that of half-finished articles and raw materials.

*Conclusion.*—Generally speaking, it can be said that the international trade between the United Kingdom and Germany shows fewer changes in 1912 than in 1911. The great boom of 1912 has, with the exception of the iron trade, had less effect upon the trade between the two countries than might have been expected. In the total for 1912 increases were balanced by decreases. These two highly-developed economic entities have, for a long period of years, indulged in such an intimate exchange of goods that the general possibilities of trade appear nearly exhausted. In spite of very great efforts, there is hardly any progress; a stage of satiety has been all but reached. Raw materials, agricultural produce and iron products are the pillars supporting this whole foreign trade. The best chances of future developments seem to lie, as far as the German exports to the United Kingdom are concerned, in the results which German scientific methods achieve in their application to industry; *as far as imports into Germany from the United Kingdom are concerned, opportunities lie in an increasing taste for British comfort, refinement and luxury which grows with this German prosperity.* There can be little doubt that if United Kingdom traders made determined efforts in that direction they could succeed in still considerably increasing the value of their exports to Germany.

Mark = 11·8d.

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**PROTECTION OF FUR-BEARING ANIMALS IN ALASKA.****New Regulations.**

The Board of Trade has received from the Department of Commerce, Washington, a copy of the new Regulations, dated 26th March, which have been drawn up for the protection of fur-bearing animals in Alaska. The killing of sea otters is prohibited until 1st November, 1920, and of beavers until 1st November, 1918. The following close seasons are ordered, during which the animals to which they relate must not be either hunted or killed:—Land otter and mink, 1st April to 15th November; marten (American sable) and weasel (ermine), 16th March to 15th November; musk-rat, 1st June to 30th November; lynx (wild cat), 1st March to 15th November; and fox, 1st March to 15th November, except in the region drained by streams running into the Arctic region where the close season lasts from 1st April to 15th November. There is no close season for the black bear, wolf, wolverine, squirrel and hare (rabbit).

The text of the Regulations may be seen by firms in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C. 3,920.)

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## PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

### FIJI.

The Board of Trade have received copy of a Bill which is to be presented to the Legislative Council of Fiji, providing for the protection of certain birds, animals, and fish in the Colony.

**Bill for  
Protection of  
certain Birds,  
Animals and  
Fish.**

The Bill prohibits, *inter alia*, the sale or possession at any time between the 1st September and the 31st March, of any dead game or wild

birds whether native or imported.

"Imported Game" comprises the animals enumerated in the following schedule, viz. :—

#### SCHEDULE A.

Pheasant, partridge, quail, grouse, wild duck, teal, widgeon, emu, native companion, wild turkey, wild goose, or swan, curlew, laughing jackass, magpie, lark, starling, thrush, blackbird, plover, mynah, and the eggs of such birds; deer, antelope.

The expression "native game and wild birds" is to include all birds indigenous to the Colony, and the eggs and progeny of any such birds and game, respectively.

## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

### DOMINION OF CANADA.

The Board of Trade have received from the Canadian Department of Trade and Customs copy of an Appraisers' Bulletin (No. 630), dated 31st December last, giving numerous Customs decisions relative to the rates of duty on goods imported into the Dominion of Canada.

The following are the principal decisions given :—

Articles.	Rates of Import Duty.		
	Under the United Kingdom Preferential Tariff.	Under the Intermediate Tariff.	Under the General Tariff.
Aluminium smallware ... ..	20 % <i>ad val.</i>	—	30 % <i>ad val.</i>
Action piano player... ..	20 % "	27½ % <i>ad val.</i>	30 % "
Adhesive window signs and adver- tising posters gummed on one side	22½ % "	—	35 % "
Asbestos packing ... ..	15 % "	—	25 % "
" " (spiral) ... ..	22½ % "	—	35 % "
Automobile chassis ... ..	22½ % "	30 % <i>ad val.</i>	35 % "
Bags, jute ... ..	15 % "	—	20 % "
" paper ... ..	15 % "	—	27½ % "
Bands, rubber, retread for automobile tyres ... ..	22½ % "	—	35 % "
Brass sheets, polished, and brass weather stripping ... ..	20 % "	27½ % <i>ad val.</i>	30 % "
Cameras ... ..	17½ % "	22½ % "	25 % "
Cars, wicker, side, for use with motor cycles... ..	22½ % "	—	35 % "

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

**DOMINION OF CANADA—continued.**

Articles.	Rates of Import Duty.		
	Under the United Kingdom Preferential Tariff.	Under the Intermediate Tariff.	Under the General Tariff.
Cylinders, steel, for moving picture machines ... ..	17½ % <i>ad val.</i>	22½ % <i>ad val.</i>	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
Doylies and table centres ... ..	20 % "	—	30 % "
Electric stoves... ..	15 % "	25 % "	27½ % "
Felspar, crushed ... ..	15 % "	17½ % "	17½ % "
" erude ... ..	Free	—	Free
Films, moving picture ... ..	17½ % <i>ad val.</i>	22½ % <i>ad val.</i>	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
Heat generators for hot water plants	20 % "	27½ % "	30 % "
Iron, corrugated, galvanised or painted ... ..	20 % "	27½ % "	30 % "
Linsced oil cake ... ..	Free	—	Free
Molasses feed meat for cattle and molassine meal ... ..	15 % <i>ad val.</i>	17½ % <i>ad val.</i>	17½ % <i>ad val.</i>
Quinine and quinine sulphate ... ..	Free	—	Free
Screws, machine, lag and spike ... ..	22½ % <i>ad val.</i>	—	35 % <i>ad val.</i>
Sheets, zinc, perforated ... ..	15 % "	—	25 % "
Shelves of glass ... ..	20 % "	27½ % <i>ad val.</i>	30 % "
Speedometers ... ..	17½ % "	22½ % "	25 % "
Water, mineral, in glass demijohns...	15 % "	17½ % "	17½ % "
Yarn, tow ... ..	Free	—	Free

**FEDERATED MALAY STATES.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt of copies of Customs Notifications (Nos. 581-2) cancelling, with effect from 12th April, 1913, previous Customs Notifications (a), and at the same time imposing new duties on various articles imported into and exported from each of the Federated Malay States.

The rates of import and export duty are, however, the same as those previously in force in each State, except as regards the export duties on the following articles:—

Articles.	Rates of Export Duty.
Jelutong ... .. <i>Per pikul</i>	50 cents.
Tin slag ... ..	At the rate prescribed for tin-ore, unless the consignment is accompanied by a certificate of assay approved by the Warden of Mines, in which case the duty shall be at the rate prescribed for tin smelted or manufactured on the amount of tin estimated to be contained in such consignment.
Oysters, fresh ... .. <i>Per pikul</i>	5 dols. (b).

In the case of tin produced in Upper Perak, the export duty is fixed at 6.15 dols. per pikul, provided that the duty be paid at Kroh (instead of Tasek, as heretofore).

(a) For Perak, Selangor and Negri Sembilan, Notifications Nos. 2787-9 of 1910, 2341 of 1911, and 3151 of 1912; and for Pahang, Nos. 2633 of 1910, 2341 of 1911, and 2444 of 1912.

(b) For Perak Selangor and Negri Sembilan. The duty was previously only levied in Perak.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

**UGANDA PROTECTORATE.**

A copy of an Ordinance (No. 6 of 1913) has been received which amends the Customs Tariff Ordinance No. 6 of 1910 by providing for the free importation of raw cotton into the Protectorate—with effect from 1st January, 1913.

It is, however, provided that such raw cotton may only be accorded free entry when imported solely for the purpose of rehandling, that is ginning and the processes connected therewith, and for packing for export.

**SEYCHELLES.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt of copy of the "Customs Tariff Revision Ordinance," 1913 (No. 3 of 1913), which was assented to by the Governor on the 16th April, 1913. The present Ordinance repeals various Customs Ordinances previously in force, and, at the same time, imposes new duties on articles imported into and exported from the Colony of the Seychelles.

The export duties remain unchanged, but certain amendments are effected in the schedule of import duties.

The following statement shows the principal alterations in the import duties—the old rates being inserted for purposes of comparison:—

Articles.	Rates of Import Duty.	
	Old Rates.	New Rates.
Animals—	R. ets.	R. ets.
Dogs (imported from United Kingdom), horses, ponies, donkeys, and mules	Dogs 8 r. each ; others, free.	{ 3 00 8 00
per head		
Dogs imported from elsewhere		
per head		
Bags (empty, new or old), gunny, vacoa, Madagascar, or of any other straw	part free ; other, 12½ % <i>ad val.</i>	{ 3 cts. <i>per bag.</i>
Biscuits (ships, not sweetened or fancy)	{ In barrels, free ; other, 12½ % <i>ad val.</i>	{ 1 25 <i>per 100 kilos.</i>
Bran, pollard, oats, and grain	{ Bran, 12½ % <i>ad val.</i> ; other, free.	{ 75 cts. <i>per</i> 100 <i>kilos.</i>
Barley and wheat (in bags or casks)	Free	0 50
<i>per 100 kilos.</i>		
Boilers, vats, cisterns and tanks (not forming component parts of machines and machinery)	12½ % <i>ad val.</i>	{ 5 cts. <i>per gallon</i> <i>of capacity.</i>
Bottles (empty, of all sizes, except fancy bottles or decanters)	" "	1 ct. <i>per bottle.</i>
Fruit and vegetables, fresh—		
Ginger	Free	12½ % <i>ad val.</i>
Casks (empty old or new)	12½ % <i>ad val.</i>	5 cts. <i>per cask.</i>
Gandia	26 00	40 00
per kilo.		

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SEYCHELLES—continued.

Articles.	Rates of Import Duty.	
	Old Rates.	New Rates.
Machinery, when using crane <i>per 100 kilos.</i>	R. cts. 2 50	R. cts. See below.
" other ... ..	Free	
Machinery* or apparatus (and the component parts thereof) for the manufacture of sugar, rum, fibre, essential oils, coprah; for the preparation of vanilla or rubber; or machinery and apparatus used for motor boats or lathes ... ..	See above.	3 % <i>ad val.</i>
Opium—		
Crude ... .. per kilo.	26 00	} 60 00
Refined ... .. "	52 00	
Pianos ... ..	12½ % <i>ad val.</i>	35 00 each.
Pitch ... ..	12½ % <i>ad val.</i>	} 1 R. 50 cts. <i>per 100 kilos.</i>
Paddy ... ..	} If classed as "rice": 75 cts. <i>per 100 kilos.</i> Otherwise, 12½ % <i>ad val.</i>	
Spirits—		
Eau de Cologne ... ..	} 12½ % <i>ad val.</i>	1 R. <i>per litre.</i>
Methylated ... ..		25 cts. "
Perfumed ... ..		1 R. 50 cts., "
Shooks, per bundle, containing not more than sufficient to make one barrel, cask or tierce ... ..	" "	5 cts. <i>per bundle.</i>
Tar, coal ... ..	" "	2 R. <i>per 100 kilos.</i>
" Stockholm ... ..	" "	3 R. " "
Turmeric ... ..	" "	3 R. " "
Wines—		
In casks ... .. per hectolitre	9 00	9 00
[A further duty of R. 3 per degree or fraction of a degree of alcohol and per hectolitre above 16 degrees, according to <i>Dujardin Salleron's Ebullimeter</i> †, contained in wines of the proper strength and nature whatever be the country of their origin.]		
In bottles—		
Not exceeding 1 litre per doz. bot.	2 00	2 00
" " 5 decilitres "	1 00	1 00
" " 2½ decilitres "	} Not enumerated in the Tariff.	} 0 50
Wine in any vessel whatsoever not being a cask or a bottle of one litre or less ... .. per litre		
[And a further degree of R. 0.03 per degree or fraction of a degree of alcohol, and per litre above 16 degrees, according to <i>Dujardin Salleron's Ebullimeter</i> † contained in wines of the proper strength and nature, whatever be the country of their origin.]		

\* Machinery is defined in the Ordinance as follows:—"Machinery, *i.e.*, prime movers and component parts thereof, including boilers and component parts thereof; does not include machinery worked by manual or animal power.

The component parts of machinery are those articles which, owing to their shape or to other special quality, are not adapted for any other purpose.

† In the Tariff previously in force, Gay Lussac's alcoholometer was specified.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

**SEYCHELLES**—*continued.*

Articles.	Rates of Import Duty.	
	Old Rates.	New Rates.
Wine— <i>continued.</i>	R. cts.	R. cts.
Champagne and other sparkling wines : Exceeding 1 litre but not exceeding 2 litres ... .. per bottle	0 60	0 60
Not exceeding 1 litre ... .. "	0 30	0 30
" " 5 decilitres per $\frac{1}{2}$ bottle	0 15	0 15
" " $2\frac{1}{2}$ " " $\frac{1}{4}$ " "	Not enumerated in the Tariff.	0 08
Articles of millinery ( <i>articles de mode</i> ) both finished or unfinished, artificial feathers, metal clasps or buckles, ribbons, lace, and all articles made use of by milliners and modistes for purposes of ornamentation...	8 %	See below.
Articles of millinery ( <i>articles de mode</i> ) i.e., bonnets, hats for ladies, trimmed or un- trimmed, braids, trimmings, embroidery, ribbons, entredeux (insertions), artificial flowers, feathers; collars and cuffs for ladies; clasps and buckles, metal; cotton or silk lace; veils and nets ... ..	See above.	8 % <i>ad. val.</i>

The following articles have been added to the free list:—

Articles imported by the clergy for use in or decoration of a church, but not for sale.

Discs or records for gramophones and pianolas.

Coins *not prohibited by law.*

(The italicised words are new.)

Stores imported for the use of foreign-going ships not registered in Seychelles.

Instruments for regimental or *collegiate bands and electrical Instruments for the Eastern Telegraph Company.*

(The italicised words are new.)

Poultry *and birds.*

(The italicised words are new.)

School materials *and chemicals* for the "*bona fide*" use of schools, *when imported through the manager, head master or mistress, and not for sale.*

(The italicised words are new.)

Tiles and bricks for building purposes.

Wearing apparel *arriving as baggage by steamers, but not by Parcel Post.*

(The italicised words are new.)

Colouring matter for use in the manufacture of soap.

Samples *bona fide* not intended for sale, except those of spirits and tobacco.

Articles exported for repair or alteration, and subsequently re-imported, provided that notice of export is given to the Collector of Customs at the time of exportation.

Sprayers for insecticides; utensils *bona fide* imported by agriculturalists for the cultivation of rubber, also substances imported by



*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

**SEYCHELLES**—*continued.*

agriculturalists to be solely used in the destruction of animals, vermin, insects, or other parasites, prejudicial to agriculture.

A schedule is appended to the Ordinance fixing the rates of exchange at which the value of goods coming from various countries in which a gold standard of currency prevails shall be declared for the purpose of levying the "ad valorem" customs duties thereon.

**Rates of Exchange.**

The Ordinance also provides for the following crane dues, viz. :—  
For the use of the crane for lifting heavy goods, per each package or case, 12 cents.

**Crane Dues.**

**BARBADOS.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt of copy of the Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act 1913 (No. 14 of 1913), which was assented to on 28th March, 1913, and which provides for the free importation into Barbados of machinery, implements and apparatus and all other articles and materials required for the construction and working of their system by the Barbados Telephone Company, Limited.

**Free Importation of certain Machinery, &c.**

**FINLAND.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of the following information respecting the Customs treatment of certain articles on importation into Finland :—

**Customs Decisions.**

[1 Finnish mark (100 penni) = 9·6d. ; 100 kilogs. = 220·46 lbs.].

Articles.	Tariff No. under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
Flower-stalks of cloth, half ready for use ... ..	176 (2)	Mks. p. Kilog. 17 60
Opera-glasses, of black lacquered aluminium alloy	206 (2)	100 kilogs. 105 90
Hand bone crushers (dutiabie as agricultural im- plements) ... ..	221 (a)	" 10 60
Springs for bicycle saddle, nickelled ... ..	218	" 47 10
Skin salves ("antexema," &c.) ... ..	200 (3)	100 kilogs. } 258 80 gross. }
Knitted headwear : With a soft crown and brim, with or without stiffening (dutiabie as hosiery) ... ..	249	} Various rates, ac- cording to nature. } Various rates, ac- cording to nature. Each 0 80
With stiffening in the crown, and with brim (dutiabie as hats) ... ..	249	
Furnished with a shade, whether the crown is stiff or soft (dutiabie as caps) ... ..	234	

*Tare on tea.*—The regulation fixing a tare allowance of 30 per cent. for tea contained in wooden boxes lined with lead does not apply to tea contained in such boxes lined with thin sheets of tin. In the latter case, the actual net weight of the tea is to be taken as the basis for assessing duty. (C. 4,310.)

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

**SWEDEN.**

With reference to previous notices in the "Board of Trade Journal" respecting the prohibition of the importation into Sweden of feeding stuffs in used bags, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information to the effect that the prohibition in question has been removed.

**BELGIUM.**

With reference to the notice at pp. 740-742 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 26th September last, respecting a Belgian Royal Decree, dated the 20th August, which provides for the imposition, as from the 1st July, 1913, of specific rates of Customs duty on certain woollen tissues, in place of the existing *ad valorem* duties, the Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy of a Belgian Royal Decree of the 25th April, 1913, modifying the Decree of the 20th August in certain respects, as shewn in the subjoined statement. The Decree of the 20th August, as amended by the present Decree, is to come into force on the 1st July next:—

Tariff No.	Tariff Classification.	Specific Rates of Duty from the 1st July, 1913.	
		As fixed by the Decree of 20th Aug., 1912.	As fixed by the present Decree.
ex 64	Tissues of wool mentioned below— * * * * *	Frs. cts. <i>Per 100 kilogs.</i>	Frs. cts. <i>Per 100 kilogs.</i>
	Tissues of pure wool not mentioned or included elsewhere, weighing per square metre— From 350 to 550 grammes, exclusive—		
	Tissues of carded wool with less than 31 single threads in warp and weft to the square centimetre* ...	105 00	60 00
	Other ... ..		105 00
	550 grammes or more—		
	Tissues of carded wool with less than 31 single threads in warp and weft to the square centimetre* ...	85 00	50 00
	Other ... ..		85 00
	<i>Note.</i> —In determining the number of threads, threads of cotton twisted on threads of wool are not counted.		

\* Excluding tissues containing threads of combed wool.

(C. 4,267.)

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

**NETHERLANDS.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy and translation of a Decree of the Netherlands Minister of Finance, dated the 17th April, which determines the duty applicable under the Dutch Customs Tariff to various articles on importation into the Netherlands. Some of these decisions are noted below :—

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
<i>Cinnamon bark</i> , even if the outer bark has not been removed—dutiabie under the heading "Spices" ... ..	5 % <i>ad val.</i>
" <i>Ferrum cement</i> "—a mixture of iron filings with chloride of lime and chloride of magnesium ... ..	Free
<i>Self-recording apparatus for determining the percentage of carbonic acid</i> in the smoke escaping through factory chimneys—dutiabie under the heading "Instruments" ... ..	5 % <i>ad val.</i>
<i>Machine for drying and pressing shirt collars</i> for ready-made clothing factory, constructed exclusively for being heated by steam—classed as a factory machine ... ..	Free

(C. 4,275).

**FRENCH COLONIES AND PROTECTORATES.**

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 14th May contains a Presidential Decree, dated the 6th May, which provides that, with a view to preventing the propagation of plant diseases caused by animal or vegetable parasites or by non-parasitic worms or insects, the Minister for the Colonies may, by Decrees, which shall indicate the disease and the plants that may be attacked thereby, prohibit the importation into the French Colonies and Protectorates, other than Algeria, Tunis and Morocco, of (1) plants liable to the disease, (2) all other plants with which the disease may be carried, (3) earth and composts that may contain the parasites or non-parasitic worms and insects at any stage of their development. At the same time, the importation of boxes, bags and packings which have served for the transport of prohibited plants, &c., may be forbidden.

In default of prohibition, the Minister may, by Decree, lay down special conditions to which the importation of plants, &c., shall be subject; and he may also regulate the importation of branches, leaves, fruits, seeds, and waste of prohibited plants. (C. 4,421.)

**ROUMANIA.**

With reference to the notice at p. 705 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 27th June, 1912, the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Vice-Consul at Bucharest copy of a Roumanian Ministerial Decision of the 8th March, providing that

**Importation of Untanned, Salted Hides permitted.**

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

**ROUMANIA**—*continued.*

untanned hides and skins, salted, may be imported into Roumania under the following conditions:—

(a) They must be introduced through frontier veterinary stations connected with railways.

(b) They must be accompanied by sanitary certificates attesting that the articles come from healthy animals, and proceed from localities free from anthrax, bovine plague and other epizootic diseases.

(c) The sanitary certificates must be accompanied by a translation into the Roumanian or French language and must be authenticated (*légalisé*) by a public authority (*autorité d'état*).

(d) The official Veterinary Inspector at the frontier will examine the sanitary certificates and ascertain the condition of the hides. If the latter fulfil the conditions laid down, importation will be permitted, but the importer will be required to send the hides immediately and direct, with all necessary precautions, to the manufactory for which they are destined. (9,136.)

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The following is the substance of some decisions affecting the tariff classification of various articles under the United Customs Decisions. States Tariff Act of 1909, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington:—

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
<b>DECISIONS OF THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT.</b>		
<i>Glass-stone and glass-stone buttons and parts thereof</i> (T.D. 33,343) ... ..	427	Dols. cts. Per line* { 0 00½ and 15 % <i>ad val.</i>
<i>Salted melon seed, roasted, dutiable as non-enumerated manufactured articles</i> (T.D. 33,344)... ..	480	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
<b>DECISIONS BY THE BOARD OF GENERAL APPRAISERS.</b>		
<i>Door hinges made of steel, with added fittings of bronze, are not dutiable under paragraph 144 of the Tariff relating to "finished hinges or hinge blanks, whether of iron or steel," where the bronze material is chief value, but are dutiable as articles not specially provided for composed wholly of metal</i> (T.D. 33,337) ... ..	199	45 % <i>ad val.</i>
<i>Cellulose watte or Watoline</i> —An article called "cellulose watte" or "Watoline," composed of a number of layers of thin, soft, creped paper, is dutiable under the provisions of paragraph 410 of the Tariff. That paragraph provides for crêpe paper, bibulous paper, tissue paper and for all papers not specially provided for, weighing not over 6 pounds to the ream, and the final clause therein subjects articles made from such papers to at least the rate of duty imposed by the paragraph on the papers themselves (T.D. 33,347) ... ..	410	Lb. 0 05 and 20 % <i>ad val.</i>

\* The line button measure =  $\frac{1}{10}$  of 1 ineh.

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*


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**COSTA RICA.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office,\* of copy and translation of a Decree of the President of Costa Rica, published on the 1st April, which provides that *samples of jewellery and of articles manufactured of gold or silver* are not to be regarded as samples of merchandise within the meaning of Section 133 of the existing Customs Tariff. The effect of this Decree is to deprive commercial travellers of the privilege of refund of duty in respect of such samples of jewellery, &c.

[*Note.*—Under the Section of the Tariff referred to, commercial travellers' samples of commercial value must be declared and the full duty on them deposited at the Customs house of entry; for this deposit a receipt accompanied by a detailed list of the samples is given, and upon leaving the country within 90 days of arrival, the traveller, upon presentation of the receipt given by the Customs house and after comparison of the list and of the samples, receives back the deposit, less an inclusive charge of 5 cents per kilo. (0.52d. per lb.) upon the gross weight of the samples.] (C. 4,273.)

The Board of Trade are also in receipt, through the same channel, of copy and translation of another Decree of the President of Costa Rica admitting into the Republic duty free, as from the 19th April, boxes of wood and of tinsplate (*lata*) destined exclusively to be used in packing for export fresh or preserved fruits and vegetables (*legumbres*), of national production. (C. 4,273.)

**Duty-free  
Admission of  
Boxes for Packing  
Fruits for  
Exportation.**

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**EXCISE REGULATIONS.****UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.**

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 269 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 30th January last, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Colonial Office, copy of the "Excise (Proposed Duties Procedure) Act, 1913, (No. 7 of 1913)."

**Act fixing  
Time of Operation  
of any  
New Duties.**

The Act provides, *inter alia*, that when any Minister of State gives notice in the House of Assembly of a Resolution to be offered for adoption, for the purpose of imposing or increasing an excise duty upon any article, such duty shall, at and from the time when the notice of intention to move the Resolution was given to the said House, be levied and accrue upon all such articles as have not been delivered from the manufacturers' or dealers' stocks at the said time, as well as upon subsequent additions to such stocks.

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## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### SOUTH AFRICA.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for South Africa (Sir R. Sothorn Holland) has forwarded the following extract from the Report for 1912 of the Board of the South African Railways and Harbours:—

**Suggested Abolition of Preferential Railway Rates.** "The Board desires to invite the attention of Parliament to the necessity of the abolition of preferential railway rates (on South African produce and manufactures) as soon as possible, because of the unsatisfactory results which a system of this sort imposes upon the Administration. The system is an unsound one, and while the Board realises that many South African industries will not be able to flourish without protection against competition from abroad, it feels that it is its duty to urge that the question be dealt with by protection through Customs rather than through railways."

(10,100.)

### RUSSIA (SIBERIA).

H.M. Commercial Attaché at St. Petersburg (Mr. H. Cooke) reports that, according to the "Pravitel Vvestnik" (St. Petersburg) of 11th April, the Council of Ministers has approved, for presentation to the Legislative Chambers, the Bill of the Minister of Ways of Communication providing for the construction of the Verkne-Udinsk-Kiakhta railway by the State at its own expense.

(C. 4,306.)

### GERMAN WEST AFRICA.

H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg (Mr. W. R. Hearn) reports that a German colonial company has been formed in Hamburg under the name of the "Kameruner Schiffahrts-Gesellschaft, Kolonialgesellschaft zu Hamburg," with a capital of £100,000, of which £40,000 is paid up. The founders are the Deutsche Bank, Warburg & Co., the Hamburg-America Line, the Woermann Line, La Compagnie du Congo pour le Commerce et l'Industrie of Brussels, and several other Belgian firms.

The chief object of the company is to start a service of river steamboats in the German Cameroons, Congo, Sangha and Ubanghi, and with this object the company will take over part of the business of the French Société des Messageries Fluviales du Congo, and of the German South Cameroon Company.

(M. 13,837.)

### FRANCE.

The British Vice-Consul at Nantes (Mr. A. Trillot) reports that a sum of 28,500,000 francs has been voted by the French Chamber of Deputies for the improvement of that port. The proposed works consist of deepening the river up to 36 kiloms. (about 22½ miles) above Nantes (4,000,000 francs), rebuilding and improving bridges (6,500,000 francs), embankment, dredging and rock removal in the port (5,000,000 francs), construction of quays on the right bank of the river (8,500,000 francs), and construction of a dry dock (4,500,000 francs).

(10,090.)

25 francs = £1.

*Shipping and Transport.***FRANCE (ALGERIA).**

H.M. Consul-General at Algiers (Mr. B. Cave, C.B.) has forwarded a copy of the report of the Commission appointed to consider proposals for the extension of the port of Algiers. The complete scheme involves an outlay of 103,000,000 frs. (£4,120,000), and comprises the construction of a mole 1,848 metres (2,021 yards) long, and 100 metres (109 yards) wide, forming two basins, with areas of 80 hectares (about 197 acres) and 60 hectares (about 148 acres) respectively, and furnished with five landing stages. Two breakwaters, one, from the extremity of the new large mole, 838 metres (916 yds.) long and the other, an extension of the existing northern breakwater, 850 metres (929 yards) long, will form an outer harbour with an area of 115 hectares (about 284 acres) in front of the existing harbour.

The report of the Commission (in French), together with a plan, may be seen by contractors in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (9,357.)

**ITALY (TRIPOLITANIA AND CYRENAICA).**

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" (Rome) of 7th May publishes a decree containing regulations for the construction and working of State Railways in Tripolitania and Cyrenaica, which will be carried out through the Italian State Railways Administration in Rome, under the direction of the Ministry of Colonies. Contracts for work may be sanctioned by the said Ministry when the cost does not exceed 250,000 lire (about £10,000).

The following lines are at present controlled by the State: - Tripoli harbour to Ain Zara, Fornaci to Tagiura, Tripoli sidings to Zanzur, and Gheran to Azizia.

The "Gazzetta," containing further particulars, may be seen by firms in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (X. 6,407.)

**MEXICO.**

The following information is from the report of the Acting British Consul at Vera Cruz (Mr. J. S. Hutchison) on the trade of that district in 1912, which will shortly be issued:—

The project for a railway to unite Vera Cruz with Tampico, which had been abandoned, has been finally taken up by the National Railways of Mexico (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd May, 1912, p. 390), and will be vigorously pushed, preliminary work having been begun from the Tampico end. This line will open up a very rich agricultural district, the development of which is at present hindered by want of economical means of sending its products to market.

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*Shipping and Transport.*

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Preliminary work has also been carried out in the construction of the Vera Cruz, Tabasco and Campeche Railway; this railway will run from Santa Lucrecia on the Vera Cruz and Isthmus Railway to Campeche, a distance of 450 miles, and will bring this port and Merida, the capital of the State of Yucatan, in touch by rail with Mexico City, the only means of communication between these points hitherto having been by steamer from Vera Cruz. A branch line will also be built to San Juan Bautista, the capital of the State of Tabasco.

**CHINA.**

The following information is from the report by Mr. Assistant-Consul H. W. Gammon on the trade of Mengtsh in 1912, which will shortly be issued:—

The problem of the construction of the Yünnan-Kuangsi Railway. occupied public attention in 1912, and the new Government has evinced a keen desire to put the work in hand as soon as the necessary funds can be obtained. At the present moment the trade of Yünnan passes to and from the coast by the French railway which, owing to the great cost of upkeep, is obliged to charge exorbitant, and in some cases almost prohibitive, freight rates. The construction of a line connecting the province of Yünnan with the West River will of necessity force the French to lower their tariff, thereby introducing a healthy competition which is at present lacking. Indeed, as in 1912 Hong Kong took 86 per cent. of the trade of Mengtsh, which is the market for Eastern Yünnan, there is every likelihood of a large part of the trade being diverted to the new route.

The line was surveyed from Poseh in Kuangsi at the head of navigation on the West River as far as Kutsingfu in Yünnan by Taotai Lo in 1911, and at the time of writing (9th March, 1913), the survey of the portion between Kutsingfu and Yünnanfu is being completed by Mr. Dawlay, the American engineer in the employ of the Yünnan Government, who has found a practicable, though difficult route into Kweichow. The line will strike northwards from Poseh into Kweichow passing through Singyifu, then westwards to Loping in Yünnan, northwards to Kutsingfu, and finally westward to Yünnanfu *via* Malungchow and Yanglin.

The much discussed branch line from the French railway at Pishihchai (Mengtsh) to the tin mines at Kochiu Kochiu Railway. has not yet materialised. The line, which would be some 35 miles long, was carefully surveyed in 1912 by the American engineers, Messrs. Dawlay and Hawks, but the Yünnan Government has been unable to decide whether it shall be built by the mine-owners at their own expense, by the Government as part of a branch line to connect Linanfu with the French railway, or by the French Railway Company. Of the three alternatives, perhaps the last offers the best solution of the difficulty, as the cost would be less and the workmanship better—the line being built by French engineers who have had experience of local conditions when constructing the main line from Tonkin to Yünnanfu.

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## MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY. MEXICO.

The following information is from the report by the British Vice-Consul at Tuxpan (Mr. G. A. Graham) on the trade of that district in 1912, which will shortly be issued:—

As a result of the completion of the Mexican Eagle Oil Company's installation of land and sea pipe lines and pump stations, a steady exportation of crude oil was commenced from Tuxpan, which amounted to 177,413 metric tons, with a declared value of £125,400, during 1912. All this, however, was practically shipped during the last six months of the year, so that these figures will be greatly increased during 1913. So far this is practically the output of one well—the famous Potrero gusher, which so far shows no sign of reduction in outflow. It is understood that the laying of an additional line from the well to the sea coast is contemplated, as the one in use cannot even cope with the product of this one well, and there are others in the neighbourhood, though of less producing capacity. There is also talk of an oil refinery, originally planned for Tampico by the Eagle Oil Company, being erected at Tuxpan instead.

There have been no further oil developments, although other oil companies have interests at Tuxpan and one new company has started work.

## YARNS AND TEXTILES.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The following statement, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced, in British India and the Native States during the eleven months ended February, 1911, 1912, and 1913, has been extracted from a return issued by the Indian Government:—

		Eleven months ended February.		
		1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.
<b>BRITISH INDIA AND NATIVE STATES.</b>				
Cotton yarn spun	... .. Lbs.	563,941,515	569,657,896	633,483,640
Grey and bleached piece goods	... .. Lbs.	177,735,169	187,981,703	195,474,051
	... .. = Yards	767,248,304	808,932,972	844,505,822
Coloured piece goods	... .. Lbs.	48,558,119	55,360,418	67,383,888
	... .. = Yards	199,805,140	234,642,004	287,424,772
Grey and coloured goods (other than piece goods)	... .. Lbs.	1,502,202	1,504,399	1,681,908
Hosiery	... .. "	591,394	478,097	467,330
Miscellaneous goods	... .. "	66,195	67,285	198,436
<b>Total of woven goods</b>	... .. "	<b>228,453,079</b>	<b>245,391,902</b>	<b>265,205,613</b>

### Yarns and Textiles.

#### RUSSIA (TURKESTAN).

The "Vyestnik Finansov" (St. Petersburg) of 11th May publishes an official report, issued by the Moscow Silk Growing Committee, on silk cultivation in Russian Turkestan in 1911. As will be seen from the following figures Fergana easily occupies the first place in the production of silk cocoons, Samarkand coming next and Syr-Daria last:—

District.	Eggs hatched.			Yield of Cocoons.		
	1909.	1910.	1911.	1909.	1910.	1911.
	Zolotniks.	Zolotniks.	Zolotniks.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
Fergana ... ..	474,689	537,251	478,900	146,741	163,972	147,800
Samarkand ... ..	84,491	87,475	77,649	20,599	23,753	19,405
Syr-Daria ... ..	3,865	*	*	2,196	1,921	*

\* Figures not available.

3840 zolotniks = 1 pound = 36 lbs.

The only place in which any progress is being made in Samarkand is at Khodzhenk. Syr-Daria is so insignificant that probably producers there are not all officially registered; it will be observed that complete figures are only available up to 1910, in which year the total yield of cocoons amounted to 189,646 pounds.

#### GERMANY.

H.M. Vice-Consul at Leipzig (Mr. R. M. Turner) reports that, according to the "Wochenberichte der Leipziger Monatschrift für Textil-Industrie", the amount invested in German textile concerns during the first quarter of this year was only 6,880,000 marks (about £344,000), as compared with 11,590,000 marks (about £579,000) during the corresponding period of last year. This difference appears all the greater in view of the fact that a very large majority of the new companies formed were conversions of existing private firms. A further feature of the movement of capital in the industry is the increased requirements of existing companies. Only 16 new companies were formed during the first quarter of this year, as compared with 28 during the corresponding period of last year. (C. 3,950.)

#### JAPAN.

H.M. Commercial Attaché at Yokohama (Mr. E. F. Crowe) has furnished the following statistics relating to cotton spinning and weaving in Japan, in continuation of those given on p. 197 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 24th October, 1912:—

*Yarns and Textiles.***JAPAN—continued.**

	July-December, 1911.	January-June, 1912.	July-December, 1912.
<b>Spinning—</b>			
Companies ... .. No.	32	32	32
Daily average of working spindles—			
Ring ... .. "	1,771,828	1,884,850	2,011,107
Mule ... .. "	24,632	30,439	41,986
Total ... .. "	1,796,460	1,915,289	2,053,093
Cotton consumed ... .. Lbs.	273,311,414	300,326,025	329,706,951
Average count produced—			
Ring ... .. "	22.8	23.4	23.0
Mule ... .. "	34.7	40.1	45.0
Production of yarn—			
Ring ... .. Lbs.	232,071,952	261,149,894	286,443,352
Mule ... .. "	1,497,430	1,522,153	1,650,901
Total ... .. "	233,569,382	262,672,047	288,094,253
Daily average of yarn per spindle—			
Ring ... .. Ozs.	11.9	13.1	13.3
Mule ... .. "	9.2	8.8	6.7
Waste cotton ... .. Lbs.	35,439,287	34,241,747	38,173,605
" yarn ... .. "	1,963,583	2,195,764	2,486,872
Operatives—			
Male ... .. No.	17,278	18,150	18,691
Female ... .. "	73,718	79,049	82,508
Average daily wage—			
Male ... .. Sen.	45.49	46.08	47.28
Female ... .. "	29.18	30.06	31.01
<b>Weaving—</b>			
Companies ... .. No.	15	16	16
Looms ... .. "	18,284	19,781	20,635
Production of cotton goods Yds.	147,739,064	165,330,835	177,253,849
Operatives—			
Male ... .. No.	2,551	2,716	2,873
Female ... .. "	16,860	17,678	18,333
Average daily wage—			
Male ... .. Sen.	47.8	49.6	50.9
Female ... .. "	32.4	34.3	35.4

100 sen = 1 yen = 2s. 0½d.

Further particulars as to the amount of capital, output, &c. of the various Japanese cotton spinning and weaving companies may be seen by firms in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

(10,388.)

## AGRICULTURAL & FOREST PRODUCTS.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the Inspectors of Corn Returns, in the week ended 17th May, 1913, were as follows:—

#### Corn Prices.

Wheat	...	...	...	...	32s. 10d.
Barley	...	...	...	...	25s. 4d.
Oats	...	...	...	...	19s. 9d.

For further particulars see p. 437.

A statement is published on p. 438 showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended 17th May, 1913, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1912.

#### Imports of Agricultural Produce.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended 15th May, 1913, was 47,717 (including 871 bales British West Indian, 818 bales British West African, and 232 bales foreign East African), and the number imported during the twenty weeks ended 15th May was 1,832,542 (including 4,695 bales British West Indian, 6,040 bales British West African, 13,893 bales British East African, and 1,921 bales foreign East African). The number of bales exported during the week ended 15th May was 4,774, and during the twenty weeks, 225,771.

For further details see p. 437.

### CEYLON.

The following statistics of the exports of rubber of domestic production from Ceylon during the month of February and the two months ended February, 1912 and 1913, have been extracted from official returns issued by the Ceylon Government:—

To	Feb., 1912.	Feb., 1913.	Jan.-Feb., 1912.	Jan.-Feb., 1913.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
United Kingdom ... ..	805,204	1,016,603	1,386,219	2,123,162
United States ... ..	574,391	1,301,192	816,553	1,693,660
Other countries ... ..	273,080	257,601	429,870	516,515
Total exports of rubber of domestic production ...	1,652,678	2,575,396	2,632,642	4,333,337

### FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

The following figures of the exports of cultivated rubber from the Federated Malay States during the first quarter of 1913 have been furnished by the Commissioner of Trade and Customs at Kuala Lumpur, the corresponding figures for 1912 being added for purposes of comparison:—

#### Rubber Exports during January- March, 1913.

*Agricultural and Forest Products.*

	1912.	1913.
	Lbs.	Lbs.
January ... ..	2,730,576	4,772,880
February ... ..	2,715,767	3,936,529
March ... ..	3,089,558	3,891,619
Total for the Quarter ... ..	8,535,901	12,601,028

**RUSSIA.**

The official "Vyestnik Finansov" (St. Petersburg) of 4th May publishes the first complete report, issued by the Central Statistical Committee, relative to the crop results in Russia in 1912. According to this report the total area under oats and other cereals, potatoes and natural grass in 1912, extending over 89 Governments and Provinces, amounted to 133,720,606 dessiatines, 13 per cent. of which was under oats, 56·8 per cent. under other cereals, 3·2 per cent. under potatoes, and 27 per cent. under natural grass. Compared with the yearly average for the quinquennial period, 1907-1911, this represents an increased area under cultivation of 2·6 per cent., or 3,393,000 dessiatines. As regards the total area under cereals (excluding oats), 45·1 per cent. was under winter grain (rye and wheat) and 54·9 per cent. under spring grain. The following table shows the yield of the more important crops in 1912, together with the area sown:—

	Area.	Yield.
	Dessiatines.	Pouids.
Rye (winter) ... ..	26,757,586	1,602,263,300
Wheat (spring) ... ..	21,395,078	868,601,300
Barley (spring) ... ..	11,073,983	639,938,800
Wheat (winter) ... ..	7,537,268	463,054,100
Millet ... ..	3,110,026	145,948,400
Buckwheat ... ..	1,924,785	77,829,000
Maize ... ..	1,893,173	177,387,600
Oats ... ..	17,371,806	965,299,600
Potatoes ... ..	4,313,649	2,318,767,400

Dessiatine = 2·7 acres : 1,000 pouids = 16 tons (about).

**NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES (JAVA).**

H.M. Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. W. A. Churchill) reports that a **Cinchona Combine** syndicate composed of the Java cinchona bark planters and the quinine manufacturers of the world (11 in number) has come to an agreement under which the planters undertake not to sell cinchona bark to anyone excepting the 11 manufacturers included in the contract. The agreement will come into force on 15th June, for a period of from three to five years, and it has been arranged to increase the price of **Formed.**

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*Agricultural and Forest Products.*

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cinchona bark by 2 gulden per kilogram. (about 1s. 6d. per lb.). The increased profits resulting from the agreement will be equally divided amongst the two contracting parties, *i.e.*, the planters and the manufacturers. (C. 4,276.)

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**PORTUGUESE GUINEA.**

The Board of Trade is notified by the Foreign Office that, according to a recent report received by the Portuguese Government from the Governor of Portuguese Guinea, it appears that there are large tracts of land in that Colony which are covered with palms, but these regions are either unexplored or only imperfectly explored. The lands can be granted in feu ("aforamento") by public auction up to a maximum of 25,000 hectares (61,750 acres), but foreigners cannot acquire such concessions unless they are either naturalised Portuguese citizens or have resided in Portuguese territory for more than six months. (C. 4,079.)

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (PHILIPPINE ISLANDS).**

The following information is from the report by H.M. Vice-Consul at Manila (Mr. W. M. Royds) on the trade of the Philippine Islands in 1912, which will shortly be issued:—

The total value of sugar exported in 1912 was £2,020,904, or £279,236 less than in 1911. Prices ruled lower than in that year and the output was smaller.

**Sugar Industry.** The crop in the Island of Luzon, as shown by shipments from the port of Manila, appears to have been some 5,000 tons less than that of the year 1911. A large crop was looked for, but the long drought during the first half of the year caused the decrease in production, owing to the standing cane not maturing. The present crop for the same cause is reported to be very small. Efforts are being made to improve the system of agriculture, and modern machinery, in the form of small centrals, is slowly being introduced. A gradual improvement in the quality of the sugar, which is greatly needed, may be looked for in the future.

In the southern islands several modern mills are in course of erection, or planned, and sugar machinery will without doubt be in considerable demand for some time to come.

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**HAYTI.**

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Port-au-Prince (Mr. J. Pyke) reports, under date 30th April, that the coffee crop of Hayti shows great promise, and is expected to give a larger yield than that of 1911-12, which was more than 80,000,000 lbs. (10,756.)

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*Agricultural and Forest Products.***VENEZUELA.**

The following information is from the report by H.M. Consul at Ciudad Bolivar (Mr. C. de Lemos) on the trade of that district in 1912, which will shortly be issued:—

Balata continues to head the list of exports from Ciudad Bolivar, although the quantity exported in 1912 was only **Balata.** 1,686,337 kilogs., valued at £365,241, as compared with 2,179,031 kilogs., valued at £503,022, in 1911, a considerable falling-off. This decreased production was expected, and was due to the exceptional drought which prevailed during part of the year. The crop for 1913 promises, however, to be again a large one, and is likely to compensate for the shortage of 1912.

Owing to the high value of tonca (or Tonquin) beans more interest has lately been displayed in this product, which is principally employed in the manufacture of tobacco and for the extraction of perfume. The bean is the kernel of the fruit of the sarrapia tree which grows wild in the extensive forests of Guayana. The trees produce heavy crops generally once in four years, while the intermediate crops are small as the tree appears to become exhausted after each heavy bearing and to require several seasons for the recovery of its strength. The crop for 1912 was a limited one of 30,737 kilogs. On the other hand, the crop for 1913 again promises to be a very large one. In fact it is expected that it will create a record, and the total yield has been estimated to reach from 400,000 to 500,000 kilogs. In anticipation of such a large production, which it would take about three or four years to absorb on the ordinary basis of consumption, a sharp drop in price has occurred, the quotation having fallen from 20s. to about 3s. per lb

**ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.**

The "Textil Zeitung" (Berlin) of 13th May states that the cotton growing experiments which have been carried on this year in Salta have been entirely satisfactory. **Cotton Growing in Salta.** With the aid of a system of irrigation the cotton plants developed extremely well, a circumstance which is due to the excellent climate and soil. There were instances where plants bore fully developed bolls about two months after sowing. At the outset some havoc was caused by ants, but after these were destroyed and the damaged buds removed no further difficulties were encountered.

Different varieties of cotton seeds were sown in order to demonstrate the different results. The crop would probably be gathered in last month (April), and according to the indications the results promised to be very satisfactory.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

According to a report in the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" for May\*, based on 5,906 statistical returns, *viz.*,  
**Labour Market in April.** 3,115 returns from trade unions (relating to 912,046 members), and 2,791 returns from employers (relating to 1,293,512 workpeople), employment was very good in April, especially in coal mining, engineering and shipbuilding. There was a seasonal advance in the building, brickmaking and woodworking industries, and some improvement in the printing trades. On the other hand employment at iron and steel works showed a slight decline from the previous high level, while the tinplate trade continued to be affected by adverse conditions. Textiles on the whole showed no marked change.

In the trade unions, with a net membership of 912,046, making returns, 15,719 (or 1·7 per cent.) were returned as unemployed at the end of April, 1913, compared with 1·9 per cent. at the end of March, 1913.

The upward movement in wages continued.

It is reported by Labour Exchanges that there was a continuance of the large demand for workmen of all classes in the shipbuilding trades, and in the engineering and building trades there was a scarcity of labour in some districts, while painters were in general demand. In the case of women, the demand exceeded the supply in the cotton, woollen, worsted, linen and clothing trades and in laundry work. There was also a scarcity of women in the Birmingham jewellery trade.

\* For list of principal contents, see p. 432.

**Bankruptcy Statistics.** A statement showing the number of receiving orders and of administration orders under Sec. 125 (Deceased Debtors' Estates) of the Act of 1883 gazetted in England and Wales during the month and four months ended April, 1913, will be found on p. 439.

### RUSSIA.

The "Vyestnik Finansov" (St. Petersburg) of 27th April states, in an article on shipping at Riga in 1912, that  
**Trade of Riga in 1912.** Riga is an important exporting port in Russia, and occupies a dominant position in regard to certain goods, such as timber and flax. The value of the merchandise exported in 1912 amounted to 210,847,000 roubles, or 31,500,000 roubles more than in 1911, whilst imports were valued at 104,214,000 roubles, or 4,214,000 roubles in excess of 1911. The imports of cotton amounted to 446,000 pouds, whilst no less than 49,382,000 pouds of coal were imported through Riga, compared with 38,935,000 pouds in 1911. Among exports from this port may be mentioned 7,910,000 pouds of flax (5,527,000 pouds in 1911), 1,295,000 pouds of hemp (an increase of 206,000 pouds over 1911), 3,491,000 pouds of linseed (3,173,000 pouds in 1911), 982,000 pouds of tow from flax (603,000 pouds in 1911), and 119,000 pouds of tow from hemp (97,000 pouds in 1911). The exports of hides and skins through Riga also increased in value to some 38,000,000 roubles, notwithstanding the large shipments of these articles through Libau.

Rouble = 2s. 1½d.; 1,000 pouds = 16 tons (about).



*Miscellaneous.***FRANCE.**

With reference to the notice on p. 102 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 10th April relative to the proposed closing of sardine factories in Brittany for the present season, the British Vice-Consul at Nantes (Mr. A. Trillot) reports that the National Syndicate of Tinned Sardine Manufacturers ("Syndicat National des Fabricants Français de Conserves de Sardines") has decided to accept the offer of the fishermen of Sables d'Olonne to submit the dispute to arbitration. The arbitrators will have to determine whether the present condition of the French tinned sardine industry justifies a larger and more regular supply of fish to the factories; whether, in the event of the old methods of fishing failing to provide two-thirds of the requirements of the factories, the liberty to use more modern nets should not be considered the only efficient remedy; and whether the appointment of a commission of members of both parties, and the acceptance of a minimum price in the event of drag nets being used, would sufficiently protect the fishermen's interests, and if not, what further guarantees should be given.

The decision of the arbitrators will be binding on the fishermen and factory owners of the Departments of Vendée, Loire-Inférieure, Morbihan and Finistère. (C. 4,016.)

**ROUMANIA.**

The "Frankfurter Zeitung" of 18th May announces, on the authority of a German Consular Report, that a general improvement has set in in all branches of industry in Roumania. Owing to the unsettled conditions in the Balkans during the past few months very few orders have been placed, and consequently warehouse stocks have been greatly depleted. To make up this deficiency, therefore, a good deal of business has been done both in home and foreign goods during the past few weeks. The greatest impetus to trade, however, may be expected on the definite conclusion of peace, and when the questions outstanding between Roumania and Bulgaria are finally settled. It is anticipated that in this event financial firms would soon become more liberal in extending credit to their clients. The only exception to the general improvement is in the case of Upper Moldavia, where trade is still suffering from last year's bad harvests. No important bankruptcies have occurred recently. It is very desirable, adds the "Frankfurter Zeitung," that *foreign firms should act with caution when extending credit to Roumanian firms, and this should only be done after careful enquiries have been made regarding their stability. Laxity in this direction has already cost foreign firms large sums of money, and has seriously prejudiced the reputation of Roumanian industry, which includes, nevertheless, a good number of sound business firms.*

## 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 April, 1913, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased\* at a cost, in the present instance, of 1s. 6d. per copy, exclusive of postage.

Attention is further called to the fact that three volumes of the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1911 have been issued, and may be purchased\* at a cost of 5s. 5d. for the first volume, 3s. 6d. for the second, and 3s. 1d. for the third. 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 1907-1911, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article consigned from and to each country, and in the second volume details as to Customs revenue, transshipments and articles in bond, 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. The third volume (supplement) contains a classification on the basis followed in Volumes I. and II. of the "Annual Statement" for 1908 and earlier years.

It may be noted that beginning with the issues for 1909 the figures of Volumes I. and II. relate to the countries of *consignment* for imports, and countries of final destination, so far as known, for exports. A supplementary volume will continue to be issued, in which particulars will be given, as mentioned above, on the same basis as those published (up to the year 1908) in the first two volumes. By this means it will be possible to trace the details of the differences resulting from the change of system for a further limited period.

### BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"\* is published (price 1d.) by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the May issue:—The Labour Market in April; Recent Conciliation and Arbitration Cases; Earnings and Hours of Labour in Various Trades; Census of Buildings, England and Wales; New South Wales Industrial Arbitration Act, 1912; Output and Employment in Coal Mines in 1912; Sick Funds and Maternity Benefit in Sweden; Trade Unions in the United States; Strikes in the Russian Empire in 1911.

### FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following reports of the **Annual Series** have been issued by the Foreign Office since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal":—

**No. 5,056. Shipping and Navigation of Antwerp in 1912. Price 8d.**

Additions to the port.	Inland navigation.
Proposed extensions (with plan).	Passenger communications.
	Shipbuilding.

\* Copies of Government publications may be purchased, either directly or through any bookseller, from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C.; and 54, St. Mary Street, Cardiff; or H.M. Stationery Office (Scottish Branch), 25, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or E. Ponsoby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies, the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of T. Fisher Unwin, London, W.C.

*Government Publications.***No. 5,059. Trade of Pakhoi (China) in 1912. Price 3d.**

Opium trade.	Clothing trade.
Cotton and woollen piece goods trade.	Map.

**No. 5,060. Trade of St. Pierre and Miquelon in 1912. Price 4d.**

Fisheries.	Steamship communications.
Industries.	Map.

**No. 5,061. Trade of Kiungchow (China) in 1912. Price 2½d.**

Opium imports.	Native passenger traffic.
Clothing trade.	Map.

**No. 5,062. Trade of Kiukiang (China) in 1912. Price 3d.**

Railways.	Map.
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**No. 5,063. Trade of the Cape Verde Islands in 1912. Price 3d.**

Coffee, "purgueira" (oil seed), and sugar production.	Coal trade. Map.
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**No. 5,064. Trade of the Consular District of Colima (Mexico) in 1912. Price 3d.**

Steamship communication with Manzanillo.	Public works at Mazatlan.
Pearl fishing at Mazatlan.	Map.

**No. 5,065. Trade of the Consular District of Patras in 1912. Price 2½d.**

Balkan War and its effect on trade.	Currant crop. Agriculture.
Fish imports.	Map.

**OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.**

*East India (Trade). Tables relating to the Trade of British India with British Possessions and Foreign Countries, 1907-08 to 1911-12. [Cd. 6,783.] Price 1s. 1d.*

*Railway Accidents. Returns of Accidents and Casualties as reported to the Board of Trade by the several Railway Companies in the United Kingdom during the year ended 31st December, 1912. [Cd. 6,776.] Price 4d.*

According to this report, 1,011 persons were killed and 8,700 injured on railways in the United Kingdom in the course of public traffic during 1912, the corresponding figures for 1911 being 1,070 and 8,345 respectively. In addition, 107 people were killed and 23,920 injured in 1912 by accidents which occurred upon railway premises, but in which the movement of vehicles used exclusively upon railways was not concerned, the corresponding figures for 1911 being 89 and 23,913 respectively.

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*Government Publications.*

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*First Report of the Board of Agriculture for Scotland, being for the nine months ended 31st December, 1912. [Cd. 6,757.] Price 5½d.*

The Board of Agriculture for Scotland was formed in accordance with the provisions of the Small Landholders (Scotland) Act, and was created on 1st April, 1912, the date the Act came into force. The Board also took over the work of the Congested Districts Board and certain duties previously performed in Scotland by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries (England). The Board's offices are at 29, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

*Thirty-first Annual Report of the Fishery Board for Scotland, being for the year 1912. (Cd. 6,764.) Price 1s. 9d.*

In addition to the General Report, this publication includes the reports on the Salmon Fisheries and on Scientific Investigations, which were issued separately prior to 1910.

The total quantity of fish of all kinds (exclusive of shell fish) landed in Scotland in 1912 was 8,587,106 cwts. This was an increase of 75,132 cwts. as compared with 1911. The total value of the 1912 catch was £3,656,178, exceeding that of the catch of the previous year by £528,249.

*Light Railways Act, 1896. Report of the Proceedings of the Board of Trade up to 31st December, 1912, and of the Proceedings of the Light Railway Commissioners up to the same date. (H.C. 113.) Price 2d.*

*Gold Coast. Correspondence relating to the Form of Lease of Oil-palm Lands in the Gold Coast Colony. (Cd. 6,673.) Price 1d.*

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## 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 Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, and which are open to inspection in the Reading Room of the Branch at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. :—

### NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS.

#### Agricultural, Dairy and Forest Products.

- Almond Crop of Sicily.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 8th May.
- Caoutchouc Cultivation in Sumatra.  
 "Der Tropenpflanzer" (Berlin), May.
- Wine Trade in Algeria.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 3rd May.
- Preservation Tests on Poles.  
 "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York), 3rd May.
- Russian Flax Industry.  
 "Torgovo - Promyshlennaya Gazeta," (St. Petersburg), 7th May.
- Sugar Cane Experiments in British Guiana.  
 "West Indian Bulletin" (Barbados), Vol. XIII, No. 2.
- Crop Report of Germany.  
 "Deutscher Reichsanzeiger" (Berlin), 7th May.
- Crop Prospects in Servia.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 8th May.
- Grain Crops of Austria, 1912.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 8th May.
- Crop Report of Russia.  
 "Torgovo - Promyshlennaya Gazeta" (St. Petersburg), 6th May.
- Crop Prospects of Hungary.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 8th May.
- Agricultural Conditions in Tripoli.  
 "Tropenpflanzer" (Berlin), May.
- Sugar Trade of Trieste, 1st Quarter, 1913.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 8th May.
- Sesamum Crop in India: Forecast.  
 "Indian Trade Journal" (Calcutta), 24th April.
- Protection of Beehives.  
 "Bulletin des Halles" (Paris), 10th May.
- Sugar Production of Java in 1912.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 30th April.
- Rubber Plantations in German East Africa.  
 "Tropenpflanzer" (Berlin), May.
- Tea Exports from Fuchow.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 30th April.

#### Machinery, Hardware, and Engineering.

- New Design of Electric Locomotive.  
 "Engineering News" (New York), 1st May.
- Mechanics of Knitting.  
 "American Wool and Cotton Reporter" (Boston), 1st May.
- Ironware Trade of Straits Settlements.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 3rd May.
- Rational Culvert Formula.  
 "Engineering News" (New York), 1st May.

#### Metals, Mining and Minerals.

- Iron and Steel Production in Germany, April, 1913.  
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 8th May.
- Tin Mining in the Federated Malay States.  
 "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York), 3rd May.
- Coal Market of Upper Silesia.  
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 13th May.
- Fig Iron: Variation of Prices.  
 "Iron Age" (New York), 1st May.
- World's Leading Gold Mines.  
 "South African Mining Journal" (Johannesburg), 19th April.
- Talc in Canada.  
 "Pulp and Paper Magazine" (Toronto), 1st May.
- Concentration of Telluride Ores.  
 "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York), 3rd May.
- Annealing of Steel Castings.  
 "Iron Age" (New York), 1st May.
- Soda Deposits in Mongolia.  
 "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels), 10th May.
- Bar Iron Market of Germany.  
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 10th May.
- Manganese Ore Industry of Nikopol (S. Russia) in 1912.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 6th May.
- Rapid Silver Estimation in Mill Solutions.  
 "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York), 3rd May.
- Soda Industry in the Transvaal.  
 "South African Mining Journal" (Johannesburg), 19th April.
- Coal and Iron Market of Belgium.  
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 14th May.

*Foreign and Colonial Publications.*

**NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS—continued.**

**Metals, Mining and Minerals—continued.**

- Iron Industry of Sweden in 1912.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin),  
 30th April.
- Manganese Exported from Trans-  
 caucasus in February.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin),  
 30th April.

**Railways, Shipping and Transport.**

- The Pondicherry-Villapuram Railway.  
 "Dépêche Coloniale" (Paris), 9th  
 May.
- Canal Statistics of Canada.  
 "Monetary Times" (Toronto) 26th  
 April.
- Projected Railway in Southern Siberia.  
 "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels).  
 10th May.

**Textiles and Textile Materials.**

- Cotton Industry of Germany.  
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 10th May.
- Textile Market of France.  
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 7th  
 May.
- Hosiery Market of Saxony.  
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 7th May.
- Cotton Experiments in Bombay.  
 "Indian Trade Journal" (Calcutta),  
 24th April.
- Kapok in German Colonies.  
 "Dépêche Coloniale" (Paris), 14th  
 May.
- Woolen Industry of Germany.  
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 9th May.
- Carpet Trade of Beirut.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin),  
 6th May.
- Silk Cocoon and Silk Trade of Beirut.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin),  
 8th May.

**Textiles and Textile Materials—continued.**

- Silk and Velvet Market of Germany.  
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 7th May.
- Flax Spinning Industry of Germany.  
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 9th May.
- Commercial, Financial and Economic.**
- United States Bank Clearings in April,  
 1913.  
 "Broadstreets" (New York), 3rd  
 May.
- Barmen Chamber of Commerce Report,  
 1912.  
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 8th May.
- Argentine: Hints to Traders.  
 "Weekly Report" (Department of Trade,  
 Canada), 7th April.
- Dresden Chamber of Commerce Report,  
 1912.  
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 13th  
 May.
- German Bourse Movement in April.  
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 9th May.
- United States Failures in April, 1913.  
 "Broadstreets" (New York), 3rd May
- China: Trade of Tientsin, 2nd half-year,  
 1912.  
 "Handelsberichten" (The Hague), 8th  
 May.

**Miscellaneous.**

- Fishing in Gothenburg in 1912.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin),  
 30th April.
- Pulp and Paper under the Microscope.  
 "Pulp and Paper Magazine" (Toronto),  
 1st May.
- Switzerland: Meat Imports.  
 "Handelsberichten" (The Hague),  
 8th May.
- Cellulose Manufacture.  
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 13th May.
- Rubber Tyre Trade of Italy.  
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin),  
 30th April.

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.**

- Aden**—Trade and Navigation Returns,  
 1911-12.
- Australian Commonwealth**—Statement of  
 Imports, Duties, Local Production, in-  
 cluding Wages and Salaries paid, in  
 various Trades in 1908-11.
- Western Australia**—Statistical Register for  
 1911.—Part V. Land Settlement, Agri-  
 culture and Live Stock.

- British Guiana**—Customs Revenue, Trade  
 and Shipping in 1912.
- Germany**—Commercial and Industrial  
 Directory of Germany, 1913 (in  
 German).
- Italy**—Shipping Statistics for 1911, Vol. II.  
 (in Italian).

**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 20 weeks ended 15th May, 1913 :—

	Week ended	20 Weeks	Week ended	20 Weeks
	15th May, 1913.	ended 15th May, 1913.	15th May, 1913.	ended 15th May, 1913.
	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American ... ..	35,617	1,365,338	2,054	92,133
Brazilian ... ..	—	110,047	25	7,421
East Indian ... ..	3,331	39,036	200	16,879
Egyptian ... ..	5,867	260,704	2,347	104,037
Miscellaneous ... ..	2,902*	57,417†	148	5,301
Total ... ..	47,717	1,832,542	4,774	225,771

\* Including 871 bales British West Indian, 818 bales British West African, and 282 bales foreign East African.

† Including 4,695 bales British West Indian, 6,040 bales British West African, 13,893 bales British East African, and 1,921 bales foreign East African.

NOTE.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond," if described as such in the ships' reports, was not included in this return prior to 3rd November, 1911, but has been included since that date.

**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 17th May, 1913, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

	Average Price.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
Week ended 17th May, 1913 ... ..	s. d. 32 10	s. d. 25 4	s. d. 19 9
Corresponding Week in—			
1906 ... ..	30 4	24 2	20 2
1907 ... ..	29 7	24 3	20 5
1908 ... ..	33 8	25 9	18 10
1909 ... ..	42 8	27 0	20 11
1910 ... ..	31 10	21 8	17 8
1911 ... ..	32 6	25 4	19 2
1912 ... ..	37 8	31 2	23 7

\* 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.

## Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of Agricultural Produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended 17th May, 1913, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 17th May, 1913.	Correspond- ing week in 1912.
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves ... ..	Number	142	1,254
Sheep and lambs ... ..	"	—	—
Swine ... ..	"	—	—
Horses ... ..	"	152	397
Fresh meat :—			
Beef (including refrigerated and frozen) ...	Cwts.	176,578	196,161
Mutton " " " " " " " " " " " "	"	75,967	147,772
Pork " " " " " " " " " " " "	"	3,812	1,955
Meat, unenumerated, fresh (including re- frigerated and frozen) ... ..	"	10,706	26,015
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon ... ..	Cwts.	75,897	97,193
Beef ... ..	"	271	1,448
Hams ... ..	"	14,944	23,406
Pork ... ..	"	5,017	5,100
Meat, unenumerated, salted ... ..	"	2,255	1,746
Meat, preserved, otherwise than by salting (including tinned and canned) ... ..	"	38,417	31,540
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter ... ..	Cwts.	72,496	62,206
Margarine ... ..	"	25,861	26,461
Cheese ... ..	"	34,223	30,572
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums ... ..	"	—	—
" cream ... ..	"	98	103
" condensed ... ..	"	15,888	20,139
" preserved, other kinds ... ..	"	114	14
Eggs ... ..	Grt. Hundr.	376,969	373,390
Poultry ... ..	Value £	2,069	4,307
Game ... ..	"	101	1,004
Rabbits, dead (fresh and frozen) ... ..	Cwts.	1,673	4,976
Lard ... ..	"	32,629	31,375
Corn, grain, meal and flour :—			
Wheat ... ..	Cwts.	1,819,100	1,617,100
Wheat-meal and flour... ..	"	205,100	176,700
Barley ... ..	"	178,200	11,100
Oats ... ..	"	637,800	636,200
Peas ... ..	"	30,720	46,065
Beans ... ..	"	4,650	9,550
Maize or Indian corn ... ..	"	618,200	151,700
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples ... ..	Cwts.	27,437	41,236
Apricots and peaches ... ..	"	2	25
Bananas... ..	Bunches	71,970	142,332
Cherries ... ..	Cwts.	124	4,241
Currants ... ..	"	—	—
Gooseberries ... ..	"	131	7
Grapes ... ..	"	135	288
Lemons ... ..	"	5,339	16,638
Oranges ... ..	"	114,864	153,420
Pears ... ..	"	1,312	531
Plums ... ..	"	—	—
Strawberries ... ..	"	15	976
Unenumerated ... ..	"	274	367
Hay ... ..	Tons	1,687	543
Straw ... ..	"	5	41
Moss Litter ... ..	"	2,015	2,213
Hops ... ..	Cwts.	2,436	446
Locust beans ... ..	"	—	22,595
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions ... ..	Bushels.	131,654	199,248
Potatoes... ..	Cwts.	233,395	245,598
Tomatoes ... ..	"	37,009	31,693
Unenumerated ... ..	Value £	11,783	11,144
Vegetables, dried... ..	Cwts.	1,120	9,665
" preserved by canning ... ..	"	7,253	3,725



**Bankruptcy.—England and Wales.**

**Number of Receiving Orders and Administration Orders under Sec. 125 (Deceased Debtors' Estates) of the Act of 1883 gazetted in the under-mentioned Principal Trades and Occupations during the period indicated:—**

	April		Four Months ended April.	
	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.
Total gazetted ... ..	No. 291	No. 305	No. 1,247	No. 1,212
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations:—				
Agents, commission and general ... ..	3	1	13	10
Auctioneers, estate and house agents ... ..	5	3	13	9
Bakers ... ..	19	14	55	33
Bicycle dealers and manufacturers ... ..	1	5	11	9
Boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers ... ..	3	8	13	23
Builders ... ..	15	11	84	68
Butchers and meat salesmen ... ..	12	14	38	45
Cab, omnibus and fly proprietors, &c. ... ..	1	3	7	11
Cabinet makers and upholsterers ... ..	5	1	11	4
Carpenters and joiners... ..	2	3	9	8
Carriage, coach, etc., builders ... ..	—	3	3	10
Carriers, carmen, lightermen, and hauliers ... ..	5	3	14	18
Chemists, druggists, and chemical manufacturers... ..	2	1	7	3
Clothiers, outfitters, &c. ... ..	1	2	8	9
Coal and coke merchants and dealers ... ..	9	6	26	21
Colliers, miners, &c. ... ..	1	2	5	8
Confectioners and pastry cooks ... ..	1	4	9	16
Corn, flour, seed, hay and straw merchants ... ..	4	1	5	12
Dairymen, cowkeepers, &c. ... ..	1	2	11	8
Decorators, painters, plumbers, glaziers, &c. ... ..	5	10	21	28
Drapers, haberdashers, &c. ... ..	7	9	22	27
Electricians and electrical engineers ... ..	1	—	2	6
Engineers and founders ... ..	3	—	10	6
Farmers and graziers ... ..	16	17	79	65
Fishmongers, poulterers, &c. ... ..	4	4	18	21
Furniture dealers and makers ... ..	3	3	13	12
Gardeners, florists and nurserymen ... ..	2	—	6	8
General dealers ... ..	1	6	11	13
Greengrocers, fruiterers, &c. ... ..	4	6	25	27
Grocers ... ..	9	14	65	81
Hosiers, glovers, etc. ... ..	—	1	7	6
Jewellers, watchmakers, silversmiths ... ..	4	4	13	14
Merchants, general ... ..	1	3	7	12
Milliners, dressmakers, &c. ... ..	1	2	8	9
Printers, booksellers and publishers... ..	5	1	13	5
Provision merchants ... ..	3	2	14	7
Publicans and hotel keepers, &c. ... ..	13	9	55	42
Restaurant, coffee and eating-house keepers ... ..	2	1	8	11
Saddlers and harness makers ... ..	1	—	6	6
Tailors ... ..	2	6	20	27
Tobacconists, &c. ... ..	5	5	17	16
Travellers, commercial, &c. ... ..	6	2	15	10

### Confidential Information as to Openings Abroad for British Trade, &c.

The arrangement inaugurated on 1st January, 1907, whereby the names of British firms desirous of receiving confidential information as to opportunities for the extension abroad of those branches of trade in which they are specially interested, and as to other connected matters, are placed on a special Register at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, has met with widespread approval, as evidenced by the steady increase in the number of names so registered. Formerly no charge was made for admission to the Register, the only requirement being subscription to the "Board of Trade Journal." The great increase in the number of names inscribed, and in the amount of information distributed, having rendered it necessary to make a small charge for the service, firms desirous of utilising this source of information are required to pay an annual fee of one guinea to the Accountant General, Board of Trade, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W., for the service, *including the supply of the "Board of Trade Journal,"* instead of merely subscribing to the "Journal," as previously, through the Government Sale Agents. British firms who wish to have their names registered should apply in writing to the Director, Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the necessary form of application.

Admission to the Register and retention upon it will be, as heretofore, at the discretion of the Board of Trade.

The confidential information which is communicated to firms upon the Register is received from His Majesty's Consular Officers in Foreign Countries, from His Majesty's Trade Commissioners and the Imperial Trade Correspondents in the British Dominions, and from other sources available to the Commercial Intelligence Branch.

It may be stated that confidential information thus received relates mainly to openings for British Trade abroad, and is communicated to firms on the Register in Circular letters. During 1912, 1,098 such Circular letters were prepared, and copies (totalling 146,578) were despatched to firms on the Register interested in the trades to which the Circular letters respectively related, as compared with 1,091 Circular letters and copies totalling 142,032 sent out in 1911.

NOTE.—Apart from the Special Register arrangements referred to above, the Commercial Intelligence Branch is always ready to answer enquiries on specific subjects, as far as possible, in the interests of British trade (see below).

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#### Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and classified in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters. On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies,

**COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE—cont.**

so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz. : Commercial statistics ; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations ; Lists of Firms Abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities ; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender ; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products ; Forms of Certificates of Origin ; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c.

There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from India, the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 3*d.*, the annual rate, inclusive of postage within the United Kingdom, being 15*s.* 2*d.* All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C. ; and 54, St. Mary Street, Cardiff ; in Edinburgh to H.M. Stationery Office (Scottish Branch), 25, Forth Street ; in Dublin to Messrs. E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street ; or to the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies, the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of T. Fisher Unwin, London, W.C.

All communications intended for the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade should be addressed to : *The Director, Commercial Intelligence Branch, Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.*

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**Trade Enquiry Offices of the Self-Governing Dominions.\***

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

<b>Dominion of Canada</b>	...	17, Victoria Street, S.W.
		(Branch Office : 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.).
<b>Commonwealth of Australia</b>		72, Victoria Street, S.W.
<b>New South Wales</b>	...	123-5, Cannon Street, E.C.
<b>Victoria</b>	... ..	Melbourne Place, Strand, W.C.
<b>Queensland</b>	... ..	409, West Strand, W.C.
<b>South Australia</b>	...	85, Gracechurch Street, E.C.
<b>Western Australia</b>	...	15, Victoria Street, S.W.
<b>Tasmania</b>	... ..	5, Victoria Street, S.W.
<b>Dominion of New Zealand</b>		13, Victoria Street, S.W.
<b>Union of South Africa</b>	...	Trades Commissioner, 90, Cannon Street, E.C.

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

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT, 1911. PART II.  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

**Decisions by the Umpire.**

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Board of Trade hereby give 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:—**

1321. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in flattening or bending, or any process subsequent thereto, tubes, whether brazed, welded or seamless, which are intended wholly or mainly for the cycle or motor cycle trade.

Decision A 787 ("Board of Trade Journal" of the 15th August, 1912) does not relate to processes prior to flattening.

Decision B 901 (8) ("Board of Trade Journal" of the 29th August, 1912), by which it was decided that contributions are not payable in respect of workmen who are engaged in flattening the ends, cutting and slotting cycle tubes, is cancelled. The remainder of decision B 901 is unaffected.

**B. The Umpire has decided that contributions ARE NOT PAYABLE in respect of:—**

1320. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the work of regulating sewing machines for various classes of work, and not engaged wholly or mainly in repairing the machines.

*Note.*—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.

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