

THE
Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LXXX.]

March 6, 1913.

[No. 849

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. 588.

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.
Baobab Fibre, and Cordage made therefrom, from French West Africa	6th Mar., 1913	578
Rubber produced in the Kasai District (Congo State) ...	20th Feb., "	441
Peppermint Oil and Menthol from the Hokkaido (Japan) ...	13th " "	408
Cast Iron Stud for New Zealand Government Contract ...	6th " "	298
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
Linalool, a substitute for Lemon Oil, from Formosa	12th Sept., "	650
Oil from Seeds of certain Wild Plants in Portuguese East Africa	1st " "	298
Straw Braid from Yungchang	" " "	300

Attention is called to the following notices:—

	Page.
Register of British firms who may desire to receive Confidential Information relative to openings for trade	588
List of Trade Enquiry Offices in London of the Self-Governing Dominions	583
List of the more important Articles on trade subjects contained in Foreign and Colonial Publications, &c. received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch	584

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

The Secretary of State for India in Council invites tenders for the supply of *bogie carriages, four-wheeled brake vans, and materials for carriage bodies*. The conditions of contract and form of tender may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, London, S.W., and tenders are to be delivered at that office by 2 p.m. on 18th March. A copy of the

**Railway Rolling
Stock and
Accessories.**

Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

conditions and form 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. (4,535.)

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders, up to 11 a.m. on 13th March, for the supply of the following:—
Railway Material and Stores. *Mild steel plates, sections, bars, &c., for miscellaneous purposes; firebricks and clay; anvils; wicks; lubricating pads, &c.; galvanised corrugated sheets, &c.; cast-iron pipes, &c.; cast-iron chairs; points and crossings; steel fishbolts, &c.; crank and straight axles; steel tyres; and steel rails and fishplates, points and crossings, steel fishbolts, &c., and pressed steel transverse sleepers for 2 ft. 6 ins. gauge line.* Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, London, E.C., on payment of a fee, which will not be returned. Tenders marked "Tender for Mild Steel Plates, &c.," or as the case may be, should be enclosed in sealed envelopes and addressed to the Secretary at the above address

CANADA.

With reference to the notice on p. 378 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 21st November, 1912, relative to a call for tenders for the supply of one or more 15,000,000 gallon pumping engines and boilers for the main pumping station at Toronto, it is notified that a copy of a report by the Board of Control of that city containing detailed particulars regarding the successful and other tenders submitted in connection therewith, has been received from the Imperial Trade Correspondent at Toronto (Mr. F. W. Field). The report 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. (4,142.)

The Imperial Trade Correspondent at Toronto has also furnished a statement of the general conditions regarding deposits required by the City Authorities of Toronto in connection with calls for tenders issued by them for plant and machinery. The statement may be *seen* by makers in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above. (4,393.)

Reports have been received from H.M. Trade Commissioner for Canada and from the Imperial Trade Correspondent at Toronto notifying the formation, &c. of companies and the inception of enterprises which may afford opportunities to British traders, as follow:—
Materials for Reinforced Concrete Bridge. A city in Quebec Province contemplates the construction of a bridge of five spans, 290 feet long and 50 feet wide, at a cost of 100,000 dols. (about £20,500). The sub-structure is to be of concrete and the super-structure of reinforced concrete. *See Note† on next page.* (4,343.)

Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

Plans are being prepared for a new hotel to be erected at Winnipeg at an estimated cost of 1,000,000 dols. (about £205,500). *See Note† below.* (4,350.)

Hotel Building and Furnishing Materials.

Tiles, marble, ornamental bronze, electric light fittings, &c. will be required for alterations which are to be carried out at a public building in Montreal. *See Note† below.* (4,376.)

Tiles, Marble, Bronzework, Electric Fittings, &c.

The work of constructing a large saw-mill has been commenced in Alberta. *See Note† below.* (4,377.)

Saw-Mill Machinery.

A company in Ontario propose to erect a factory for the manufacture of cream separators. *See Note† below.* (4,379.)

Plant for Making Cream Separators.

A company in Ontario contemplate the erection of a foundry, and will require engines, boilers, transmission and hydraulic machinery, a telephone system, &c. *See Note† below.* (4,381.)

Foundry Plant and Accessories.

An American company propose to spend 2,500,000 dols. (about £514,000) on the erection of a gas and coke plant in a town in Ontario, provided the necessary permission can be secured from the Municipal Authorities concerned. *See Note† below.* (4,387.)

Equipment of Gas and Coke Plant.

A bank in Manitoba are having plans prepared for the erection of an office building at a cost of 300,000 dols. (about £61,700). The building is to be 10 storeys high, and to be built of steel and terra cotta, with tiled floors. Two passenger lifts, vaults and safes, fire escape, &c., will also be required. *See Note† below.* (4,388.)

Building and Furnishing Material; Elevators; Safes.

A city in Quebec Province proposes to purchase two or three motor cars. *See Note† below.* (4,391.)

Motor Cars.

A firm in Ontario are prepared to buy woodworking machinery for manufacturing sashes and doors. *See Note† below.* (4,389.)

Woodworking Machinery.

A firm in Ontario propose to buy general machinery in connection with transmission plant, woodworking, belting, and fire extinguishers. *See Note† below.* (4,378.)

Transmission Plant; Woodworking Machinery; Belting; Fire Extinguishers.

A new bridge is to be built in Ontario at a cost of 200,000 dols. (about £41,000). The bridge will be 66 feet wide, and of the deck plate girder approach span type. *See Note†.* (4,394.)

Bridgework.

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.

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 regarding them may be obtained:—

Commercial Enquiries.

HOME ENQUIRIES.

A London firm manufacturing baking and egg powders, blanc mange and custard powders, jelly tablets and crystals, sponge cake mixtures, scone mixture, and similar goods are desirous of being placed in communication with importers at Winnipeg and Regina.

A London correspondent makes enquiry respecting the market in Canada for grain-cleaning machinery, malt-crushing mills, &c. and would like to hear from Canadian importers.

A Sheffield firm manufacturing gas engines and suction gas-producers desire to do business in Canada.

A Manchester correspondent is prepared to enter into communication with reputable firms in Canada having lands, timber or mining properties for disposal.

CANADIAN ENQUIRIES.

An Ottawa firm desire to get into touch with United Kingdom manufacturers of glazed sewer tiles, fire bricks and fire-clay goods.

A Toronto firm desire to secure United Kingdom provision agencies.

A chemist in the Province of Ontario makes enquiry for the names of United Kingdom manufacturers of chlorate of potash.

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 ENQUIRY.

A London company manufacturing pencils, brushes, tracing papers, drawing accessories, &c. wish to arrange for their sale in Canada.

CANADIAN ENQUIRY.

A Toronto firm desire the addresses of United Kingdom manufacturers of lead capsules and tin foils.

Note.—For further information regarding either 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 reports that tenders will be received at the office of the Deputy Postmaster-General, Melbourne, up to 3 p.m. on 29th April,

for the supply and delivery of (a) hull for motor launch, and (b) kerosene marine engine (Schedule No. 838).

**Motor Launch ;
Kerosene Marine
Engine.**

Openings for British Trade.

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 form 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 form 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. (4,565.)

NEW ZEALAND.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for New Zealand (Mr. W. G. Wickham)

Motor Transport Vehicles.

has forwarded an extract from the local Press from which it appears that four companies, with an aggregate capital of £31,500, have recently been formed in New Zealand to exploit the possibilities of motor services. A municipal service of motor buses has been proposed for Timaru (see p. 482 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal"). The New Zealand Post Office is said to have the largest fleet of motor postal vehicles in Australasia, and in Wellington alone there are eight heavy lorries for mail matter.

The adoption of motor traction by the New Zealand Post Office was the consequence of a tour of inspection made in the United Kingdom and Europe generally some four years ago by an expert on behalf of the Government. This same expert has again been commissioned to visit Europe with a view to finding types of motor vehicles best suited for the lighter work throughout the Dominion, and he was expected to leave New Zealand at the end of January for the purpose. (4,135.)

Proposed Harbour Works. See notice on p. 564.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

The report for the year ended 31st March, 1912, of the British South

Articles in Demand.

Africa Company contains an extract from a report by the Chief Native Commissioner, Matabeleland, in which it is stated that the natives are depending more and more on European goods to supply their wants, a fact which is demonstrated by the increasing number of applications for general dealers' licences in town and country. The class of goods stocked by Europeans for native trade formerly consisted of beads, blankets, limbo, and brass wire; these have now given place to *ready-made clothing, women's apparel, boots, bicycles, paraffin lamps, candles, cigarettes, sugar, coffee, tea, fish, tinned meats*, and other groceries; there is also a ready demand for *farming implements and carpentering tools*. It is added with regard to *bicycles* that 915 licences in the names of natives had been taken out in the township of Bulawayo up to September, 1912.

Openings for British Trade.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA—*continued.*

The report of the British South Africa Company also states that as a result of careful investigation by the officers of his Department, the Director of Agriculture has reported that he considers the establishment of a central oilseed crushing plant would be justified and would receive adequate support from the farmers. The erection at Salisbury of a mill to treat linseed, castor oil beans, ground nuts and other oil-bearing seeds is now under consideration.

Oilseed Crushing Plant.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, acting on behalf of the Government of the East Africa Protectorate, invite tenders for the supply of about 1,550 tons of *rails*, 60 tons of *fishplates*, and 1,450 tons of *steel sleepers and keys* for the Uganda Railway. Sealed tenders will be received by the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W., up to noon on 21st March.

Forms of tender and all particulars may be *obtained* at the Crown Agents' Office on deposit of £1, returnable on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender.

Cotton Goods. See notice on page 573.

MAURITIUS.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, acting on behalf of the Government of Mauritius, invite tenders for the supply of 20,000 tons of South Wales steam coal delivered into lighters at Port Louis, Mauritius. Tenders, in sealed envelopes, will be received by the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W., up to noon on 2nd April.

Forms of tender and conditions of contract may be *obtained* at the Crown Agents' Office on deposit of £1, returnable on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender.

EGYPT.

The London Agent for the Egyptian War Office notifies that tenders are invited by that Department for the supply and delivery of (1) *wool yarn*; *blue cloth and white facing*; *grey cotton*; *blue, khaki and white calico*; *turlatan*; *drill*; *sole leather butts*; *baling canvas*; *white nainsook*; and (2) *Italian, tarred and cotton rope*; *webbing*; *hides*; *Nammah and waterbottle felt*; *chocolate, bridge white, douglas and baling canvas*; and *leather flaps and seats, with steel rivets and iron screws*. Firms who have not previously held a contract with the Egyptian War Office must enclose with their tender two references, one of which must be a bank.

Tender forms and specifications may be *obtained* from the office of Sir A. L. Webb, K.C.M.G., Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway,

Openings for British Trade.

Westminster, London, S.W., by whom tenders will be received up to 17th April, to remain open for seven days from that date. Enquirers should quote the reference numbers XIV.-13-27, and XV.-13-31.

A copy of the specifications will be available shortly for *inspection* by manufacturers in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London E.C. (4,798.)

RUSSIA.

With reference to the notice on p. 363 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 13th February relative to the proposal of the City of St. Petersburg to raise a loan of the nominal value of 66,500,000 roubles (about £7,020,000) for certain public works, including extension of *electric tramways*, construction of *hospitals, bridges, &c.*, *water supply* improvements, and installation of *refuse destructors*, H.M. Embassy at St. Petersburg now report that the Council of Ministers has given its sanction to the loan. (C. 1,792.)

**Public Works
Loan for
St. Petersburg
Sanctioned.**

NORWAY.

With reference to the notice on p. 429 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th February relative to a call for tenders for the supply of electrolytic copper wire to the Town Council of Narvik in view of their deciding to build electrical works this year, H.M. Consul at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray) now reports that alternative tenders in this connection may be sent, up to 15th March, to "Narvik formandskab," Narvik, North Norway, as follows:—(1) for the supply of a quantity not exceeding 6 tons of 50 mm². *cable*, 2.5 tons of 70 mm², and 2 tons of 35 mm²., and for 3 tons of 25 mm². *hard drawn wire*, 2.5 tons of 16 mm²., and 1 ton of 10 mm².; or (2) for the supply of up to 1.8 tons of 50 mm²., *cable*, and for 7.5 tons, 2 tons and 1.5 tons of *hard drawn wire* of 25 mm²., 16 mm²., and 1.5 mm²., respectively. The goods are to be delivered duty paid and free at Narvik, the date of delivery being stated in the tender. Application for further particulars should be made to Hr. Per Larsen, Engineer, Hamar, Norway. No special form of tender appears to be required. (4,516.)

**Electrolytic
Copper Wire.**

SWEDEN.

The Acting British Consul at Stockholm (Mr. F. V. Zetterlund) reports that tenders are invited by the City of Stockholm Waterworks for the supply and delivery of about 2,000 metres of *steel rails, points and crossings, &c.* Sealed tenders, marked "Anbud a rails," will be received, up to 2 p.m. on 14th March, at "Stockholms Vattenledningsverks kontor, Torsgatan 30," Stockholm, whence copies of the form of contract and drawings may be *obtained*. No special form of tender is required.

A copy of the contract form (in Swedish), together with drawings, 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. (4,716.)

Steel Rails, &c.

Openings for British Trade.

DENMARK.

H.M. Consul at Copenhagen (Mr. R. Erskine) reports that tenders are invited by the Copenhagen Water Supply Department for the supply of 30,000 kilogs. of *lead*. Tenders, marked "Tilbud paa Levering af Bly," will be received, up to 2 p.m. on 10th March, by the "Københavns Vandforsyningens Byafdeling, Studiestraede," Copenhagen, whence copies of the specification, &c., can be *obtained*. No special form of tender is mentioned by the Consul.

Lead.

A copy of the specification and conditions (in Danish) 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.

(4,715.)

H.M. Consul also reports that tenders are invited by the Danish State Railways Administration for the supply and delivery of about 135,000 tons of *ship and locomotive coal and briquettes*. Sealed tenders will be received, up to 1 p.m. on 12th March,* at the "Danske Statsbaners Maskinkontor, Gl. Kongevej 1D, 3 Sal," Copenhagen B, whence also copies of the specification and form of tender may be *obtained*. A copy of the specification and conditions (in English), together with form of tender, may be *seen* by contractors in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

**Coal and
Briquettes.**

(4,714.)

NETHERLANDS.

The following information is from the report by H.M. Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. W. A. Churchill) on the trade of that district in 1912, which will shortly be issued:—

Efforts were made during the past year to introduce chilled meat into Amsterdam. The city authorities have now waived their opposition, and have agreed to sanction the trade provided that each carcase is accompanied by certain parts of the viscera to enable experts to discover if the animals were in perfect health at the time of their slaughter. It is also proposed, in the interests of consumers, that frozen meat should have a distinctive mark placed upon it, and that retailers should exhibit a conspicuous notice in their shops to the effect that they are purveyors of this kind of meat. The persons who are interested in this new venture consist of a firm of merchants, the proprietors of a cold storage warehouse, and the owners of a line of Dutch steamers that ply between Amsterdam and South America. If the scheme is carried out, as no doubt it will be in the near future, cold storage plant will be in demand for steamers and probably for warehouses as well. At the present time there is very limited cold storage installation in the Netherlands, but once the trade is started in Amsterdam it will probably extend to other large cities.

* 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 Denmark who can be instructed by cable.

Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 28th February notifies that tenders will be received, up to 31st March, at the offices of the Alcaldía Constitucional, Irún, for the construction of a metal bridge across the river Bidasoa. The upset price is put at 299,549 pesetas (about £11,100), and a deposit of 5 per cent. of this amount will be required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

Bridgework.

TURKEY.

Electric Railway Material; See notice on p. 566.
Electric Power Plant.

MEXICO.

H.M. Legation at Mexico City report the publication of a contract, dated 16th January, entered into between the Mexican Ministry of Communications and Public Works and the San Gabriel y Anexas Agricultural Company for the construction of a short railway, which with branch lines will cover a total distance of 62 kiloms. (about 39 miles), on the borders of the adjacent States of Morelos, Mexico and Guerrero. The main line will run from the station of Puente de Ixtla, on the Mexico-Cuernavaca railway, to the small town of Cocoyotla; there will be two branch lines, one from Mazatepec to Miacatlan, and the other from a point about 8 kiloms. (nearly 5 miles) from Puente de Ixtla, *viâ* Michapa, to the caves of Cacahuamilpa, which are much visited by tourists. The surveys for the line must be completed within five months from the date of the publication of the contract, and the work must be finished within five years, during which period exemption from customs duty is allowed in respect of any material which it may be necessary to import in connection with the construction of the railway. (C. 1,842.)

**Railway
Material.**

PANAMA.

H.M. Legation at Panama report that a Law has been passed by the National Assembly authorising the Executive Authorities to raise a loan not exceeding 1,500,000 balbaos (about £309,500) for the following public works:—Two buildings for a school of agriculture, a normal school for girls, a professional school for women, a house of detention for women, a fireproof building for a national library, record office and museum, a penitentiary, a reformatory for minors, and a school for natives.

The contracts may be awarded by public tender, or the work may be carried out by the Department of Public Works. In the former case the contracts would probably be secured by local firms, but in the latter case the representatives of British firms in Panama may be able to secure orders for British materials. (4,992.)

*Openings for British Trade.***VENEZUELA.**

The "Gaceta Oficial" (Caracas) of 14th January notifies that permission has been granted to the President of the State of Zamora for the construction of a telephone line, 15½ miles long, between Altamira and Calderas in the District of Bolivar.

**Conducting Wire;
Telephone
Material.**

BRAZIL.

The "Diario Oficial" of 8th February publishes a decree (No. 10,015) earmarking, in favour of the Ministry of Communications and Public Works, a credit of 500,000 milreis (about £33,300) to defray the expenses connected with the extension of the Alagoinhas-Joazeiro Railway (State of Bahia) to the town of Therezina.

**Railway
Material.**

In a recent report to his Government by the Canadian Trade Commissioner at Buenos Aires (Mr. H. R. Poussette) on the trade of Brazil, the following observations are made in respect to the possibility of the market for motor cars in that country:—

A comparatively fair trade is being done in motor cars in Brazil; the majority are doubtless for use in Rio de Janeiro, for the roads of the Republic do not admit of their employment in the country districts. As the city of São Paulo is well paved and also possesses some of the most beautiful suburban drives to be found anywhere, it should continue to absorb motor cars in large numbers for many years. The motor lorry is also likely to continue to grow in popularity. The climate being unsuitable for horses, mules are employed almost entirely, but as a sufficient supply of fodder is not produced in the Republic, this item is relatively expensive for any class of animal.

From all available information, it is not easy to put a new motor vehicle on the market. The only way to test it would seem to be to follow the custom and send two or three vehicles on consignment. If a suitable agent could be secured there would appear to be little risk, and even if success was not achieved it should not be difficult to sell the cars at factory price, plus expenses of transportation, duty, &c. There is so much competition that no prospective agent is willing to buy from a catalogue; indeed, unless the manufacturer will assist, it is unlikely that an agent will be found to undertake the representation of a new type of car.

There should be a future for the lighter and less expensive class of motor car. Most of the vehicles seen about the streets, whether private or for hire, are substantial-looking and fitted with the artillery wheel. They are roomy and have two collapsible chairs in addition to the broad seat. The touring or runabout car is almost universally used; on account of its airiness it is very suitable to the climate of Rio de Janeiro. Flimsy, cheap-looking cars are not popular and it should be borne in mind that of whatever quality the vehicles may be, for the South American trade it is essential that they look well. As has been the experience in other countries, high-power,

Openings for British Trade.

BRAZIL—*continued.*

costly cars which were at first in demand have given place to cheaper and lighter patterns.

A large number of "taxis" are also in use and the majority of these, although commodious, are not of the most expensive type.

In the same report Mr. Poussette states that a fair number of motor boats are in use in the harbour at Rio de Janeiro,

Motor Boats. but they seem to be employed solely in transporting passengers to and from the passenger steamers.

Apparently, so far, they are little used for pleasure, but the time is almost certain to come when the people will awaken to the advantages of the form of recreation offered by the motor boat, especially in view of the natural beauties of the landlocked harbour of Rio de Janeiro.

URUGUAY.

H.M. Charge d'Affaires at Montevideo reports that tenders are invited

Light Buoys.

by the Uruguayan Ministry of Public Works for the supply of one *tower light buoy* and 30 *ordinary light buoys*, together with *spare parts*. The illuminant is to be acetylene gas dissolved in acetone. *Tenders will only be considered from prominent firms well-known as manufacturers of light buoys. A receipt proving the deposit of 3,000 pesos (about £637) with the Treasury of the Ministry of Public Works must accompany each tender.*

Tenders made out on stamped paper, will be received, up to 3.30 p.m. on 28th April, at the "Secretaría del Ministerio de Obras Públicas," Montevideo, whence the stamped paper and copies of the specification may be *obtained. Local representation is necessary.*

A copy of the specification and statement of conditions (in Spanish), together with blue prints, may be *seen*, and a list of agents established at Montevideo may be obtained, by manufacturers in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (4,911.)

ARGENTINA.

The "Review of the River Plate" (Buenos Aires) of 7th February

Electric Power Plant.

notifies that tenders for the erection of a power station for the supply of electric light will be received, up to 5th April,* at the offices of the Municipality, La Paz (Entre Rios), Argentina, to which address applications for specifications and forms of tender should be made.

* 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 Argentina who can be instructed by cable.

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

Exhibitions at Birmingham and Sheffield.

With reference to the notice on p. 433 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th February relative to the exhibition at Birmingham and Sheffield of samples of hardware and tools of foreign manufacture sold in New Zealand, which have been collected by H.M. Trade Commissioner in that Dominion (Mr. W. G. Wickham), it is notified that the samples which were recently on view at Sheffield, *viz.*, cutlery, tools and implements of various kinds, have been transferred to the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, where they are now on exhibition, together with most of the samples of household hardware, locks, lamps, &c. previously on exhibition there.

Certain of the articles previously exhibited at Birmingham, and likely to be of interest also to manufacturers in the Sheffield district, are now on exhibition at the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce.

The samples are accompanied by detailed information regarding country of manufacture, price, landed cost, and other matters affecting the trade. (3,412.)

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The 53rd Annual Meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom will be held at the Hotel Métropole, Whitehall Place, London, S.W., on 11th, 12th, and 13th March, the chair to be taken each day by Sir Algernon F. Firth, Bt. (President).

ESTABLISHMENT OF A BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT MOHAMMERAH (PERSIAN GULF).

H.M. Consul-General at Bushire (Lieut.-Col. Sir P. Z. Cox, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.) reports that a British Chamber of Commerce has been established at Mohammerah.

A copy of the rules of the Chamber, forwarded by the Consul-General, may be seen by British firms at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (3,964.)

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

No Moratorium in Turkey.

With reference to the notice on p. 290 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 7th November, 1912, relative to the question of a Moratorium in Turkey, H.M. Embassy at Constantinople report that on 13th February the Ministry of Commerce summoned a meeting of the heads of the various banking establishments in Constantinople and the members of the Turkish Chamber of Commerce in order to discuss the advisability of declaring a Moratorium. After long

Countries immediately affected by the Balkan War: Notices to Shippers and others.

discussion it was decided not to declare a Moratorium, on the grounds that the Turkish market had not felt the consequences of the war in any very marked degree. The banks undertook to help traders in case of need by granting them such fresh credits as circumstances might justify. (C. 1,791.)

Blockade of the Turkish Coast.

The "London Gazette" of 28th February notifies that H.M. Minister at Athens has telegraphed that the existing blockade of the coasts of Epirus, &c. has been extended as far as Durrazzo. The zone now under blockade is comprised between 39° and 41° 12' latitude N.

Commercial Situation in Servia.

The "Börsen Zeitung" (Berlin) of 24th February states, on the authority of the German Consul at Belgrade, that the temporary return of the business world in Belgrade to something approaching normal conditions, due to the two months truce, has been abruptly terminated by the renewal of the war. Business is especially bad in the provinces, and deposits at banks have in consequence varied very greatly during the past few months, such funds as were available being used by wholesale dealers to pay the dues on stock accumulated at the Customs since the autumn. In many articles such as millinery, &c., business is slack; in others, such as in all departments of gentlemen's outfitting, clothing, boots, shoes, &c. it is brisk.

The present set-back in the export trade and the poor prospects of a profitable harvest have caused the discount rate to rise to 4½ per cent. If the harvest should turn out well it would quickly react favourably on business and the markets. It is thought that if foreign creditors will exercise some forbearance and refrain from pressing for payment there will be few failures of importance in the capital; but the death at the front of many provincial business proprietors will probably cause a considerable number of these concerns to cease business. Large orders can scarcely be expected for next autumn, as a large part of the winter goods ordered last autumn are still lying in stock at the warehouses.

REVISED TRADE MARKS ACT IN AUSTRALIA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Colonial Office, of a copy of the Australian "Trade Marks Act, 1912" (No. 19 of 1912), dated 6th November last, amending the law previously in force as regards the registration and use of trade marks in Australia, and extending its provisions so as to include the Territory of Papua.

The text of the Act 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. 1,731.)

BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

West Africa.—H.M. Consul-General at Dakar, French West Africa (Captain C. B. Wallis), writes that although it is true that merchants in West Africa mostly obtain their goods through their own agents in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, nevertheless it is advisable that catalogues should be printed in the official language of the colony—French, German, or Portuguese, as the case may be—for the merchants to hand to dealers. It frequently happens that orders result from catalogues which have been sent direct to the merchants by the manufacturers. Captain Wallis adds that it is a common thing for the merchants in West Africa to have translations made of the catalogues they receive. (101.)

* * * * *

Colombia.—The following suggestions, which may prove of use to manufacturers and merchants in the United Kingdom wishing to trade with Colombia, have been furnished by the Acting British Vice-Consul at Bogotá (Mr. R. F. Parker):—

Representation.—It is of little use for firms in the United Kingdom, wishing to push their trade in Colombia, to try to deal directly with merchants there; a representative, who can speak Spanish fluently, should always be sent out to study the peculiar conditions existing in the country and the needs of the people. The representative should come with the object of appointing a local permanent agent, who would gradually find customers for the goods. The reason for this is the difficulty of finding out the standing of any but the old-established firms, who, as a rule, are very conservative and prefer to continue to give orders to firms with whom they have previously dealt. A local agent will take care to sell only to those firms who import on a large scale and who sell to the smaller firms, whilst a travelling agent goes often straight to small dealers, sells them sometimes more than they can stand, and spoils his chance of dealing with the larger import houses. In addition, there is often difficulty in obtaining payment from small firms, who mostly prefer long credit, however sound they may be.

Packing.—The question of packing is a most important one, and one that appears to be little understood except by firms who have dealt with Colombia for some time. Firms should get their representative to tell them *exactly* what is necessary in the case of their particular goods. Some firms do not seem to realise that the weight of the packing is in many cases included when the Customs duties are assessed; the packing should, therefore, be as light as possible. Goods often have to travel across the mountains on mule-back; for these conditions packages should be made up to weigh not more than 150 lbs. at most, and in a form suitable for transport of this kind. In all cases strong and careful packing is necessary; also complete protection from damp, since the goods get very roughly handled when being transferred from river boat to train, and on the mountain journeys. When the Magdalena river is low, boats may have to be lightened *en route* by discharging some of the cargo, which is then left on the river bank exposed to sun and rain.

It is also desirable, when possible, that packages should be sealed in such a way that they cannot be opened and reclosed, since they sometimes arrive at their destination with some of the goods extracted

British Trade Abroad.

and stones put in to make up the weight. Wines should be packed in cases of twelve bottles, with iron hoops to prevent robbery. Merchandise may also arrive damaged owing to the fact that the Customs officials do not properly reclose the cases after examining them.

Parcels by post should always be packed in waterproof material.

Distances.—The time taken in getting from place to place in Colombia, seems to be but little realised in the United Kingdom. It may take anything from 10 to 20 days for passengers to get from Barranquilla to Bogotá; for goods much longer. From Bogotá, for the mails, it takes roughly 10 days to Medellín, 15 days to Cartagena or Buenaventura (on the Pacific Coast), and 28 days to Tumaco (also on the Pacific Coast). These places are all on the main routes; for places off these routes it will naturally take much longer. It will be seen that all distances are reckoned in days and not in miles, and the time taken will vary according to the season; in the wet weather some of the mountain roads are practically impassable.

Correspondence.—Many letters arrive addressed to the Consul by name, so that it is difficult to tell whether they are official or should be forwarded. Letters to British Consular Officers should be addressed to them *not by name but by their official designation*. It should also be borne in mind that the postage on letters from the United Kingdom to Colombia is 2½d. for one ounce, and 1½d. for each additional ounce.

Catalogues—Catalogues should invariably be in Spanish, with all prices in dollars and cents.

General.—In conclusion, it may be pointed out that the greatest caution and closest enquiry are necessary when dealing in Colombia. Merchants, long established in the country and knowing it well, only manage to make money by the closest attention to their business.

(1,505.)

WOOLLEN INDUSTRY OF INDIA.

A memorandum has been received from the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence at Calcutta dealing with the woollen industry of India in 1911. Of the five woollen mills of India, two—one at Cawnpore in the United Provinces and the other at Dhariwal in the Punjab—have between them a paid-up capital of 32 lakhs of rupees (about £213,000), and produce 79 per cent. of the total outturn of the Indian mills. These two mills weave cloth for the use of the army and police, and articles of superior quality generally, using for the high-class goods Australian wool either pure or mixed with Indian wool.

The year 1911 was a record one both as regards the quantity and value of the woollen goods produced. The increase in quantity in 1911 amounted to 680,093 lbs. as compared with 1910, and to 654,862 lbs. as compared with 1905, the year which previously held the record; the increase in value amounted to Rs. 3,83,336 and Rs. 6,74,753 respectively.

Woollen Industry of India.

The quantity of woollen goods imported into India is very much greater than the production of the Indian mills. Piece-goods and shawls from the United Kingdom and Germany make up the bulk of the imports. The value of the woollen goods imported in 1911 was Rs. 3,45,43,401, and of the production of Indian mills Rs. 51,03,640.

There are in various places in India factories for the weaving of carpets and rugs, and of *pattu* and *pashmina*, but though these industries are in the aggregate extensive, they are individually small, the weaving being done on hand looms.

The exports of woollen goods from India consist almost entirely of carpets and rugs, of which about three-fourths go to the United Kingdom, and the greater part of the remainder to the United States. The values of Indian carpets and rugs exported during the years 1909, 1910, and 1911 were Rs. 20,67,690, Rs. 24,54,945, and Rs. 24,47,655, respectively.

The following statement gives particulars of the woollen industry in India for the years 1909, 1910, and 1911:—

—	1909.	1910.	1911.
Mills at work No.	5	5	5
Nominal capital employed* Rs.	44,50,000	50,50,000	50,50,000
Persons employed No.	3,392	3,442	3,706
Looms "	809	808	812
Spindles "	30,421	31,205	31,205
Production (Lbs.	3,954,739	4,101,706	4,781,799
... .. (Rs.	43,25,200	47,20,304	51,03,640

* Excluding one small mill whose capital is not stated.

RUBBER INDUSTRY OF THE KASAI DISTRICT OF THE CONGO.

The following further particulars regarding the rubber industry of the Kasai District of the Congo State, received from H.M. Vice-Consul for the Kasai Province (Mr. H. H. Castens), are in continuation of those published on pp. 441-2 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th February:—

Cultivated Rubber.—The rubber industry of the Kasai District, although it has been in existence for over twenty years, has hitherto been confined to the collection of wild rubber from the vast forests of the district. The cultivation of *Hevea brasiliensis*, *Funtumia elastica*, and *Manihot Glaziovii* has been in progress on various plantations in the Kasai for at least fourteen years, but no exports of commercial importance have been made. This must not be attributed to the unsuitability of the country for these plants, but rather to the unscientific and careless manner in which the cultivation has been carried on. The development of the industry has also been checked by the influence of the Kasai Company, which first obtained control of the majority of the rubber companies in the district, then entered into an agreement with the remaining companies not to purchase wild rubber but only to sell the wild rubber grown on their individual

Rubber Industry of the Kasai District of the Congo.

plantations, and finally secured a concession for the right to collect wild rubber throughout the Kasai, excepting in the part north of the Sankuru river, known as the *Domaine de la Couronne*. The company devoted their energies entirely to the collection of wild rubber and the smaller plantations were abandoned.

The cultivation of rubber-producing plants was accordingly left to plantations owned by sundry Belgian companies and to two State plantations. About 600,000 lianas (*Landolphia* species), together with *Hevea*, *Ireh* and *Ceara*, varying from 7 to 15 years old, are being grown on the Galikoko estate on the Kasai river, about 60 miles from Luebo, but no figures relating to the yield of latex are available. The growth of *Hevea* and *Ireh* on this estate has been retarded by careless cultivation in former years, but much-improved methods prevail now, and it is expected that satisfactory results will be attained in the near future. The reports regarding the *Ceara* (*Manihot Glaziovii*) are not so good, these trees being liable to a fungus locally known as "Champignon." Similar remarks apply to the plantation at Lubefu on the Sankuru river, about 80 miles below Lusambo. Experts differ widely as to the possibility of successful cultivation of *Ceara* in the Kasai. Some argue that it is more prone to disease than *Hevea*, *Ireh* and lianas, whilst others maintain that the fungus is solely due to insufficient attention being paid to keeping the plantations clean and properly drained. Some thousands of coffee and cocoa trees have been planted with great success at the Galikoko plantation, which is the most important in the Kasai.

At Kondue, on the Sankuru river, about six miles down stream from Lusambo, *Hevea* and *Ireh* are both growing well, and at recent experimental tappings seven year old trees of both varieties yielded 100 grammes of latex each, equivalent to 62.5 kilogs. per hectare (about 55 lbs. per acre) of 625 trees. Close planting is practised on this estate (*Hevea* 4, and *Ireh* 3 metres apart), experience having shown that this method provides more shade to the soil, and that the stems contain more latex. Another advantage is that the trees protect one another from the tornadoes which occur frequently during the rainy season. There are no *Ceara* trees on this estate.

Of the two Government plantations, the one at Bena-Dibele is 1,200 hectares (about 3,000 acres) in extent, and about nine years old. As in the case of other plantations, little regard was paid to the proper planting of trees in the early days, and it is only during the last few years that any attention has been given to drainage, the clearance of undergrowth and old trees, &c. The Director of Agriculture is a strong advocate of the liana and accordingly lianas comprise practically the whole plantation. Some of the old vines there are from 250 to 300 feet long, and five inches or more thick. Few, if any, experiments have been made with a view to testing the producing power of these vines, and, as the lianas which have been planted in recent years are too young for tapping, it is impossible to give any statistics. The Director is convinced that if properly grown the lianas will produce rubber in paying quantities after 15 or 20 years, whilst others hold that the period of growth is anything between 20 and 50 years.

Rubber Industry of the Kasai District of the Congo.

The other Government plantation, Kataka-Kombe, is about the same size and age as that at Bena-Dibele, and the manager is also a strong believer in the liana. This inclination may possibly be due to the fact that the whole of the district on the northern bank of the Sankuru abounds in wild lianas, from which an enormous quantity of rubber is extracted by the natives. In fact, it is stated that more rubber is shipped from Bena-Dibele (the post on the Sankuru river to which the greater portion of the wild rubber collected in the *Domaine de la Couronne* is sent) than any other post in the Kasai. The Hevea and Ireh trees on this plantation are considered too young for tapping, but little or no disease has been experienced, and the trees are healthy and apparently thriving.

The Kasai Company own an estate at Munungu on which some 30,000 Ireh, 100,000 Hevea, and 150,000 lianas are growing. No work is, however, being done as the company confine their attention to wild rubber, though no doubt tapping will be commenced when the trees are considered to be sufficiently mature to produce in paying and regular quantities. It is said that there is disease amongst the Ireh trees on this estate, entirely due to neglect.

Land.—On either bank of the Sankuru or Kasai rivers land suitable for plantations can be found, and may be purchased from the State at a minimum price of £40 per hectare (about £16 per acre) up to an extent of 10 hectares (25 acres). If a larger area is required, special permission must be obtained from the Belgian Government. Land can also be rented from the State at a minimum price of £2 per hectare (about 16s. per acre).

The soil throughout the greater part of the Kasai is of a white sandy nature, but in the south, near Dilola, red soil of a firmer nature and similar to that of the Katanga and North-Western Rhodesia is found. It is in this portion of the Kasai that the *Landolphia Thollonii* or grass rubber, flourishes.

Climate.—The rains commence in October and continue, with occasional bright intervals, until March, but some rain falls in April and May. During the wet season tornadoes also occur frequently. May to October is known as the dry season, and as a rule there is not much rain during these months. From June to September a very heavy dew, somewhat similar to a Scotch mist, sets in at night and frequently lasts till 9 or 10 o'clock in the morning. With the exception of these foggy nights the temperature does not vary much and the atmosphere is invariably close and humid.

Labour.—Native labourers are paid on the average 10 frs. (8s.) per month, with a ration of salt; head boys get from 15 frs. (12s.) upwards; porters or carriers receive from 40 to 50 centimes a day (4d. to 5d.) or its equivalent in salt. Wages are less further inland, where they are usually paid in cloth and salt.

Catchcrops.—Coffee and cocoa are grown with good results at nearly all plantations. Other intercrops, such as pepper, cinnamon and camphor, are being tried, but it is too early to express an opinion as to the possibility of their successful cultivation. Citronella, chillies, cassava (tapioca), cotton, and tobacco all grow wild in the Kasai.

SHIPPING DEVELOPMENTS AT DAIREN.

The Acting British Consul at Dairen (Mr. W. B. Cunningham) reports that there has been considerable activity of late in Japanese shipping circles at that port, and that the following new companies have either been formed or are in course of formation :—

The Liaotung Steamship Company, in which the Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha are largely interested, was established in December last with a capital of 250,000 yen (£25,520).

The North China Steamship Company (Hokushin Rinsen Kwaisha) has been re-incorporated as the Dairen Steamship Company, with a capital of 100,000 yen (£10,200), and is running three modern vessels chartered from the South Manchuria Railway Company.

The South Manchuria Steamship Company is in process of formation by a Kobe firm, with a capital of 500,000 yen (£51,040).

The most noticeable feature of the recent activity in shipping circles lies, however, in the purchase of vessels from abroad for registration at Dairen. Detailed regulations for the registration, &c. of vessels in the Leased Territory were issued by the Port Arthur Government-General at the close of 1911. By these regulations vessels registered in the Leased Territory are entitled to fly the Japanese flag, though when in Japan they are treated as vessels registered in a foreign country. The duties and registration fees payable in Japan proper on vessels imported from abroad being considerable, Japanese shipowners have been eager to take advantage of the regulations in force in the Leased Territory to purchase vessels for registration at Dairen, where no duties are levied, and 17 foreign vessels, with a gross tonnage of 49,815 tons, were bought and registered at Dairen between the beginning of 1912 and the end of January, 1913. Of these vessels 12 were British, with a gross tonnage of 40,084 tons.

Negotiations are also proceeding for the purchase of several other foreign steamers, and it is probable that the above number will be considerably increased during the year.

This introduction of foreign vessels is chiefly because the ship-building yards in Japan have for the last few years been unable to keep pace with the increasing demand for vessels, and is also due to the fact that, as no subsidy is payable by the Government to any but regular lines of steamers, the heavy duties which have to be paid make it unprofitable to import steamers from abroad for registration in Japan proper. The Kwantung Government-General is reported, however, to have under consideration a scheme for the levying of tonnage dues on vessels registered in the Leased Territory, though exactly what form the imposition will take is not yet decided.

The natural result of the formation of the companies mentioned above and the purchase of so many vessels has been a great increase in the shipping available in the Leased Territory. The vessels of the two first-mentioned companies are principally engaged in the export of beans, beancake and bean-oil to Japan, and of Fushun coal to the various ports in the Yellow Sea and the Gulf of Pechili, such as Antung, Chefoo, Chemulpo, Tientsin, &c. The export of Fushun coal has increased considerably of late. The company in process of formation by the Kobe firm is reported to have for its main object the export of salt from the Leased Territory to Japan. (4,132.)

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

ITALY.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Italian Minister of Finance has submitted to the Legislature a Bill for the modification of Article 20 of the "Preliminary Dispositions" to the Tariff, relating to the fees chargeable in respect of the storage of goods in Customs warehouses. The provisions of this Article, as revised, are to be as follows:—

**Proposed
Alteration of Fees
for the Storage of
Goods in Customs
Warehouses.**

On all goods, in cases or in bulk, whether in temporary custody or in warehouses under the immediate control of the Customs, there shall be levied warehouse dues on the following scale:—

(a) *On all goods in warehouses under the immediate control of the Customs*: three centesimi *per diem* for every quintal or part of a quintal;

(b) *On goods in temporary custody*:

1. For the first five days, three centesimi *per diem* for every quintal or part of a quintal;
2. After the first five days, five centesimi *per diem* for every quintal or part of a quintal;
3. For each day after the third day from the Customs examination for the clearance of the goods, ten centesimi per quintal or part of a quintal.

In assessing the warehouse dues no account is to be taken of the day of deposit or withdrawal of the goods, nor, in the case of foreign goods, of the first three completed days of storage.

[*Note*.—Lira (100 centesimi) = 9d. ; quintal = 220·46 lbs.]

[The existing provisions are as follows:—

ARTICLE 20.—Goods in the temporary custody of the Customs, as well as those in warehouses under their immediate control, shall be subject to a warehouse charge of 1 centesimo per day and per package, when stored at a Customs house to which a warehouse is attached, and of 2 centesimi at other Customs houses.

For the assessment of this charge neither the three first days nor the days of entry and removal shall, in the case of foreign goods, be reckoned.

For national or nationalised goods, the storage charges shall be collected for the entire time of storage in the Customs house, save the days of entry and removal.

Every package exceeding a quintal in weight shall be considered as two or more packages, one quintal or fraction of a quintal being considered as one package. This rule likewise applies to goods in bulk.]

CONGO STATE.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Colonial Council has recently approved the draft of a Decree authorising the Belgian Government to convert, by Royal Edict, the *ad valorem* duties now levied on imports into the Congo State (as fixed by the Decrees of the 9th April, 1892, the 5th May, 1898, and the 28th June, 1902) into equivalent specific duties. The draft Decree also

**Contemplated
Conversion of
Ad Valorem into
Specific Duties.**

*Proposed Tariff Changes.***CONGO STATE**—*continued.*

provides that the specific duties shall not be applied until six months after the publication of the Royal Edict by which they are established.

[*Note.*—In accordance with the Decrees of 1892, 1898, and 1902, referred to above, the general *ad valorem* rate of import duty is 10 per cent. The goods enumerated in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 1 of the Lisbon Protocol of the 8th April, 1892 (*i.e.*, ships and boats, steam engines, machinery, implements and tools used for industrial and agricultural purposes, locomotives, railway wagons and materials), pay only 3 per cent. *ad valorem.*]
(C. 1,910.)

The Colonial Council has also approved a draft Decree establishing a statistical tax (*taxe de statistique*) at the rate of 15 centimes per "package" of merchandise of any origin imported into or exported from the Congo State. Goods imported into the Colony to be re-exported are to pay the tax once only—*i.e.*, on

**Proposed
Statistical Tax
on Imports and
Exports.**

importation.

By "package" is understood :

Every quantity of packed goods forming a separate parcel or lot, *viz.*, case, basket, cask, sack, &c. ;

Every quantity of goods in bulk, comprising a lot of 1,000 kilogrammes or 1 cubic metre, indivisible ;

Each animal of the following kinds, alive or dead : horses, mules, asses, bovine animals, sheep, goats and pigs.

Some few articles are to be exempt from this tax, including clothing and baggage for the personal use of travellers and of settlers in the Colony, ballast and samples without marketable value, scientific instruments and instruments of precision.
(C. 1,910.)

COLOMBIA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a new draft Customs Tariff for Colombia, which was submitted by the Minister of Finance to the Chamber of Representatives in the Session of 1912. A report on this measure was drawn up by a Committee of the Chamber, but Congress was prorogued in November last without any decision having been come to with regard to the matter. H.M. Minister at Bogotá reports that the whole question will have to be considered afresh in the Session of Congress which opens next July.

The draft Tariff (in Spanish) may be inspected by British traders interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. The Branch will also be prepared, in response to written applications, to furnish British traders with information as to the proposed rates of duty on any particular article or articles in which they may be interested.

(C. 1,684.)

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 347 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 17th February, 1910, under Customs Memo. No. 1566B of 1910, laying down the regulations to be observed in order to obtain a refund of duty on samples entitled to the advantages of the Franco-Canadian Convention of 1907 on exportation from Canada, the Board of Trade have now received copy of a further Customs Memo. (No. 1710B), dated 1st February, 1913, cancelling the regulations contained in the Memo. of 1910, and substituting revised regulations therefor, as follows:—

Revised
Regulations as to
Entry and Refund
of Duty on
Samples under
Franco-Canadian
Convention, 1907.

SAMPLES.

Dutiable goods serving as patterns or samples from any British country or from any country entitled in Canada to the advantages of the Franco-Canadian Convention of 1907, shall be subject to refund of duty on exportation, from Canada; provided

- (a) That upon importation, the goods be entered for duty by the traveller or agent from abroad, with a declaration on the face of the entry that the goods are *bona fide* samples or patterns for use only in canvassing for orders;
- (b) That the goods be marked by a Customs Officer at the time of entry, and be identified by a Customs Officer on exportation; and
- (c) That proof be furnished to the satisfaction of the Collector of Customs as to the exportation of the whole of the goods entered as samples within 12 months from the time of entry.

The regulations are retro-active and take effect from 1st April, 1912.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 392 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 13th February last relative to the extension of the British Preferential Tariff to certain parts of the British Empire, the Board of Trade have now received copy of a Customs Memorandum (No. 1711 B), dated 1st February, 1913, which notifies that an Order-in-Council was passed on the 25th January last extending, under Sec. 4 of the "Customs Tariff, 1907," the benefits of the British Preferential Tariff to goods—the produce or manufacture of various British countries—on importation into the Dominion.

It is further stated that the Order-in-Council takes effect from 1st February, 1913.

[*Note.*—The British countries enumerated in the Memorandum are identical with those previously stated in the above-mentioned issue of the "Board of Trade Journal."]

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***DOMINION OF CANADA**—*continued.*

A further Memorandum (No. 1712 B), dated 10th February, 1913, has been received which amends certain regulations contained in Memorandum No. 1,155 of the 1st August, 1901, regarding the delivery of examination packages by railway companies at the Customs examining warehouses in Canada.

Under the present Memorandum, each Canadian railway company must deliver, at the Customs examining warehouse of the Customs port or outport, all bonded goods carried by the railway company to the port or outport, which are ordered by the Collector or proper officer of Customs for examination at the Examining Warehouse.

Further instructions are laid down in the Memorandum to the effect that all cartage charges on imported goods (except as to the cartage to the examining warehouse of packages selected by the Customs for examination) shall be borne by importers—provided that at the larger Customs ports the Department of Customs may arrange for the delivery of the examination packages from the examining warehouse direct to consignees at their expense—the cartage charges in such case to be paid to the Collector of Customs when the goods are entered for duty.

The Board of Trade have received, from H.M. Trade Commissioner in Canada, copies of Appraisers' Bulletins (Nos. 613-4), dated 11th February last, giving various Customs decisions respecting the rates of duty leviable on the undermentioned articles on importation into the Dominion of Canada, as follows:—

Articles.	Tariff Heading.	Rates of Import Duty.		
		Under the British Preferential Tariff.	Under the Intermediate Tariff.	Under the General Tariff.
BULLETIN No. 613.				
Brass bars, including angles and channels, in lengths not less than 6 feet, and not further manufactured than as drawn	717	Free	Free	Free
Litho. varnish, so called, and printing ink oil produced from linseed oil	711	15 % <i>ad val.</i>	17½ % <i>ad val.</i>	17½ % <i>ad val.</i>
BULLETIN No. 614.				
Cotton fabrics, in creams, doves and other shades. Subject to duty as coloured cotton fabrics	523	25 % ..	—	32½ % ..

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

With reference to the notice of a Quarantine Proclamation, dated 17th October, 1912, which appeared on p. 565 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 12th December, 1912, prohibiting the importation of plants, except under certain specified conditions, into South Australia, in order to prevent the introduction of the disease *Phylloxera Vastatrix*, the Board of Trade have now received copy of a further Proclamation under the Quarantine Act, 1908, dated 4th January, 1913, repealing the above-mentioned Proclamation of 17th October, 1912, and, at the same time, prohibiting the importation into South Australia of any plant grown in soil:—

Prohibition of Importation of Plants.

1. From any country, unless it is previously thoroughly cleansed of soil; provided that the Chief Quarantine Officer for Plants may admit any plant growing in a pot or similar receptacle, if in his opinion the admission thereof will entail no danger of introducing the disease, *Phylloxera Vastatrix*:—

2. From any country where the disease *Phylloxera Vastatrix* is known to exist, unless it is accompanied by a declaration made by the grower before, and countersigned by, a responsible officer of the Department of Agriculture in the country of origin to the effect—

(a) That the plant was grown at a greater distance than five miles from any grape vine or root thereof; and

(b) That no *Phylloxera Vastatrix* exists, or has existed, in or on any land within five miles of the area in which the plant has been growing.

The Board of Trade have received copy of a Proclamation, dated 4th January, 1913, issued under the Customs Act, 1901-10, prohibiting, on and after the 1st January, 1913, the exportation from the Commonwealth of all butter which contains any fat other than butter fat, any preservative other than boric acid, any colouring matter, unless deemed by the Minister of Customs to be harmless, or which contains more than 16 per cent. water, or 3 per cent. casein, or 4 per cent. salt, or $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. boric acid, or less than 82 per cent. butter fat.

DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

The "New Zealand Gazette" of the 9th January last contains copy of a Minister's Order (No. 1030), dated 7th January, 1913, giving Customs decisions relative to the rates of duty leviable upon certain articles on importation into New Zealand.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

Customs Decisions.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND—continued.

Articles.	No. of Tariff Heading.	Rates of Import Duty.	
		On Foreign Goods.	On Goods the produce or manufacture of any part of the British Dominions.
Advertising novelties, articles for the manufacture of—			
Cutters to cut discs of celluloid	359	Free	Free
Heating roller, a gas-heated cylinder for making celluloid pliable	359	Free	Free
Looking glasses, unframed, in small round and oval pieces	123	37½ % ad val.	25 % ad val.
Stamped metal backs, being plain stampings	423	Free	Free
Stamped metal rings, japanned	186	37½ % ad val.	25 % ad val.
Cement, "White Artistic," a polishable Keene's cement	468	Free	Free
Confectioners', icing syringes	359	Free	Free
Cotton piece-goods, with designs stencilled thereon	286	Free	Free
Electric appliances—			
Telephone transmitters, mouthpieces, transmitter diaphragms and hand combinations	176	30 % ad val.	20 % ad val.
Extension bells, being telephone accessories	176	30 % "	20 % "
Vulcanite nipples, being fittings for vulcanite pipes — claimed as electrical insulating material	176	30 % "	20 % "
Elevator cups, for attachment to conveyor belt for use in flour-mill — claimed as flour-milling machinery	183	30 % "	20 % "
Filter frames, indiarubber jointing rings for... Machinery—	118	30 % "	20 % "
Bran or flour-packing machine, peculiar to use in flour-mill	165	5 % "	5 % "
Machine, automatic measuring, for attachment to wood-working machine, to measure amount of timber passing through machine	182	30 % "	20 % ad val.
Papers, filter shaped, for bacteriological work — claimed as scientific apparatus	74	30 % "	20 % "
Printing materials—			
Ball clips to hold printed sheets while drying	412	10 % "	Free
Screens, draught and fire, movable	127	30 % "	20 % ad val.
Water-condenser, automatic, for producing a continuous supply of distilled water— claimed as scientific apparatus	183	30 % "	20 % "

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

The Board of Trade have received copy of a Customs Notice (No. 46), dated 29th January, 1913, giving Customs decisions relative to the rates of duty leviable on certain articles upon importation into the Union of South

**Customs
Decisions.**

Africa.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA—continued.**

Articles.	No. of Tariff Heading.	Rates of Import Duty.	Rebate upon goods the growth, produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom or reciprocating British Colonies.
*Bars, indented, and rib-bars, for reinforced concrete	92 (a)	3 % <i>ad val.</i>	Whole of the duty.
"Gloria" lamps (oil vapourising)	98 (b)	3 % "	" "
Junket tablets, Hansen's (dried rennet)... ..	172	Free	—
Smelting gloves (leather)	60	3 % <i>ad val.</i>	Whole of the duty.
Wire fastening machine, Elder's Patent... ..	98 (a)	3 % "	" "

* Revised decision.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

A copy of an Order-in-Council (No. 2 of 1913) dated 9th January last has been received notifying, under the provisions of section 8 of the Petroleum Ordinance, the appointment of a building erected at Apapa, in Southern Nigeria, for the purpose of a petroleum magazine as a place for the storage of petroleum.

**Appointment of
Petroleum
Magazine at
Apapa.**

NORTHERN RHODESIA.

The Board of Trade have received from the British South Africa Company copy of a Customs Proclamation (No. 19 of 1912) which provides for the imposition of Customs duties leviable on goods imported into Northern Rhodesia, with effect from 1st February, 1913.

Under this Proclamation provision is made for a division of the Territory, for tariff purposes, into two zones, *viz.*, the Zambesi and Congo Basins.

As regards the imports into the Zambesi Basin, the "general" rates of duty imposed on foreign goods are almost identical with those in operation in the Union of South Africa, whilst preferential rates are accorded to certain British and Colonial products, which are somewhat lower, in some instances, than those in force in the Union.

In the case of imports into the Congo Basin no provision is made for the preferential treatment of British goods.

Full details of the Tariff, together with certain Customs regulations, will be published in a "Supplement" to next week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal."

The Customs Proclamation and regulations may, in the meantime, be seen by British traders interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

The "Federated Malay States Government Gazette" of the 31st January contains copy of a Notification (No. 322) giving, under the "Customs Duties Enactments," the valuations of articles in respect of which duty is leviable on an *ad valorem* basis on exportation from

**Export Tariff
Valuations.**

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES—*continued.*

each of the Federated Malay States, with effect from 1st February, 1913, until further notice.

The list of articles, which is given in considerable detail, may be seen by British traders interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

FIJI.

The Board of Trade are in receipt of a copy of a Resolution which was introduced into the Legislative Council of Fiji and agreed to, as amended, on the 24th October last, providing for an amendment of the "Banana Subsidy and Inspection Tax Ordinance, No. 12 of 1911," by increasing the duty leviable on bananas exported from Fiji, with effect from 1st January, 1913, as follows:—

Article.	Export Duty.	
	Old Rates.	New Rates.
Bananas	s. d. 0 0½	s. d. 0 1
	<i>or</i>	<i>and</i>
	0 1	0 2

RUSSIA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a Customs Circular has recently been issued by the Russian Ministry of Finance providing that ladies' hair nets made up of two systems of fine silk threads running perpendicularly to each other, and forming by means of the joining of these threads simple knots of tulle, are to be classified for duty under No. 195 of the Customs Tariff as wares of silk tulle at the rate of 10 *roubles* per funt. (C. 1,787.)

A further Customs Circular provides that automobiles which have been in use and are the property of foreigners entering Russia to reside, or of Russian subjects returning home after a prolonged residence abroad, may be regarded as household effects and admitted into the country duty-free. (C. 1,787.)

With reference to the notices in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 18th January, 1912 (p. 151), and the 18th July, 1912 (p. 176), respecting a Russian Law for the regulation of the Siberian sable industry, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that, by virtue of a recent decision, sable furs and skins imported into Russia may be cleared only through the Customs house at Moscow. (C. 1,793.)

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

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:—

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

Articles.	Tariff No. under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty
Kettledrums	233 (3)	Mks. p. 100 kilogs. 235 30
<i>Note.</i> —The maximum duty per drum is fixed at 30 marks.		
“Liquid veneer” (used for polishing wooden articles), consisting of mineral oil, acetic acid, water, and a small quantity of turpentine and colour, but not containing alcohol	130	21 20
Banana flour	165	5 90
“Weight slips” made of paper labels, to be glued or otherwise stuck to pasteboard	235 (5)	176 50
Railway car wheels—		
Large, such as are used by the State Railway...	—	Free.
Other, ready for use	231	100 kilogs 14 20
Other	214	11 80
Cast-iron parts of lamps coated with bronze colour	217	29 40

Coarse sacking of hemp or jute (dutiable at the rate of 7·10 marks per 100 kilogs.)—This heading includes only such cloth as contains on a surface of one square centimetre at the most 14 threads (warp and weft). (C. 1,945.)

GERMANY (CAMEROONS).

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of an Ordinance of the Governor of the Cameroons, providing that the importation into the Protectorate of foreign silver coins, when the value of such coins in any particular case exceeds 100 marks, is, until further notice, only permissible under special authorisation by the Governor. (C. 1,861.)

The “*Deutsches Kolonialblatt*” for the 1st February contains an Ordinance of the Governor of the Cameroons, dated the 5th November, 1912, and providing for the following addition to the Customs Tariff of the Protectorate established by Ordinance dated the 1st August, 1911*.—

- No.*
11. Perfumery and cosmetics containing alcohol and ether, so far as they are not, according to their composition, price and external make-up, exclusively or principally destined for the use of non-native persons, and so far as they are not expressly excepted by the Governor ; also medicines containing alcohol and ether, so far as they are not duty-free under No. 8 of the Free List ... *Marks.*
Litre 2

A notification of the Governor, also dated the 5th November, exempts the following kinds of perfumery and cosmetic from pay-

* For a translation of this Tariff, see the “Board of Trade Journal” for the 23rd May, 1912 (pp. 403-405), and the 25th July, 1912 (p. 235).

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***GERMANY (CAMEROONS)**—*continued.*

ment of duty under the above Tariff heading:—Bay rum, birch water, *Eau de Chinin*, *Eau de Cologne*, “*Es ist erreicht*,” “*Er ist immer trocken*,” “*Eiskopfwasser*,” “*Javol*,” “*Kosmin*,” “*Odol*,” “*Pixavon*.”
(C. 1,871.)

The same issue of the “*Kolonialblatt*” contains an Ordinance of the Governor of the Cameroons, laying down the conditions under which denatured spirit for burning, for driving motors, or for industrial or scientific purposes, may be imported into the Protectorate free of Customs duty.

These regulations (in German) may be inspected by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.
(C. 1,870.)

GERMAN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.

The “*Deutsches Kolonialblatt*” for the 15th January contains an Ordinance of the Governor of German South-West Africa, dated the 7th November, 1912, which provides, with effect from the 1st April, 1912, that blasting powder is free of Customs duty on importation into the Protectorate.
(C. 1,909.)

BELGIUM.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, copy of a recent circular of the Belgian Ministry of Finance in which it is provided that electrical “time switches” (*interrupteurs électriques munis d'un mouvement d'horlogerie destiné à en régler automatiquement la marche*) are to be assessed for duty, on importation into Belgium, under the Tariff heading “Machines, Apparatus and Tools—Other,” at the following rates:—

Of aluminium	...	...	40	francs	per	100	kilogs.
Of cast iron	...	...	2	”	”	”	”
Of wrought iron or of steel	...	...	4	”	”	”	”
Of copper or of any other material	...	...	12	”	”	”	”

(C. 1,799.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

With reference to the notice at page 406 of the “Board of Trade Journal” for the 21st November last respecting the Regulations issued by the United States Department of Agriculture to give effect to the “Plant Quarantine Act,” it may be noted that revised Regulations (T.D. 33071) on this subject have been issued, which supersede the earlier provisions. These amended Regulations may be inspected by British traders interested, on application, at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—continued.

A recent Circular of the United States Treasury Department notifies that pig lead, obtained from foreign bullion refined in a bonded smelting warehouse, may be withdrawn without payment of duty if intended to be manufactured into materials for use in the construction or repair of vessels, in accordance with the Regulations relating to the free entry of materials for the construction and repair of vessels under Section 5 of the Panama Canal Act.*

The following Customs decision has recently been issued by the United States Treasury Department:—

Customs Decision. *Trimmed hats.*—Paragraph 422, Tariff Act of 1909, provides *inter alia* that “hats, bonnets, and hoods composed wholly or in chief value of straw, chip, grass, * * * or manila hemp,” if untrimmed, shall be dutiable at 35 per cent. *ad valorem*, and, if trimmed, at 50 per cent *ad valorem*. The Board of General Appraisers has decided that trimmed hats, the bodies of which are composed wholly or in chief value of one of the materials named in paragraph 422 are dutiable thereunder as trimmed hats, irrespective of the value of the trimming as compared with the value of the article without the trimming.

**COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS
REGULATIONS.
MADAGASCAR.**

H.M. Consul at Antananarivo (Mr. T. P. Porter) reports that, from 11th January, commercial travellers in Madagascar are to be charged a tax at the rate of 13s. 4d. for every month or part of a month they stay in the island. The tax is to be paid on landing and a traveller's licence obtained from the local Administrator.

It should be noted that this information affects the particulars contained in the Commercial Travellers' Memorandum published in July, 1910 [Cd. 5189].

(C. 1,767.)

**SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.
NEW ZEALAND.**

H.M. Trade Commissioner for New Zealand (Mr. W. G. Wickham) has forwarded an extract from the local press from which it appears that the Greymouth Harbour Board desire to improve the port so as to enable large vessels to enter the harbour, and for this purpose they are to obtain from a leading Australian engineering expert a report on the practicability of the work and its probable cost.

(4,633.)

* See the “Board of Trade Journal” for the 2nd January (pp. 29-30).

*Shipping and Transport.***RUSSIA.**

H.M. Consul at Riga (Mr. V. H. C. Bosanquet) reports that on 28th February ships were icebound in the Gulf of Riga and that the ice conditions were more severe. (H. 2,917.)

Navigation in the Gulf of Riga.

The British Vice-Consul at Kherson (Mr. E. W. Caruana) reports that the following agreement has been made between the British Chamber of Shipping and the Kherson Bourse Committee:—

Shipping Charges at Kherson. In consideration of the Bourse Committee giving every facility for the loading of steamers and more especially providing the necessary officials for drawing samples and superintending shipments at night and on holidays so as to enable steamers to load uninterruptedly, the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom have agreed to the levy of a sum of 25 roubles (£2 12s. 8d.) per steamer for each voyage from Kherson as a contribution to the Bourse expenses. The "mat money" now paid by the shippers to the shipowners is to be maintained and there will be no question of the Bourse claiming any part thereof until the end of this agreement, *viz.*, to the end of 1920. (C. 1,307.)

GERMANY.

H.M. Embassy at Berlin have forwarded a copy of a Bill, which has been laid before the Prussian Diet, for the improvement of the river Oder below Breslau. It is proposed to spend 18,500,000 marks (about £910,000) on the regulation of the Oder below Breslau, and 18,200,000 marks (about £895,000) on the construction of a dam and reservoir at Ottmachan on the Neisse. The object of the works is to improve navigation between Silesia and Berlin and between Silesia and Stettin.

The Bill, with its accompanying memoranda and maps, 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. 1,843.)

ITALY. CHILE.

With reference to the notice on p. 590 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 14th March, 1912, relative to a proposed direct steamship service between Italy and Chile, the Acting British Consul-General at Valparaiso (Mr. G. F. Atlee) has forwarded an extract from the local press, which states that the Committee of Foreign Relations and Colonisation of the House of Deputies has reported in favour of the scheme.

The proposal provides for the payment of an annual subsidy of £20,000 each to the steamship company by both the Italian and Chilean Governments in return for a regular service of one outward voyage per month from Genoa to Valparaiso and other Chilean ports and one homeward voyage. On the outward voyage the vessels are

Shipping and Transport.

to call only at Rio de Janeiro and then proceed direct to Chile *viâ* the Straits of Magellan, but on the homeward journey to Genoa the Panama Canal route may be used if the company desire it. The vessels are to have a cargo capacity of 5,000 tons each and will be especially adapted for emigrant traffic. A period of five years is proposed in which to test the new service, and in the event of it proving satisfactory it would then become permanent. (M. 6,146.)

TURKEY.

With reference to the notice on pp. 648-9 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 28th September, 1911, relative to an International Syndicate to undertake and control electrical enterprises in Turkey, H.M. Embassy at Constantinople report that early last year application was made on behalf of the Deutsche Bank for a concession for a metropolitan electric railway in Constantinople; on 15th October, 1912, an Imperial Iradé was issued granting the concession, and the Convention was duly signed on 26th January.

The Convention authorises the construction and working for 80 years of a metropolitan electric railway in Constantinople and European suburbs, for the conveyance of passengers, and, if necessary, merchandise. The main line will run from the Sultan Bayazid Mosque Square in Stamboul, across the Golden Horn, to Pancaldi and Shishli. The option is also granted of building a line from the Bayazid Mosque Square to Yeni Kapon (Stamboul), and branches from the main line to Eyoub and Dolma-Baghtcheh.

The main line, with a double track, must be completed as far as Pancaldi within 4½ years from 15th October, 1912, and will cross the Golden Horn over a special bridge to be built by the concessionaire. The remainder of the main line is to be finished within 10 years from the same date. The concessionaire is authorised to erect power stations to provide the necessary current, but may obtain the current from other generating stations if preferred.

In accordance with the terms of the convention, a company, with a capital of 36,000,000 francs (£1,440,000) has been formed, under the title of "Société Anonyme Ottomane des Chemins de fer Métropolitans de Constantinople et de sa Banlieue," with the right to issue debentures to the amount necessary for carrying out the undertaking.

It appears that in the matter of this concession the Deutsche Bank has been acting on behalf of the very powerful syndicate created last year called the "Consortium des Affaires d'Electricité de Constantinople," which was formed with the object of bringing together under one management the interests of the Deutsche Bank in the Constantinople Tramways, those of the Deutsche Orient Bank in the Galata-Pera Tunnel, and those of the Ganz group in the Constantinople Electric Light & Power Company, and also with the additional object of obtaining further concessions from the Government. The "Consortium" will eventually be replaced by a new syndicate which is to be named the "Union Ottomane Société d'Entreprises Electriques à Constantinople," and is to have a capital, with debentures, of 90,000,000 francs (£3,600,000). (C. 1,897.)

Shipping and Transport.

CONGO STATE.

The following information is from the report by H.M. Consul at Boma (Mr. W. J. Lamont) on the trade and resources of the Congo State in 1911, which will shortly be issued:—

The lower part of the River Congo, navigable to ocean vessels from Banana to Matadi, presents certain difficulties that render pilotage compulsory. A service is maintained by the State. Dredgers work constantly, and the passage near the Fetish Rock has been much deepened.

Transport on the Congo River. The branch postal and freight service on the Lower Congo is carried out by two steamers of 250, and one of 115 tons, respectively, and two small 10-ton launches; there are also 50 boats of from 1 to 3 tons afloat.

From Stanley Pool radiates a network of waterways navigable to shallow-draught steamers for over 10,000 miles, whilst many hundreds of miles more are open to small boats and canoes. Rapids and shallow sandy reaches are the most formidable obstacles to navigation on the Congo and its numerous tributaries. Porterage and railway overcome the former, and the use of flat-bottomed stern-wheeler steamers diminishes the chance of disaster on the shoals. The State have organised a hydrographic service, and efforts are being made to chart, buoy and otherwise define the best channels. The State run 37 steamers with a total carrying capacity of 2,800 tons, the "Chemin des fer des Grands Lacs" run 4 steamers of 480 tons each, the Citas Company 7 steamers aggregating 496 tons, while the "Messageries Fluviales" run 3 small steamers to the Ubaughi. The Kasai Company have also 2 stern-wheelers of 35 tons each, and there are besides a few small steamers belonging to other commercial companies and mission societies.

The Government will soon place on the Upper Congo a 1,500 horse-power boat with Diesel-engine, built similarly to the Nile tourist steamers, to carry 100 passengers; she will be able to accomplish the voyage from Leopoldville to Stanleyville and back in 14 days instead of the 30 days now required by the mail boats. A local (British) firm have completed a 150-ton steamer and will soon finish the construction of another, as well as two 30-ton barges.

A large accession to the Upper Congo fleet must be made if the transport up-river is to cope successfully with the freight deposited at Leopoldville and Kinshasa by the railway. There is much congestion both at Matadi and Kinshasa, vast stocks of merchandise lying at both places awaiting removal. In June, 1912, 5,000 tons of cargo had accumulated at Stanley Pool. This congestion extends to the points at the mouths of the great tributaries where the main river steamers discharge cargo destined for posts off the Congo.

Freight rates are very high, ordinary trade goods such as cloth and salt costing £8 16s. per ton from Leopoldville to Stanley Falls; rubber, £1 16s. per ton; and ivory £10 per ton on the down route. Passenger tickets cost, for the full journey, £5 8s., plus 12s. per day for cabin and food; the voyage up now occupies at least 17 days. During 1911, 18,223 tons were carried up river and 3,777 tons down

Shipping and Transport.

river by State steamers; these figures show increases of 2,207 and 786 tons respectively over 1910.

On the Congo between Ponthierville and Kindu 3 stern-wheelers, 2 tugs and 4 barges are running; between Kongolo and Bukama, 3 stern-wheelers, 4 tugs, 2 barges and 4 boats. Slipways are being built at Ponthierville and Kongolo.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (PANAMA CANAL ZONE).

H.M. Legation at Panama has forwarded an extract from the "Canal Record," the official organ of the Isthmian Canal Commission, containing details and drawings of the floating gas buoys to be used for marking the channel, and of the stationary beacons to be erected in the Culebra Cut. The floating buoys will each consist of a cylindrical steel body, eight feet in diameter, to the bottom of which a steel tube and counterweight will be fitted. The body will carry a light steel frame, which supports the light and lens at a height of 15 feet above water level. The illuminant will be acetylene gas, dissolved in acetone, and stored at a pressure of 150 lbs. in four accumulators, which can be changed from time to time without removing the buoy from the water. All buoys will be fitted with flashing and occulting lights automatically worked by the gas itself.

The lights in the Culebra Cut, of which there will be 35, are to have reinforced concrete bases, and to be fitted with occulting lights 15 feet high. These lights have already been made, and will be placed in position as soon as the work in the Cut has proceeded far enough.

The particulars and drawings can be seen by firms in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (H. 2,640; H. 2,641.)

MEXICO. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

H.M. Legation at Mexico City report the publication in the "Diario Oficial" of 25th January of a three years' contract between the Mexican Ministry of Communications and Public Works and the Munson Steamship

Line of New York for a steamship service between Atlantic or Mexican Gulf ports of the United States and ports on the Gulf coast of Mexico, not less than two round voyages to be made each month. The service is to commence at once. The company agree to carry mails free of charge between ports of call and also up to ten tons of freight for the Mexican Government on each voyage. In return, the company will be granted certain facilities for loading and discharging at Mexican ports, and will be exempt from the payment of 40 per cent. of the tonnage dues. They may also engage in the coasting trade, and establish coal depôts on the Gulf coast, excepting at Vera Cruz. No cash subsidy will be paid by the Mexican Government.

(C. 1,776.)

MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.**AUSTRALIA.**

H.M. Trade Commissioner for Australia has forwarded an extract from the Melbourne "Argus," from which it appears that an Ordinance relating to mining for mineral oil in the Northern Territory has been recently approved by the Federal Executive Council. Permission to search for oil may be granted in respect of Crown lands over areas not exceeding five square miles, and the licences will hold good for twelve months, conferring on the holders of such licences the exclusive right to prospect the land mentioned in them. The search for oil must commence within 90 days after the licence has been granted. Lessees must also pay a royalty of 5 per cent. on the net value of all crude oil they obtain. These crude oils must be refined within the Northern Territory, or elsewhere in Australia by permission. It is provided in the Ordinance that a licence or a mineral oil lease will not be granted to any company other than one formed and incorporated under the law of the United Kingdom or a British Possession.

(4,162.)

NEW ZEALAND.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for New Zealand (Mr. W. G. Wickham) has forwarded a copy of the Report of the Select Committee of the New Zealand House of Representatives, which was appointed to consider the question of the establishment of an iron and steel industry in the Dominion, with special reference to the proposals of a London Syndicate for the development of the iron ore deposits at Parapara and Omakaka.

The Committee decided that it is desirable, in the interests of the Dominion, to encourage the production of iron and steel from native ores. The proposals of the Syndicate were, however, considered unsatisfactory in their present form and their acceptance was not recommended. The Committee recommended that the Government should make a full enquiry into the whole matter at the earliest possible date, with a view to ascertaining the terms on which investors would be prepared to provide the capital necessary to develop the industry on an adequate scale. As an alternative, it was suggested that the Government should fully enquire into the advisability of developing the industry as a State enterprise.

(3,695.)

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

The "Federated Malay States Government Gazette" of 17th January publishes the following statement, showing the weight of tin (tin exported in the form of ore having been taken at 70 per cent. of the gross weight of the ore) exported from the Federated Malay States during the years 1911 and 1912:—

Tin Exports.

Minerals, Metals and Machinery.

State.	1911.			1912.		
	Tin.	Tin contained in Tin Ore.	Total.	Tin.	Tin contained in Tin Ore.	Total.
	Pikuls.	Pikuls.	Pikuls.	Pikuls.	Pikuls.	Pikuls.
Perak	97,835	339,504	437,339	96,885	380,355	477,240
Selangor	54,215	176,960	231,175	61,769	193,613	255,382
Negri Sembilan	90	29,140	29,230	67	29,004	29,071
Pahang	15,281	28,673	43,954	16,063	35,716	51,779
Total	167,421	574,277	741,698	174,784	638,688	813,472

Pikul = 133½ lbs.

GERMANY.

The "Frankfurter Zeitung" of 28th February states that there can be no doubt that the uncertainty in the political situation and the prevailing dear money conditions are producing an unfavourable effect in the industrial markets. Trade is quiet and buyers are adopting an attitude of reserve. Manufacturers are, however, looking forward to an improvement in the political conditions, and are consequently trying as far as possible to keep prices at their present level. It cannot be denied, though, that in one or two instances, as for example in the case of bar iron, offers have been made below official prices. Business is still satisfactory at the works, although not so brisk as in the autumn. (X. 5,028.)

**Rhenish
Westphalian
Iron and Steel
Market.**

According to the "Börsen Zeitung" (Berlin) of 28th February, it was declared at a recent meeting of the German Steel Works Syndicate that the constituent members of the Syndicate are still doing good business. Further developments will depend upon the termination of hostilities in the Balkan States.

**German Steel
Works
Syndicate:
Trade.**

Home trade in semi-manufactured products is very good, and sales have been maintained at the January level. Trade for foreign account, whilst good, is considerably affected by the uncertain political situation, and the weakening which has manifested itself in the prices of English pig-iron is causing manufacturers to exercise caution. Business in heavy material is excellent, and the home and foreign orders in hand were 490,000 metric tons higher on the 1st February than on the corresponding date in 1912. (X. 5,032.)

NETHERLANDS.

The following information is from the report by H.M. Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. W. A. Churchill) on the trade of that district in 1912, which will shortly be issued:—

The imports of coal into the Netherlands in the years 1910, 1911 and 1912 amounted to 14,789,201, 16,377,877 and 18,138,671 tons respectively. Imports from the United Kingdom show a falling-off, instead of an

Coal Trade.

Minerals, Metals and Machinery.

increased participation in the gradual increase of Dutch imports. The coal miners' strike in the United Kingdom in 1912 caused some of the trade to be diverted to Germany. In the autumn the German mines experienced difficulty in fulfilling their contracts in the Netherlands in consequence of the shortage of German rolling-stock and the activity of German works that absorbed the bulk of the national coal output. This difficulty seems to recur regularly in the autumn.

Contract prices for bunker coals for 1913 are 16s. 9d., 17s. 6d. and 18s. 6d. per metric ton delivered f.o.b. at Amsterdam, Zaandam, and Ymuiden, respectively, for quantities of from 50 to 200 tons.

The British Vice-Consul at Ymuiden (Mr. S. C. L. Reygersberg) reports that the consumption of British coal by the fishing fleet at Ymuiden has ceased in consequence of the non-fulfilment of contracts due to the strike of British miners last year. German coal now takes the place of the British product.

NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES.

H.M. Minister at The Hague reports that 1,494,632 tons of petroleum were produced in the Netherlands East Indies during 1912, and that the output for this year will probably slightly exceed this amount. In consequence of the increased consumption of liquid fuel it is possible that there will be an increase in the production of heavy crude oils which can be used for this purpose without any further process of distilling. (C. 1,897; C. 1,459.)

FRANCE.

According to the "Frankfurter Zeitung" of 17th February, the production of pig iron in France during 1912 reached 4,826,000 metric tons, compared with 4,426,000 metric tons in 1911. This increase of 400,000 metric tons is accounted for by the working of 8 new blast furnaces and the increased output of existing furnaces. Of the 159 blast furnaces in France, 131 are in operation, compared with 123 at the beginning of 1912, and 114 at the commencement of 1911. Everything points to a still further increase in the production of French pig iron during this and the next few years. In the east of France alone 12 new blast furnaces will be taken in hand during the present year. The production of finished iron and steel products has also considerably increased during the past few years. The monthly output of the works belonging to the "Comité des Forges de France" rose from January to December, 1912, in the case of bar iron from 55,300 metric tons to 57,300 metric tons, girders and slapes from 45,600 metric tons to 61,200 metric tons, and sheets and hoop iron from 40,700 metric tons to 43,500 metric tons, whilst various other products increased from 35,800 metric tons to 41,400 metric tons. Steel rails, however, fell from 46,400 metric tons to 39,900 metric tons, which is principally due to the turning out of sheets and girders in preference to steel rails. A noteworthy fact in connection with the increased production of iron and steel products during 1912 is that almost all the increase was absorbed by the home markets.

Metric ton = 2204.6 lbs.

*Minerals, Metals and Machinery.***SPAIN.**

H.M. Consul-General at Barcelona (Mr. J. F. Roberts, C.M.G.) reports that the amount of coal (including patent fuel and coke) imported into Barcelona continues to increase. The following table gives the figures of the imports during 1912, the figures for the two previous years being added for purposes of comparison:—

From.	1910.	1911.	1912.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
United Kingdom	539,562	617,674	649,351
Rotterdam	48,952	57,041	85,346
Belgium	7,019	—	8,275
United States	—	—	1,832
Total from abroad	595,533	674,715	744,804
Spanish coal	246,490	265,274	288,150
Grand total	842,023	939,989	1,032,954

The quantity imported from the United Kingdom in 1912 was the largest recorded for many years, and comprised 279,895 tons of Welsh coal, 344,698 tons of North Country coal, 16,061 tons of patent fuel from Wales, and 8,697 tons of coke from the North Country.

Last year was the first during which over a million tons of coal were imported into Barcelona; the increase was chiefly due to the growing use of electric light and power by the numerous factories in Barcelona and district. It is probable that the present year will witness a further increase in the importation of coal. It is noteworthy that a small quantity of coal was imported from the United States in 1912, this being the first consignment from that country for many years. (C. 1,617.)

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

With reference to the notice on p. 439 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 28th November, 1912, relative to a call for tenders for the supply and erection of a coal-loading installation at Lourenço Marques, it is notified that H.M. Consul-General there (Mr. E. Mac Donell) has forwarded an extract from the local Press giving the names of the firms who submitted tenders and the amounts of their offers.

H.M. Consul-General adds that a wall is being built in the river, and the area thus recovered will be filled up with sand and on this site the coaling plant will be installed. A slight though continuous subsidence of the wall so far constructed has been recorded and large cracks constantly appear. Various port engineers have examined the work and they all agree that the wall is not of sufficient strength to warrant the continuation of the work or

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to stand the safe working of the crane, which weighs 340 tons. This crane is a 60-ton travelling crane which was installed on piles some two years ago, but during tests with an 80-ton lift it nearly capsized owing to the piles giving way. It is now employed in transporting the blocks of concrete used in making the wall.

The names of the firms who submitted tenders may be obtained by United Kingdom makers and builders of coaling plant on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C. 1,649.)

VENEZUELA.

H.M. Vice-Consul at Carácas (Mr. G. B. Gilliat-Smith) reports that he is informed on authority that the Canadian-Iron Ore Exports. Venezuelan Ore Company, of Imataca, has been shipping 2,500 tons of iron ore per month, and expects to increase this amount to 5,000 tons by 1st March, and to 10,000 tons per month by 1st July. It is understood that the ore is shipped to New York. (4,366.)

YARNS AND TEXTILES.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

The Annual Report for the year ended 31st March, 1912, on the East Africa Protectorate, recently issued by the Colonial Office, contains the following particulars regarding the trade in cotton goods:—

The trade in cotton goods, which at present holds the premier place in the imports of the Protectorate, is still in its infancy. British East Africa has a population of about three million natives, most of whom, until quite recently, went about unclothed. The majority still adhere to their primeval customs in the matter of clothing, the Kavirondo tribe, numbering over a million, being the most conservative in this respect. The wealth of the native tribes, is however, increasing year by year, and it is only to be expected that enhanced prosperity, coupled with the spread of civilisation, will in a short time engender a desire to adopt a state of life similar to that of human beings in more developed countries; in fact, the Kikuyu have already begun to purchase cotton goods, and are becoming alive to the fact that they possess the wherewithal to obtain what they require, whether it be blankets, wraps, or more elaborate clothing. *The present trade with the natives in all classes of goods is bound to expand enormously in a few years' time.* At present the market does not appear to hold out much inducement to British manufacturers to dispose of their goods in increasing quantities; the trade in cotton goods, both with the United Kingdom and with India, having relatively declined. The supply of these commodities is now, and appears likely to remain, largely in the hands of foreigners and Asiatics. So far from there being an influx of British firms, the past year has seen the advent of three new foreign firms who have started business in Mombasa, whereas there has been no increase in the number of British commercial concerns. The bulk of the trade with the natives in cotton goods is carried on from Mombasa.

*Yarns and Textiles.***RUSSIA.****Linen Industry
in 1911.**

See notice on p. 576.

GERMANY.

According to the "Frankfurter Zeitung" of 1st March, the outlook in the Lower Rhine cotton spinning and weaving industries is very satisfactory. There has not been much variation in prices. Cotton yarn prices have continued quiet since the middle of January. Consumers of cotton yarn are not showing any great desire to buy, a circumstance which is attributed to the unsettled political situation. Apparently the instability in the cotton markets is also contributing to a certain amount of reserve among spinners, but there is a general hope that the spring will bring somewhat cheaper yarn prices. On the whole prices have continued quite firm during the past few weeks and some spinners were exceedingly busy.

100 pfennige = 1 mark = 11·8d.

(X. 5,044.)

NETHERLANDS.

According to the "Textil-Zeitung" (Berlin) of 25th February, 85,177 bales (each weighing 40 kilogs.) of cleaned kapok and 6,034 bales of uncleaned kapok were imported into Amsterdam in 1912, whilst 2,390 bales of cleaned kapok were imported into Rotterdam during the same period, making a total of 93,601 bales, as contrasted with 66,784 bales in 1911 and 67,175 bales in 1910. Of the foregoing quantity, together with stocks held in January, 1912, a total of 94,702 bales were sold. The prices per half kilog. for East Indies kapok were: 45 to 46 cents for special cleaned, 44 to 45 cents for good cleaned, 35 to 44 cents for cleaned, and 15 to 15½ cents for uncleaned.

100 cents = 1 gulden = 1s. 8d. ; kilog. = 2·204 lbs.

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 1st March, 1913, were as follows:—

Corn Prices.

Wheat	...	...	...	...	31s. 0d.
Barley	...	...	...	...	28s. 6d.
Oats	...	...	...	...	20s. 4d.

For further particulars see p. 586.

A statement is published on p. 587 showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended 1st March, 1913, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1912.

**Imports of
Agricultural
Produce.**

Agricultural and Forest Products.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended 27th February, 1913, was **Cotton Statistics.** 102,048 (including 290 bales British West Indian, 1,303 bales British East African, and 131 bales foreign East African), and the number imported during the nine weeks ended 27th February was 1,226,905 (including 1,299 bales British West Indian, 1,469 bales British West African, 7,326 bales British East African, and 696 bales foreign East African). The number of bales exported during the week ended 27th February was 16,033, and during the nine weeks, 139,870.

For further details see p. 586.

CEYLON.

The following statistics of the exports of rubber of domestic production from Ceylon during the month of November and the eleven months ended November, 1911 and 1912, have been extracted from official returns issued by the Ceylon Government:—

To	Nov., 1911.	Nov., 1912.	Jan.-Nov., 1911.	Jan.-Nov., 1912.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
United Kingdom	476,150	887,156	3,509,561	7,157,605
United States	91,574	637,192	1,895,301	4,116,776
Other countries	80,635	168,237	893,064	1,735,958
Total exports of rubber of domestic production ...	648,359	1,692,585	6,297,926	13,010,339

SOUTH AFRICA.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for South Africa (Sir R. Sothorn Holland) reports that, according to information he has received from the Commissioner of Customs and Excise at Pretoria, it has been officially stated that the output of wattle bark in Natal during the present season will be 25 per cent. less than that of last season, owing to intense drought and also to the damage done to the plantations by the bagworm. (3,550.)

RHODESIA.

The Report for the year ended 31st March, 1912, of the British South Africa Company states that the flourishing condition of the tobacco growing industry in Rhodesia, and its rapid and continuous development, are particularly satisfactory. The production in 1912-13 is estimated at about 1,397,000 lbs., the output in 1911-12 being 450,000 lbs., while in 1910-11 it was only 132,310 lbs. The crop for the coming season is estimated at from 2,500,000 to 3,000,000 lbs.; it is stated

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that seed has been distributed to nearly 300 growers, as against 185 last year. The average prices realised for Rhodesian-grown tobacco at the auction sales held last year were 1s. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. for leaf grown from Virginian seed, and 2s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for Turkish leaf.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

The official "Lago: Customs and Trade Journal" of 17th January publishes the following statistics showing the exports of cotton lint and cotton seed from Southern Nigeria in 1911 and 1912:—

	1911.			1912.		
	No.	Weight.	Value.	No.	Weight.	Value.
Cotton lint ...	Bales. 5,478	Cwts. 19,984	£ 66,935	Bales. 11,068	Cwts. 39,042	£ 102,933
Cotton seed ...	Bags. 33,482	Tons. 1,908	£ 4,577	Bags. 82,089	Tons. 4,058	£ 10,030

RUSSIA.

H.M. Embassy at St. Petersburg report that the Central Statistical Committee of the Ministry of the Interior have issued the following report of the harvest prospects on 23rd January in 72 out of the 91 Governments of European and Asiatic Russia:—

It is generally accepted that the yield of the winter sowings largely depends on the depth to which they are covered by the fall of snow. This season the snow fell earlier than usual in 6 Governments; at the usual time in 19; later than usual in 6; late in 24; and very late in 17 Governments. In 34 Governments the snowfall is very slight and the sowings are poorly or very poorly covered; in 4 cases it is insufficient; in 20 cases the snowfall is sufficient and the sowings are covered satisfactorily; it is only in 14 Governments, however, that the snowfall is fully sufficient and the seeds well covered.

The first half of the winter of 1912-13 cannot therefore be regarded as favourable to the winter sowings. For the most part the snow fell later than usual and insufficiently covered the sowings, particularly in the majority of the wheat and other grain-growing regions of European Russia, almost throughout Poland, and in certain Governments of Trans-Caucasia. (1,513.)

In an article on flax cultivation and the linen industry in Russia during 1911, the official "Pravitelstvennei Viestnik" (St. Petersburg) of 19th February states that although the yield of flax per dessiatine in Russia is considerably lower than in Bulgaria for example, where it exceeds 60 pounds per dessiatine, the total annual production of flax in

Agricultural and Forest Products.

Russia is far greater than that of any other country. The definitive estimate, issued by the Central Statistical Committee in regard to 72 governments and provinces in the Russian Empire, shows that 1,418,433 dessiatines were sown with flax in 1911, against 1,312,302 dessiatines in 1910. No less than 82.1 per cent. of the land is cultivated by the smaller farmers and only the remaining 17.9 per cent. by landed proprietors. The most important districts under cultivation in 1911 were Viatka with 112,422 dessiatines, Smolensk with 106,888 dessiatines, and Tver with 100,789 dessiatines, the yields in these districts amounting to 1,451,300 pounds, 2,601,900 pounds and 2,277,400 pounds respectively. In Livonia the area under cultivation amounted to 70,817 dessiatines, which yielded 1,907,200 pounds of flax. The yield in Pskov totalled 1,768,400 pounds. The average yield per dessiatine during 1911 for 27 governments is returned at 21.4 pounds, as compared with 20.1 pounds in 1910 and an average of 23.7 pounds for the years 1901-1910.

The aggregate number of people employed in the entire Russian linen industry in 1910-11 amounted to 65,353, compared with 65,402 in 1909-10. The first mentioned figures are made up as follows: 25,452 men, 31,667 women and 8,234 children. The number of looms employed in the Russian linen industry in 1910-11 totalled 15,156.

Dessiatine = 2.7 acres; pound = 36 lbs.

RUSSIA (TURKESTAN).

In an article on cotton cultivation in Khiva, the "Pravitelstvennei Vestnik" (St. Petersburg) of 16th February states that the economic factor of primary importance in the Khiva district is the River Amu-Daria. This river brings down a considerable amount of sand and mud; it has a sloping bank on each side, and this circumstance has been taken advantage of for the cutting of irrigation canals. The cotton seeds are sown during the month of April. The pods begin to open out during the first part of August, and about the end of the same month the raw cotton is taken to the markets. The extent of the profit which the crop ultimately yields depends directly on the quality of the fibre first harvested. The total amount of land irrigated in the Khiva Khanate amounts to about 531,000 tanaps and in the Amu-Daria District to 123,323 tanaps, making a total of 654,323 tanaps throughout the oasis. Of this area 97,595 tanaps, or 14 per cent., were under cotton in 1911, whereas in Fergana cotton growing accounted for 26 per cent. of the irrigated land. The amount of raw cotton consigned from the Khiva district has steadily risen from 50,000 pounds in 1885 to 150,000 pounds in 1890, 320,000 pounds in 1900 and 680,000 pounds in 1911.

1 tanap = 900 square sâgènes = 1.01 acres; 1 dessiatine = 2,400 square sâgènes =
2.7 acres.

*Agricultural and Forest Products.***FRENCH WEST AFRICA.**

With reference to the notice on p. 99 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th January relative to samples of **Fibre and Cordage from the Baobab Tree: Samples on View.** fibre and cordage made from the baobab tree, it is notified that a sample of the fibrous bark was submitted by the Director of the Imperial Institute to a firm of brokers, who stated that owing to the irregular supply of this material the demand for it in the United Kingdom had fallen off, but that the trade could no doubt be revived if a regular supply could be guaranteed. The firm in question added that the sample was of rather rough appearance and probably worth from £8 to £9 per ton in Liverpool. It was pointed out that the bulky nature of the fibrous bark would make the freight and other charges rather high.

The samples of fibre and cordage 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. (3,840.)

MEXICO.

With reference to the notices on p. 100 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th January, and p. 212 of the issue of 23rd January, relative to concessions granted for the exploitation of certain woods and forests in the Territory of Quintana Roo (Yucatan Peninsula) for timber, cabinet woods, and chicle (gum), H.M. Legation at Mexico City report the publication of four further contracts, covering concessions of a similar character and granted to Señores Manuel Zetina, Juan de la Borbolla, Juan Perez Grovas, and Alexander Rueff, respectively. Each of these concessions covers an area of about 40,000 hectares (about 98,800 acres) in the Territory of Quintana Roo. (C. 1,694; C. 1,564.)

BRAZIL. PERU. BOLIVIA.

The Acting-British Consul at Pará (Mr. J. Bremner) reports that the quantity of rubber exported from Pará, Manaos, Iquitos, and Itacoatiara, *viá* Pará, during the month of January, 1913, was as follows:—

Exports of Rubber from the Amazon Basin, *viá* Pará, in January, 1913.

	Fine.	Medium.	Coarse.	Caucho.	Total.
January, 1912—	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.
To United States ...	752,317	112,959	437,915	64,926	1,368,117
To Europe ...	1,365,157	168,061	345,219	482,299	2,360,736
Total ...	2,117,474	281,020	783,134	547,225	3,728,853
January, 1913—					
To United States ...	885,784	148,504	747,531	319,769	2,101,588
To Europe ...	1,280,285	190,907	232,471	750,386	2,454,049
Total ...	2,166,069	339,411	980,002	1,070,155	4,555,637

Kilog. = 2·2046 lbs.

(4,551.)

*Agricultural and Forest Products.***CHINA.**

The "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin) of 20th February states, on the authority of the German Consul in Amoy, that the export of camphor from the Province of Fukien shows a considerable falling off in 1912 as compared with past years. In 1912, 179 pikuls only were despatched from Fuchow, as against 19,711 pikuls from Amoy and Fuchow in 1907, and 576 pikuls in 1911. The exports from Amoy in 1912 were so insignificant that camphor is no longer separately mentioned in the Customs statistics.

Pikul = 133½ lbs.

JAPAN.

With reference to the notice on p. 201 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 24th October last relative to the **Rice Crop.** estimated rice crop in Japan, H.M. Commercial Attaché at Yokohama (Mr. E. F. Crowe) now reports that the actual crop was 50,216,153 koku, as compared with 51,694,883 koku in 1911, and 46,633,376 koku in 1910. The 1912 crop was considerably less than the estimates owing to the exceptionally cold weather and severe storms and floods experienced in the autumn; nevertheless, the output has turned out to be 1,092,804 koku, or 2·2 per cent., more than a normal crop. (4,545.)

Koku=4·96 bushels.

JAPAN (FORMOSA).

With reference to the article on pp. 682-3 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 19th September, 1912, relative to the **State Aid for the Sugar Industry.** sugar industry of Formosa, H.M. Consul at Tamsni (Mr. J. B. Rentiers) has forwarded a translation of a notice respecting subsidies for the encouragement of the cultivation of sugar cane in Formosa, which was published in the Formosa "Official Gazette" of 11th August, 1912. The assistance to be given to planters by the Government will consist of payment for the cost of young sugar canes and fertilisers, money grants in aid of irrigation and drainage works, the loan of sugar manufacturing machinery and implements to suitable manufacturers, and the gift or loan of farming implements to cultivators.

The translation 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. 763.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA).

The following statement, showing the quantity and value of the principal articles imported oversea into Victoria from countries outside the Commonwealth of Australia during the years 1911 and 1912, has been issued by the Victorian Government Statist:—

	1911.		1912.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Ale and beer ... galls.	679,374	£ 105,075	964,811	£ 153,749
Apparel and soft goods ...	—	5,605,178	—	6,219,228
Boots and shoes ...	—	92,433	—	144,681
Cocoa and chocolate ... lbs.	2,014,861	96,285	1,662,283	90,674
Confectionery ... "	1,957,984	101,637	3,304,925	176,642
Cordage and twines ...	—	236,985	—	251,212
Drugs and chemicals ...	—	308,188	—	351,720
Earthenware, china, &c. ...	—	137,543	—	134,964
Fruits (fresh and dried) ...	—	75,775	—	108,129
Gold (bullion and specie) ...	—	541,268	—	338,796
Hats and caps ...	—	80,426	—	140,469
Implements and machinery ...	—	1,218,516	—	1,447,219
Instruments—musical ...	—	190,075	—	225,520
Iron and steel ... cwt.	2,755,065	1,177,275	2,963,704	1,299,626
Jute goods, bags, sacks, &c. ...	—	486,019	—	364,012
Leather ...	—	209,166	—	254,635
Manures ... cwt.	1,314,260	182,407	1,361,997	204,472
Metals—Manufactures of ...	—	1,145,484	—	1,390,625
Oils in bulk ...	—	454,569	—	643,847
Paints and colours, varnishes..	—	142,893	—	200,019
Paper ...	—	600,535	—	632,289
Rice ... cents	246,893	86,094	336,560	145,640
Rubber goods ...	—	568,740	—	543,125
Spirits ...	—	316,937	—	267,007
Tea ... lbs.	14,549,208	517,172	15,351,084	527,618
Timber ...	—	1,107,317	—	979,268
Tobacco—Manufactured lbs.	298,027	25,616	359,318	34,444
„ Unmanufactured „	8,239,013	268,157	8,273,941	321,443
Vehicles ...	—	530,012	—	842,766
All other articles ...	—	5,242,886	—	6,653,924
Total ...	—	21,850,963	—	25,087,263

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

The official "Lagos Customs and Trade Journal" publishes the following statistics of the trade of Southern Nigeria in 1912, the figures for 1911 being added for purposes of comparison:—

Trade in 1912.

Miscellaneous.

		1911.	1912.
Imports—		£	£
Government, excluding specie	... ..	510,102	478,965
Commercial, excluding specie	... ..	4,724,772	5,472,956
Specie	... ..	446,106	477,948
Total imports	... ..	5,680,980	6,429,869
Exports—			
Government, excluding specie	... ..	992	1,285
Commercial, excluding specie	... ..	5,353,103	5,772,203
Specie	... ..	37,367	316,219
Total exports	... ..	5,391,467	6,089,707

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

With reference to the notice on p. 652 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th June, 1912, relative to the adoption of standard time in the Leeward Islands, the

Standard Time.

Board of Trade are now notified by the Colonial Office that the standard time adopted throughout the Colony is exactly four hours later than Greenwich mean time. (C. 1,319.)

NORWAY.

With reference to the notice on pp. 201-2 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 24th October, 1912, and to previous notices, relative to the utilisation of water-power for industrial purposes in Norway, H.M. Legation at Christiania report that a further amendment to the Law of 4th August, 1911, has been passed by the Odelsting, the effect of which is to make the regulation of a water-course, by which the water-power is increased by more than 2,000 natural horse-power, subject to a concession in any case, even though all the water and lands affected are in the same hands. (C. 1,801.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

H.M. Consul at San Francisco (Mr. A. C. Ross, C.B.) reports an announcement in the local press to the effect that 16 large departmental stores, with a combined annual purchasing power of 75,000,000 dols. (about £15,417,000), are about to amalgamate into one large buying concern, registered in New York. It is stated that the Emporium of San Francisco is the only Pacific Coast store that has entered the combine. (C. 1,896.)

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 January, 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 11d. 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 February issue:—State of the Labour Market in January; Unemployment Insurance; Work of Board of Trade Labour Exchanges in 1912; Industrial Disputes Investigation Act of Canada; Ships built in 1912; Recent Conciliation and Arbitration Cases.

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. 5,040 Trade of Paraguay in 1911. Price 3d.

Cattle industry.	Banking and currency.
Sugar cultivation.	Immigration.
Railways.	Map.

* 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), 23, 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.

Government Publications.

No. 5,041. Trade of Vladivostock and District in 1911. Price 6½d.

Credit conditions.	Harbour improvements.
Timber trade.	Municipal works.
Fisheries.	Shipping communications.
Mining.	Map.

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORT.

A report from the undermentioned Colony has been issued by the Colonial Office since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal":—

No. 751. East Africa Protectorate, 1911-12. Price 8½d.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

East India. Statistical Abstract relating to British India from 1901-2 to 1910-11. Forty-sixth number. [Cd. 6,637.] Price 1s. 3d.

This publication contains particulars of the area and population, finance, coinage and currency, banking, agriculture and forests, railways, foreign trade, shipping, emigration, prices, mineral production, &c. of British India.

Trade Enquiry Offices of the Self-Governing Dominions.*

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

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

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

FOREIGN & COLONIAL PUBLICATIONS.

The following is a list of the more important Articles on trade subjects contained in the Foreign and Colonial Publications received and filed for reference at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade during the week ended 1st March, 1913, 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.

Cassia: Growth and Preparation of, in South China.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 8th Feb.

Timber Trade in Baltic Ports.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 11th Feb.

Wine Trade in Sicily.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 8th Feb.

Vegetable Oil Industry in Various Countries.
"Daily Consular Reports" (Washington), 11th Feb.

Sugar Cane Experiments in Antigua.
"Agricultural News" (Barbados), 1st Feb.

Cocoa Market of Lisbon (1913).
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 15th Feb.

Cereal Cultivation in Tunis.
"Bulletin Mensuel du Gouvernement Tunisien," 15th Feb.

Tobacco Harvest in S.E. United States, 1912.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 15th Feb.

Wheat in Argentina.
"Bulletin des Halles" (Paris), 24th Feb.

Machinery and Engineering.

Sewage Disposal.
"Engineering News" (New York), 13th Feb.

Internal Combustion Engines: Use in Shipping.
"Oelmotor" (Berlin), January.

Road Making Machinery.
"Engineering News" (New York), 13th Feb.

Motor-driven Vessels: Danish Manufacturing Methods.
"Oelmotor" (Berlin), January.

Ships: Electric Propulsion.
"Weekly Commercial News" (San Francisco), 8th Feb.

Oil-gas Generators, new.
"Oelmotor" (Berlin), January.

Ship-building in Italy.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 11th Feb.

Internal Combustion Engines: New Patents.
"Oelmotor" (Berlin), January.

Machinery and Engineering—continued.

Hemp Machinery Improvements.
"Indian Textile Journal" (Bombay), January.

Gas Engines in India.
"Indian Engineering" (Calcutta), 25th Jan.

Metals, Mining and Minerals.

Thiogen Process: Present Status.
"Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York), 15th Feb.

Potash Deposits in Nevada.
"Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York), 15th Feb.

Iron Production in Meurthe et Moselle Department (France).
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 8th Feb.

Coal Mining in India.
"Indian Trade Journal" (Calcutta), 6th Feb.

Cyanide Treatment of Gold and Silver Ores containing Copper.
"Queensland Government Mining Journal" (Brisbane), 15th Jan.

Nitrate of Soda Production in Chile.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 8th Feb.

High Duty Gravity Stamp Mills.
"Queensland Government Mining Journal" (Brisbane), 15th Jan.

Mining in Indo-China.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 11th Feb.

Zinc Mining in New York State.
"Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York), 15th Feb.

Coal Syndicate of Rhenish-Westphalia.
"Frankfurter Zeitung," 22nd Feb.

Iron Mining in Belgium.
"Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 24th Feb.

Petroleum in Austro-Hungary.
"Petroleum" (Berlin), 1st Jan.

Lead Mining in Missouri.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 15th Feb.

China Clay Deposits in Canada.
"Pulp and Paper Magazine" (Toronto), 1st Feb.

Iron Trade of Rhenish-Westphalia.
"Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 22nd Feb.

Railways, Shipping and Transport.

New Harbour at Freeport in Texas.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 15th Feb.

French Shipping, and the N. African Colonies.
"Dépêche Coloniale" (Paris), 25th Feb.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS—continued.

Railways, Shipping and Transport—
continued.

- Constantza as a Wheat Port.
"Bulletin des Halles" (Paris), 24th Feb.
Increased Traffic on German Railways.
"Frankfurter Zeitung," 22nd Jan.
Railways in Indo-China.
"Dépêche Coloniale" (Paris), 25th Feb.
Railway Development in Congo State.
"Daily Consular Reports" (Washington),
3rd Feb.

Textiles and Textile Materials.

- The Silk Markets.
"Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 24th Feb.
Textile Market of Germany.
"Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 27th Feb.
Wool Trade of Germany.
"Frankfurter Zeitung," 3rd Feb.
Cotton Hosiery Bleaching.
"Canadian Textile Journal" (Toronto),
February.
Cotton Industry of Japan.
"Indian Textile Journal" (Bombay),
January.
Raw Silk: Latest particulars from Milan.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin),
15th Feb.

Commercial, Financial and Economic.

- Paraguay Trade Report.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin),
15th Feb.
Smolensk Government: Economic De-
velopment in 1912.
"Pravitelstvennoi Viestnik" (St. Peters-
burg), 14th Feb.
Legislature and the Petroleum Monopoly.
"Petroleum" (Berlin), 1st Jan.
Frankfurt Chamber of Commerce Report.
"Frankfurter Zeitung," 21st Feb.
Mongolia: Importance to Russian Trade.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin),
11th Feb.

Commercial, Financial and Economic.—
contd.

- Transcaucasian Industry: Progress of.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin),
8th Feb.
Glass industry in Belgium.
"Frankfurter Zeitung," 17th Feb.
Petroleum Question: Development of.
"Petroleum" (Berlin), 1st Jan.
Chemical Industry: State of.
"Frankfurter Zeitung," 21st Feb.

Miscellaneous.

- Fish Life and Water Pollution.
"Engineering News" (New York),
13th Feb.
Straw Board and Straw Paper Manufac-
ture.
"Pulp and Paper Magazine" (Toronto),
15th Feb.
Leather: Manufacture of Belting Butts.
"Indian Textile Journal" (Bombay),
January.
Leather Industry.
"Frankfurter Zeitung," 20th Feb.
Municipal and Sanitary work in Peru.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin),
8th Feb.
Fire Protection of American Foundries.
"Iron Age" (New York), 13th Feb.
Congo State: Sale of Alcohol to Natives
Prohibited.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin),
8th Feb.
Australian Association for Advancement
of Science.
"Australian Mining Standard"
(Sydney), 16th Jan.
Paraffin Paper: Manufacture of.
"Pulp and Paper Magazine" (Toronto),
1st Feb.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Uganda Protectorate—An Account by the
Government Entomologist of Insects
Injurious to Economic Products, and
their Control.

Egypt—Official Statistics of Joint Stock
Companies working chiefly in Egypt,
1911 (in French).

Germany—
Ludwigshaven Chamber of Commerce
Report for 1912 (in German).
Hamburg Directory, 1913 (in German).

Tunis—Official Trade Returns for 1911 (in
French).

Turkey—Report on Tithes and other
Revenues by the Administrative Council
of the Ottoman Public Debt for 1911-12
(in French).

United States—

Census Bulletins—(a) Statistics of Mining
by Industries and States: (b) Farm
Crops, by States.

Quarterly Publications of the American
Statistical Association, December, 1912.

Chile—Statistical Annual for 1911—Finance
(in Spanish).

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 9 weeks ended 27th February, 1913 :—

	Week ended 27th Feb., 1913.	9 Weeks ended 27th Feb., 1913.	Week ended 27th Feb., 1913.	9 Weeks ended 27th Feb., 1913.
	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	76,991	961,165	2,058	51,765
Brazilian	778	44,240	25	2,631
East Indian	3,581	18,220	4,304	11,249
Egyptian	17,485	176,391	9,492	71,110
Miscellaneous	3,213*	26,889†	154	3,115
Total... ..	102,048	1,226,905	16,033	139,870

* Including 290 bales British West Indian, 1,303 bales British East African, and 131 bales foreign East African.

† Including 1,299 bales British West Indian, 1,469 bales British West African, 7,326 bales British East African, and 696 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 1st March, 1913, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

	Average Price.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
Week ended 1st March, 1913	<i>s. d.</i> 31 0	<i>s. d.</i> 28 6	<i>s. d.</i> 20 4
Corresponding Week in—			
1906	28 5	25 1	18 8
1907	26 8	23 11	17 11
1908	30 5	26 1	17 8
1909	34 10	27 11	18 2
1910	32 7	24 6	18 1
1911	30 0	25 0	17 5
1912	34 1	32 0	21 6

* 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 1st March, 1913, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 1st Mar., 1913.	Correspond- ing week in 1912.
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number	222	995
Sheep and lambs	"	—	—
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	51	122
Fresh meat :—			
Beef (including refrigerated and frozen) ...	Cwts.	155,587	141,034
Mutton " " " " " " " " " "	"	94,944	64,246
Pork " " " " " " " " " "	"	10,681	7,454
Meat, unenumerated, fresh (including re- frigerated and frozen)	"	15,877	13,206
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	80,434	105,628
Beef	"	727	1,018
Hams	"	11,124	17,843
Pork	"	3,410	4,213
Meat, unenumerated, salted	"	1,397	2,345
Meat, preserved, otherwise than by salting (including tinned and canned)	"	7,864	8,224
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	75,321	89,483
Margarine	"	29,062	27,376
Cheese	"	29,511	32,052
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	255	—
" cream	"	183	67
" condensed	"	23,620	24,755
" preserved, other kinds	"	82	38
Eggs	Grt. Hndr.	337,541	295,996
Poultry	Value £	35,918	29,461
Game	"	1,755	3,244
Rabbits, dead (fresh and frozen)	Cwts.	1,912	1,143
Lard	"	44,855	51,230
Corn, grain, meal and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,567,100	1,713,900
Wheat-meal and flour... ..	"	284,100	165,800
Barley	"	112,300	214,100
Oats	"	580,100	232,500
Peas	"	48,657	204,822
Beans	"	20,440	2,680
Maize or Indian corn	"	926,400	1,122,600
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	85,489	72,059
Apricots and peaches	"	271	36
Bananas... ..	Bunches	130,693	61,417
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	1,338	745
Lemons	"	16,412	16,137
Oranges	"	254,277	187,215
Pears	"	2,046	665
Plums	"	349	225
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	2,023	633
Hay	Tons	2,240	1,006
Straw	"	66	134
Moss Litter	"	2,786	2,364
Hops	Cwts.	2,526	1,019
Locust beans	"	7,280	65,663
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	181,633	99,792
Potatoes... ..	Cwts.	144,952	8,737
Tomatoes	"	30,343	39,522
Unenumerated... ..	Value £	8,495	17,767
Vegetables, dried... ..	Cwts.	26,788	14,052
" preserved by canning	"	9,955	8,754

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).

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), 23, 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.*

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT, 1911.**Part II.—Unemployment.****(Applications to the Umpire.)**

In pursuance of Regulations made by the Board of Trade and dated 26th day of March, 1912, Notice is hereby given that the Umpire (Unemployment Insurance) has received an application for a decision as to whether contributions are payable or not in respect of the following class of workmen :—

248. Workmen engaged in the manufacture or repair of **time recorders and similar instruments.**

This may involve a reconsideration of Decision 1107.

Any representations with reference to the above application may be made in writing to the Umpire, by or on behalf of any workman or employer appearing to him to be interested, or on behalf of the Board of Trade, and forwarded to the Registrar, Office of the Umpire, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W., on or before 21st March, 1913.

Notice is further given that the Umpire proposes to give his decision on the above application on or after 24th March, 1913.

National Insurance Act, 1911.

EXTRACT FROM REGULATIONS.

3. If before the date specified in the notice any representations with reference to the application are made in writing to the Umpire by or on behalf of any workman or employer appearing to him to be interested, or the Board of Trade, the Umpire shall take those representations into his consideration, and the Umpire may at any time before the said date require any persons to supply to him such information in writing as he thinks necessary for the purpose of enabling him to give a decision.

All such representations and information shall be open to inspection by any employer or workman appearing to the Umpire to be interested or any persons authorised in that behalf by any such employer or workman or the Board of Trade.

4. Any persons claiming to be interested may apply to the Umpire to be heard by him orally in reference to any application under these Regulations, and the Umpire may, in any case in which he thinks it desirable, require the attendance of any person before him to give oral information on the subject of any application.

The decision of the Umpire upon the foregoing will be announced in the "Board of Trade Journal" in due course.

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:—

1280. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the making or repairing of jacquards and dobbies.

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

1279. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the making or repairing of jacquard harness.

1281. Workmen described as masons, bricklayers and labourers employed by a railway company, and engaged wholly or mainly in repairing tunnels on railway systems.

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.

