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SPECIAL CONTENTS.

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT OF TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

UNITED STATES TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

COMMERCIAL CRISIS IN ARGENTINA.

LINOLEUM TRADE IN WESTERN CANADA.

THE RAILWAY BILL, 1921.

JAPANESE CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENTS.

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CLEARING HOUSE FOR INFORMATION.

ASSISTANCE TO BRITISH TRADERS.

Through the wide ramifications of its overseas intelligence service the Department of Overseas Trade receives a constant flow of valuable information from all important overseas markets, covering all commercial subjects of interest to British traders engaged in export trade. This information is collated and is sent to any British trader likely to be interested.

Special enquiries are instituted in response to direct requests for information, if such information is not already in the possession of the Department.

As indicating the nature of the information which the Department is in a position to supply, mention may be made of the following:—Foreign and Colonial contracts open to tender, and other openings for British trade; existing and probable future demand for specific lines of British goods; the extent and nature of competition and the best methods of meeting it; usual methods of business, terms of credit, payment, etc.; agency conditions; Customs Regulations and Tariffs; Regulations covering Commercial Travellers, Certificates of Origin, etc., sources of supply, prices, etc., of trade products; Shipping and Transport, etc. The Department also supplies lists of names of likely importers of British goods or of firms or individuals considered suitable to act as representatives or agents of British firms.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY.

The aim of the Department is to co-operate as closely as possible with the commercial community in its efforts to rebuild and, where feasible, to increase its pre-war export trade. Officers of the Department, both from Overseas and from Headquarters, visit periodically Chambers of Commerce in the industrial centres of the Kingdom, in order to keep in close touch with husiness men. with business men.

FOREIGN COMPETITION IN OVERSEAS MARKETS.

For a trader successfully to compete in foreign markets, it is necessary that he should know the goods which competitors are offering. The Department has, therefore, formed a very extensive collection, which is being constantly increased, of samples of foreign competitive goods and commercial products.

70,000 such samples are now available for inspection by British traders at the Department's Showrooms, 7 to 11, Old Bailey, E.C. Advertising plays a large part in export as in home trade, and the Department has collected over 16,000 foreign trade catalogues (including German and Austrian) which may also be inspected at the above address. The collection has been efficiently indexed under both Articles of Manufacture and Names of Manufacturers.

THE ERITISH TRADER ABROAD.

Representatives of British firms, when travelling abroad, can obtain much valuable information from a man who is in close daily contact with the commercial life of the country concerned. British firms should, therefore, instruct their travelling representatives to call upon H.M. Commercial Diplomatic Officers in foreign countries, or H.M. Trade Commissioners in the countries of the Empire, who will give them first-hand unbiassed information, and will do all in their power to assist them in their

The Department organises Fairs and Exhibitions at which British traders have the opportunity of displaying their goods before buyers of all nations. The best known of these Fairs—the British Industries Fair—is held during February and March of each year.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

One of the most important services rendered by the Department is the supply of confidential information regarding trade openings and other matters likely to be of interest to manufacturers and merchants. This is done chiefly by means of the Special Register, concerning which details are given below.

APPLICATIONS.

Any British trader desiring business information regarding conditions in any overseas markets, or upon any specific point, or who desires to take advantage in any way of the facilities offered, should communicate with or apply to:—Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRADE IN OVERSEAS MARKETS.

THE DEPARTMENT'S SPECIAL REGISTER SERVICE.

The trader who has at his command a sure and prompt supply of information concerning possible developments in countries abroad, or any other specific openings for British trade, is in an immeasurably more favourable position for securing business than he who depends for his information upon publication of the news. The one receives a considerable start in the competitive race, while the other suffers a handicap which, in very many cases, practically nullifies his chances of securing the business.

very many cases, practically nullifies his chances of securing the business.

Information of this kind is reaching the Department of Overseas Trade in increasing volume from its commercial representatives, who are now stationed in every important market abroad. British firms wishing to make sure of receiving information of interest to them should enrol themselves on the Special Register of the Department.

Publicity is, of course, given in the "Board of Trade Journal" or in the Trade press to many of the reports received by the Department. A great mass of the information coming to the Department cannot, however, be so treated because of its confidential or semi-confidential character. When a report relates to a specific opening for trade or to some other matter upon which it is desirable that British firms should have advance information, it is sent by means of the Special Register Service te all those firms to which it is likely to be of interest.

The Special Register comprises, at present, the names of some 3,500 British firms, manufacturing or dealing in British goods. These firms are grouped and classified according to both the nature of the goods and the markets in which they are interested, thus facilitating the despatch of relative information and avoiding as far as possible the receipt of particulars which are of no interest to them. At the same time it is thought desirable to send the firms too much rather that them

are of no interest to them. At the same time it is thought desirable to send the firms too much rather than too little so as to ensure that they get all news which is of use to them.

The fee for admission to the Special Register is £2 4s. 6d. per annum, and, in return for this subscription, the firms who have enrolled themselves not only get the "Board of Trade Journal" every week, but they are assured of obtaining promptly, by means of the Special Register Series of confidential circulars, every report or item of news likely to concern them. Sometimes these reports contain advance information which subsequently becomes generally known. Frequently they contain information which it is desired to keep confidential, so that British firms may reap full benefit from it. reap full benefit from it.

AMOUNT OF INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

The amount of information supplied to the various trades naturally differs, but some idea of the aggregate volume of information disseminated through this Service may be gained when it is stated that the average number of Special Register Circulars distributed during a quarter ranges between 300 and

VALUE OF INFORMATION RECEIVED.

VALUE OF INFORMATION RECEIVED.

It is obviously impossible to measure in pounds, shillings and pence the value to British firms of the information thus received. It cases where business results, the actual value of the transaction in question may be great or small, but there is ample evidence that long-lasting and profitable business connections frequently owe their inception to an initial transaction due to information received through this Service.

Were it desirable to do so, a large number of cases could be cited in which useful and valuable business has resulted from action taken by British firms on information sent to them through the Special Register Service.

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Any United Kingdom firm engaged in the export trade supplying goods solely or mainly of United Kingdom production is eligible for admission to the Special Register.

The Register is not open to non-British traders.

As stated above, the fee for admission to the Register is £2 4s. 6d. per annum, which includes the annual subscription to the "Board of Trade Journal."

Those British firms who desire their names to be included on the Special Register should communicate with the Comptroller-General, Department of Overseas Trade (Development and Intelligence), 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

Intelligence), 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

HANDBOOK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADF. The officers of the Department not infrequently come into contact with British traders who are unaware, or not fully aware, of the information and assistance which the Department can supply to them. For this reason a Handbook has been prepared which gives particulars as to the organisation of the Department at home and abroad and as to the various ways in which the Department can help British export trade. Copies of the Handbook can be obtained, free of charge, on application to the Department of Overseas Trade (Development and Intelligence). 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

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Board of Trade.

COAL.

IMPORTED SUPPLIES: PRIORITY LIST.

The Government have arranged to import coal to meet the essential needs of the country. Arrangements have been made through four firms who are acting as Government agents and who have been given instructions that they are to dispose of the coal only to consumers on the priority list as follows:—
(1) Railways.

(2) Public Utility Works, e.g., Gas Works, Electricity

Works, Water Works, Sewage Works.
(3) Domestic and Household Purposes (including Hospitals, Workhouses, and similar institutions). (including (4) Food Producing and Preserving Concerns, etc., i.e.,

Yeast Producers.

Flour Mills.

Margarine Factories.
Crushing Factories producing edible oils.

Milk Factories. lee Factories.

Salt Factories producing fine salt or rough salt for cold storage.

Cold Stores.

Bakeries, except where confectionery only is

Eating Houses (including Cook Shops, Fried Fish Shops, etc.).

Also Paper Mills, so far as required for news paper and newspaper printing works.

BOARD FOR MINING EXAMINATIONS.

In view of the continuance of the Coal Stoppage the Board for Mining Examinations, with the approval of the Secretary for Mines, has made an Order postponing the half-yearly examinations for the issue of certificates of competency to Mine Managers and Mine Surveyors which were to have been held on 25th and 26th May. The Order provides that the examinations may be held upon a later date, to be fixed by the Board for Mining Examinations. An announcement as to the revised dates will be made as soon as possible.

NORTH ATLANTIC ICE OBSERVATION.

THE PATROL SERVICE.

The Annual Report of the International Ice Observation and Ice Patrol Service for the season of 1920 has recently been received by the Board of Trade from the United States Government. This Service, the expenses of which are shared by the principal maritime nations which use the North Atlantic, is carried out by United States Coastguard Cutters specially detailed to maintain a continuous patrol during the months of April, May, and June, with the object of locating the icebergs and icefields nearest to Transatlantic steamship rontes, and for the purpose of issuing daily wireless warnings as to the whereabouts of ice. The Service was provided for by resolutions passed at the International Conference on Safety of Life at Sea, held in London at the end of 1913 and beginning of 1914.

A considerable amount of very eareful work is done. and the value to shipping may be demonstrated by the fact that during the cruise of the "Seneca" from 4th May to 19th May, 1920, this vessel received 45 iee reports and four obstruction reports; gave special ice information to 40 vessels, and sent out 26 broadcast warnings: 13 icebergs were observed during the period.

The vessels on patrol earry a scientific observer for work in connection with oceanography and meteorology. and his observations. based on the temperature and salinity of the water, appear to lead to important eonclusions as to the courses of the Gulf Stream and Labrador Current, and the effect of both on the icefields. In his report, the scientific observer remarks that "during the last four years at no time has an iceberg ever been located in the unmixed waters of the Gulf

THE BOARD OF TRADE-Continued.

Stream with a salinity of 36 degrees and a temperature above 15 deg. C. Therefore, if vessels while passing the Newfoundland Bank will keep in this warm salt water, there will be little danger from ice, and furthermore, such a course would avoid most of the fog.

The conclusions of the Senior Officer in command of the Ice Patrol are that "it is considered that the Transatlantic track between latitudes 40 deg. 30 min. N. and 41 deg. 30 min. N., where it changes direction, is unsafe during May and June, especially when low temperatures of the water are encountered during April as far south as latitude 42 deg. N. and to the eastward of longitude 49 deg. W., as such low temperatures would indicate the proximity of the Labrador Current. During May and June it would be advisable to change the track so that it would lie between latitudes 39 deg. 30 min. N. and 40 deg. 30 min. N. in longitude 47 deg. W. Because of the presence of ice and the large percentage of foggy days off the Great Bank during the summer months, it is not thought advisable to use the northern steamer track before Ist September.

He suggests also that "the work of vessels engaged on ice patrol duty would be greatly facilitated if the principal Transatlantic steamship companies instructed the masters of their ships to report the following by radio to the patrol vessels:

(a) Icebergs or obstructions sighted, giving date. time, latitude, longitude, and direction of drift if an iceberg, together with the temperature of the water

at the time.

(b) Temperature of sea water every four hours at the surface and at the bottom injection when between latitudes 39 deg. N. and 48 deg. N. and crossing longitudes 51 deg. W. and 44 deg. W., when bound either east or west, and giving the latitude and longitude, course, and speed at time of each observation, in order that a temperature curve may be plotted to facilitate locating the branches of the Labrador Current.

DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE.

VISIT TO THE UNITED KINGDOM OF THE COMMERCIAL SECRETARY TO H.M. EMBASSY AT MADRID.

Captain U. de B. Charles, Commercial Secretary to H.M. Embassy at Madrid, has arrived in this country on a short official visit, and will be pleased to meet manufacturers and merchants who wish to consult him in regard to steps to be taken for opening up trade with Spain, and who desire information as to the state of trade in that country. Among the matters in regard to which he will be prepared to give advice and information are the appointment of agents, methods of marketing and distributing goods, terms of payment, statistics of imports, rates of Customs duties, and general information as to openings existing for British goods.

Firms desirous of making appointments to interview Captain Charles in London from 24th May to 3rd June should communicate immediately with the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen London, S.W. 1 (quoting reference number Street. 3055. T.G.).

VISIT OF THE COMMERCIAL RETARY TO H.M. LEGATION ATHENS. SECRETARY AT

Mr. E. C. D. Rawlins, Commercial Secretary to H.M. Legation at Athens, has arrived in this country on a short official visit. He will be pleased to meet manufacturers and merchants who wish to discuss questions relating to trade with Greece, and who may desire information or advice regarding the appointment desire information or advice regarding the appointment of agents, marketing and distribution of goods, terms of payment, Customs duties, or general information as to

openings existing for British goods.

Applications to interview Mr. Rawlins in London between 26th May and 3rd June should be made immediately as above (quoting reference number 3057)

Special Articles.

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT.

The Tanganyika Territory, by which is meant that part of German East Africa for which Great Britain has accepted a mandate, has three times the area of the British Isles, with a population of less than four millions. This population is almost wholly native. The British and South Africans number less than one thousand, and the Greeks 250. There are some nine thousand Indians, ehiefly of the retail trader and mechanic class, and about eight thousand Arabs, Baluchis, Somalis, Abyssinians and Sudanese, and Goanese. The small landed proprietors belong chiefly to the immigrant Arabs and Baluchis, while the Goanese contribute to the clerk and artisan classes. The development of the country, under British direction, mainly depends upon the native population of between $3\frac{1}{2}$ and 4 millions. These estimates of the number of natives are not more than half those of the German anthorities in 1913, but allowance has to be made for the wastage of war and for the population of the Ruanda and Urundi districts, which have been transferred to the Belgian ('ongo Administration.

When the war broke out the Germans, who had put a great deal of money and energy into their principal African colony, were trying to reap the reward of their efforts. But hostilities stopped trade and development almost completely, so that the Tanganyika Government, when it entered into possession, found the plantations and estates had greatly deteriorated through lack of labour and skilled supervision; and thus much of the spade work done by the Germans had been altogether wasted. Whenever possible, estates were leased and put under cultivation, but as almost the whole British population were otherwise occupied, these leases fell principally into the hands of Greeks, who skimmed the cream off them. In the towns such as Dar-es-Salaam and Tanga most of the large business premises are still vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property. These buildings will soon be put up to auction, so that British and South African firms may acquire them permanently.

PRODUCTION.

The products of the Tanganyika Territory are tropical and semi-tropical, the chief exports being sisal, cotton, hides and skins, copra, coffee, groundnuts, and so on. The plantations cultivate sisal, and partly coffee, copra, and cotton. The other products are native grown. In addition to the agricultural products, mica and gold have been exported, and there is reason to believe that other minerals, such as copper, lead, silver, mercury, graphite and asbestos, could be exploited. The best stock raising districts were in Ruanda and Urundi, handed over to the Belgian Congo, where the natives owned immense herds of cattle, sheep and goats. Ranching in Tanganyika is made very difficult and precarions by the prevalence of East Coast fever, and the Tsetse fly. Until these pests are disposed of there is little prospect of successful cattle raising. In the Wilhelmstal district are large timber areas, growing cedar, teak, mahogany, and other hardwoods, for which concessions were granted during the German regime.

THE IMPORTS.

As in all the East African countries, the most important class of imported manufactures is cotton piecegoods. Unbleached cotton, americani and chadder, made in India and Japan, form nearly half of the cotton imports, and about a quarter of the total imports. Indian mills are showing increased activity in Tanganyika and in other parts of Africa; in one department, cotton blankets, they have practically captured the trade from Holland. Food, drink, and tobacco form the next largest class of imports. Much of these imports, having regard to the local production, were brought in to relieve distress after a period of famine. The destruction of war

SPECIAL ARTICLES-Continued.

and the non-replacement of machinery indicate that there will be a demand for machinery and agricultural implements as well as for hardware, building materials and metal work, as soon as the settlers and natives are able to restore the productive capacity of the country. There will be a demand for gas and oil engines, electrical and mechanical appliances for plantations, locomotives and wagons, and also mining and milling plants. There are at present some motor vehicles in the country, chiefly American, which will soon need to be replaced. Roads are few, except in the larger towns, but when they are opened up to feed the railways the need for motor vehicles will be urgent, especially for general utility ears of high clearance and low price.

COMPETITION.

Col. Franklin, H.M. Trade Commissioner in East Africa, from whose Report these particulars are taken, states that all through the figures for both import and export trade it may be observed that a large proportion of the trade is done with Zanzibar, a circumstance which renders it difficult to trace the origin of goods and competition which United Kingdom firms have to face. statement that 48 per cent. of the imports of cotton piece-goods came from either India or Japan is enlightening, but in regard to Japan, very poor satisfaction has been given by merchants and shipping houses. Goods have been often found to be not up to sample, and there have been constant disputes in regard to lengths, etc., so much so that a strong feeling exists that Japan cannot be relied on for repeat orders. competition from India and Japan is, of course, mainly against American unbleached cottons, but there is a distinct tendency to look towards India, which United Kingdom manufacturers will have to face. Again direct lines of steamships have been arranged from both America and Germany to the coast, and will doubtless afford further facilities to the exporters in those coun-There is strong American competition in machinery, hollow and hard ware, motor and electrical goods, fancy goods, etc., and in these lines there can be no doubt that the Germans will also make strong efforts to secure a large proportion of the trade of Tanganyika Territory and the surrounding territories hitherto dominated by them, even should the accomplishment of their object be achieved at little or no profit to themselves. On all parts of the coast it is becoming increasingly necessary that United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters should take more trouble in making quotations, especially when trying to do business by catalogue through the mail. The difficulties of United Kingdom manufacturers owing to variable costs are appreciated, but it should not be difficult to arrange for catalogues to be accompanied by a leaflet giving prices at the date of dispatch of the catalogue—of course, with all proper reservations. The best way to quote would appear to be "Delivered duty paid Coast Port" (Dares-Salaam or Tanga), for it is in this form that most American catalogues are priced. United Kingdom firms who have not this information readily available can obtain all particulars as to freight and landing charges, and. if necessary, the names of clearing agents from the Department of Overseas Trade. When the country becomes more settled with Europeans, this type of business is bound to increase, and a good deal of business will be available to the manufacturer or exporter who can so quote that his bover is at once able to see what his purchase will cost delivered at his door.

CREDIT CONDITIONS.

Many of the Indian firms in Tanganyika Territory have been established there for a considerable time. These firms are the distributors. The small Indian trader will penetrate districts and make a living where a white man either could not go or would fail. During the war and since, the majority of the trade of Tanganyika Territory has been carried on by Indian firms with headquarters in Zanzibar, for whom the Indian firms in Tanganyika Territory act as agents. Until January,

1921, there was no protection for traders, civil courts not having been established. Now, however, the trade with the United Kingdom should be more direct, since the British firms established in Tanganyika Territory can earry on the trade and use the Indian firms as their distributors. There will be many difficulties to surmount during the period of transition accentuated by the collapse of the produce markets and the generally unstable condition of trade along the Coast. will be difficult, though desirable, to lead the Indian away from the bad credit conditions which obtain and have become almost time-honoured, i.e., the system of buying on a 90-days bill. This system has led to much trouble in the past, and is extremely complicated at the moment owing to the differences of exchange between the stabilised East African florin-rupee (2s.) and the fluctuating Indian rupee (about 1s. 4½d.). Trading fluctuating Indian rupee (about 1s. $4\frac{1}{2}$ d.). conditions have, up till lately, been further hampered by German coinage not being accepted as legal tender in the adjoining territories, consequently transfers of specie were illegal, and remittances were limited by the Banks. It is hoped in Tanganyika, for the sake of eredit, that the vexed currency question will be settled for once and all, and in such a manner as to be to the advantage of Imperial trade, and to give a settlement whereby there is no opportunity for the Indian to gamble on exchange to the prejudice of legitimate trade.

Merchants intending to open up in Tanganyika Territory must bear in mind the immense distances to be covered and the long time that must clapse before goods come into the hands of the ultimate consumer, and before produce (the payment) can reach the port of shipment, and must be prepared to finance that period by appointing agents in the interior or other means.

STEAMSHIP LINES,

The following are the steamship lines serving the coast of Tanganyika Territory :—

To and from Europe and Cape Ports:—
Union Castle Mail Steamship Co.
British India Steam Navigation Steamship Co.
Clan-Ellerman-Harrison Joint Service.
Messageries Maritimes.
Transportes Maritas do Estado.
Maritima Italiana.
Scandinavian East Africa Line.
Holland-East Africa Line.

To and from India and Cape Ports:—
British India Steam Navigation Steamship Co.
Natal Direct Line.
Cowasji Dinshaw Bros. Line.

To and from the United States of America:— Oriental Steam Navigation Co. Clan-Ellerman-Harrison Joint Service.

In addition to these deep sea lines there are a few small coasting steamers plying between Lindi in the South of Tanganyika Territory via coast ports and Zanzibar to Lamu in the Kenya Protectorate, and one eollier earrying coals to Tanganyika Territory from Cape Ports. Freights generally are regulated by the East African Conference. Having regard to the present trade depression, the amount of tomage available is more than adequate for the amount of freight offering to and from East African ports, though when the undoubted development of the Territory and consequent increased volume of both imports and exports comes about, there would seem to be a coincident opening for a fair amount of tramp tomage. The present run of ships calling at the various ports along the coast is uneconomical, and when the trade of the coast improves shipping development will probably be on the lines of the collection of produce by small coasting steamers at one centre—say Zanzibar—for transhipment to the larger deep sea carriers, and vice versa as regards imports.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS.

One cannot help being struck with the fertility of Tanganyika Territory and the possibilities of its raw

SPECIAL ARTICLES -Continued.

material and produce; but this advantage is largely offset by the limited amount of labour available to take advantage of its resonrces. Taking men, women and children, the number of native population gives about 10 per square mile, and of these a large number are too young to work, and without doubt many others will not work. There is little inducement to make the native work. He may do so until he can acquire enough wealth (sheep and goats) to add to the number of the wives, but he can retire at ease when he has acquired three or four of these valuable adjuncts and set them to work for him. The effect of education on the native should be to render him more independent ; to develop his ambition and his desire to carn and own more, both when producing crops himself or when working on Enropean owned plantations. The educated but lazy native is a menace; the educated energetic native is an asset to a country which has been deprived of 50 per cent. of its population by the transfer of two of its provinces to the Belgian Congo.

If the country is allowed to be opened up its exports of native produce—grain, eotton, hides and skins, oil nuts, etc.—will increase vastly, and its plantation produce—grain. sisal, copra, coffee, etc.—will eome gradually back, first to its pre-war volume, and then increase. There will always be a demand for cotton goods: United Kingdom manufacturers have at present a strong hold of this trade, and as the exports of the country's produce increase so will the buying power of the natives, and the demand grow for the goods they use. As plantations are once again worked, there will be a demand for machmery, agricultural implements, stationary engines and boilers, building materials, mining machinery, and oils and paints, and later on as the country realises its produce, a large demand for all kinds of railway stock, motors, tractors, motor cycles and all accessories to modern transport.

The first means of development of Tanganyika Territory will be a generous and open policy towards British capital investment, the opening up of railways and roads and the education of the native towards the desire and ambition to acquire wealth by the labour of his hands.

TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES WITH LATIN AMERICA.

The term "Latin America" is generally understood to comprise South America and that portion of the North American Continent, including the West Indies, lying south of the United States. For the past decade about one-lifth of the United States total foreign trade has been with this region, the share of Latin America having remained practically the same until 1920, when it increased to one-fourth. It remains to be seen, of course, whether this change is permanent, or whether, after the general readjustment in economic and industrial conditions now in progress is complete, Latin America will drop back to its old place.

The following table indicates the relative importance of the Latin American trade in the United States' world trade during 1920:—

Divisions.	lmports from.	Exports to.	Total.
Europe Latin America Far East Africa Canada All other territories	1.227.842.145 1.809.961,283 1.476.765.937 150.285.194 614.333,652 210.000	10 ols. 4.466,655,197 1,568,227,284 1.043,396,041 1.65,661,771 984,577,118 242,337	5,694,497,342 3,378,188,567 2,520,161,978 315,946,965 1,598,910,770 452,337
Total	5,279,398.211	8,228,759,748	13,508,157,959

It will be noted that the trade of the United States with Latin America during 1920 was surpassed only by its trade with Europe. European trade, however,

amounted to 42 per cent. of the total in 1920 as compared with 50 per cent. in 1919, whereas the trade with Latin America increased from less than 20 per cent. in 1919 to 25 per cent. in 1920. The share of the Far East. Canada, and Africa remained practically the same as in 1919, amounting to 18 per cent., 11 per cent., and 2 per cent. respectively of the total trade.

GROWTH OF LATIN AMERICAN TRADE SINCE 1910

In 1910 the United States trade with the Latin American countries amounted to approximately 689,000,000 dols. By 1914 an increase of $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. had taken place, although in 1912 the trade had renched, approximately, \$18,000,000 dols.. an increase of 18 per cent. over 1910. During 1913 and 1914, however, there was a decline of approximately 50,000,000 dols.. due in the first place to unfavourable economic conditions in several of the Latin American countries, and later on to the ontbreak of the European war. In 1915, when a partial restoration of pre-war shipping facilities had taken place, American trade with this section underwent a marked improvement, and, exceeding that of the best previous year by approximately 23 per cent., reached and passed the 1,000,000,000 dol. figure.

The trade between the United States and Latin America has grown steadily in value since 1915, the greatest increase having taken place in 1920, when the total trade amounted to 3,378,185,567 dols, and exceeded that of the previous year by 44 per cent. The next best year, measured by percentage of increase, was 1916, when the increase approximated 37 per cent. Increases for the other years from 1910 to 1920 ranged from 25 to 33 per cent., except 1918, when it fell to 3 per

cent.

Between 1910 and 1914 the trade with Latin America as a whole, while fluctuating somewhat, nevertheless showed a tendency to rise in value. From 1914 on this tendency became much more pronounced, particularly between the years 1914 and 1917, and again between those of 1918 and 1920. In comparing values since 1913, however, allowance will have to be made for the general advance in prices and the consequent fall in monetary values that have taken place. When these factors are taken into account, it will readily be seen that the increase in the volume of trade is considerably less than the statistics imply. A more or less accurate estimate of the increase in 1920 as compared with 1913 can be made by bearing in mind that approximately 2.43 dols, was required in 1920 to purchase the same amount of goods that could be secured for 1 dollar in 1913.

An analysis of the foreign trade statistics of the United States during the period under discussion demonstrates that the value of imports from Latin America has been about 50 per cent. in excess of exports. Comparatively little variation in the proportion of imports and exports occurred during this time, the former averaging 58 per cent, during the 1910-1913 period and 61 per cent, during the 1914-1918 period. The increase during 1914-1918 was due to the high percentage of imports from 1914 to 1916 inclusive, which fluctuated between 62 and 66 per cent. Since 1917, however, imports and exports have tended to return to their old levels of 58 and 42 per cent. respectively. During 1920 there was a further decline in imports to 53 per cent.. but it is probable that this is only temporary, and was caused by the sudden sliming in the prices of raw materials and the consequent holding of large stocks of coffee, sngar, hides, rubber, etc., by Latin American merchants whenever possible, awaiting a more favourable turn of the market.

INCREASE IN TRADE DURING 1920.

The chief growth in the trade between Latin America and the United States during 1920 was in the export trade, which amounted to 58 per cent, more in 1920 than in 1919, while imports only increased 34 per cent. The following table, containing statistics for the last two calendar years, arranged according to geographical

SPECIAL ARTICLES-Continued.

areas of Latin America, indicates the increases which took place in 1920:—

200 100	Import	s from.	Exports to-		
Divisions.	1919.	1920.	1919.	1920.	
South America West Indies Mexico Central America	Dols. 687,525,388 462,741,191 148,926,376 45,941,338	Dols. 761,053,871 798,355,784 180,191,075 70,360,553	10els. 441,717,728 355.815.945 131,455,101 58,570,911	Dols. 623,910,163 646,588,805 207,854,197 89,874,119	
Total	1,345,131,293	1,809,961,283	987,589,685	1,568,227,284	

The most important Latin American trade areas are South America and the West Indies, the combined trade of these two sections amounting to more than 80 per cent. of the total trade. The greatest relative increase in this trade during 1920 was with the West Indies, which show a gain of 76 per cent. as compared with 53 per cent. for Central America, and 38 per cent. and 22 per cent. for Mexico and South America respectively.

TRADE WITH SOUTH AMERICA DURING 1920.

The trade of the United States with South America for 1920 reached a total of 1,384,964,034 dols. and amounted to 255,690,918 dols., or 22 per cent. more than during 1919, and 378 per cent. over the 1910 trade. Imports, which averaged 54 per cent. of the total South American trade, were 73,528,483 dols., or 10 per cent. more in 1920 than in 1919, but this increase is less than that between 1918 and 1919, which amounted to approximately 76,000,000 dols. Exports also failed to show as great a growth as in 1919,the gain in the latter year being 45 per cent., as compared with 41 per cent. in 1920. The total value of the United States' imports from and exports to each of the South American countries for 1919 and 1920 is shown in the following table:—

	Import	s from.	Exports to.		
Countries	1919.	1920.	1919.	1920.	
	 Dols.	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.	
Argentina	 199,158,401	207,776,868	155,899,390	213,725,98	
Bolivia	 2,434,750	10,195,298	1,771,177	4,573,381	
Brazil	 233,570,620	227,587,594	114,696,309	156,740,367	
Chile	 82.142,361	120,515,599	53,121,087	55,310,463	
Colombia	 42,911,409	53,644,022	24,143,646	59,142,277	
Ecuador	 8,966,435	14,479,903	7,500,603	12,244,163	
Guiana:	 .,	, ,	.,,		
British	 399,110	4.817.126	5,124,215	6,991,951	
Dutch	 904,920	580,229	1,547,238	2,393,142	
French	 	76,767	1,085,607	1,044,396	
l'araguay	 1,031,414	1.179.992	894,271	1,813,798	
Peru	 33.111,352	63,730,964	26,945,191	47,037,128	
Uruguay	 50,483,828	33,780,647	31,419,669	33,720,550	
Venezuela	 32,110,785	22,388,862	14,429,202	29.151,969	
Falkland Island			170.123	20,592	
Total	 687,525,388	761,053,871	411.747,728	623,910,163	

THE RIVER PLATE REGION.

From the standpoint of American foreign trade, Argentina is the most important of the South American Republics, and is surpassed by Cuba alone of the Latin American countries in the value of its commerce with the United States. Exports to Argentina, which consist largely of automobiles and accessories, coal, cotton textiles, steel rails, structural iron and steel, mineral oils, rosin and turpentine, lumber, etc., gained 37 per cent, in 1920, the principal increases occurring in coal, cotton textiles, and structural iron and steel, all of which, however, were subject to rather sharp advances in price. Imports from Argentina increased 4 per cent, in 1920, as compared with 1919, but they still show a decrease of 9 per cent, under 1918 figures. The importation of wool, hides, skins, furs, etc., continued to decline during 1920, but this was offset by heavier shipments of flaxseed, wheat, cheese, etc.

American trade with the other countries of the River Plate region. Urugnay and Paragnay, amounted to 13,334,195 dols., or 15 per cent. less in 1920 than in 1919. This loss was due to the slump in imports from Urugnay, which fell from 50,483,828 dols. in 1919 to 33,780,647 dols. in 1920. Imports from Paragnay and exports to both countries were unable to make up for

the loss, since the former but little better than held their own, and the exports to the two countries increased only about 3,000,000 dols.

BRAZIL AND THE NORTH COAST COUNTRIES.

Trade with Brazil, which ranks second among the South American countries in the volume of commerce carried on with the United States, rose 10 per eent. during 1920, the total returns reaching 384,327,959 dols. as compared with 348,266,929 dols. in 1919. Imports, which in 1919 amounted to 67 per cent. of the total, fell to 59 per cent. in 1920, and actually declined 21 per cent. in value, due to smaller consignments of coffee, eacao, rubber, hides, and skins to United States. gain was due to the growth in exports, which increased 42.044,056 dols., or 36 per cent., in 1920, wheat flour, automobiles, coal, steel rails, and tin plate particularly being responsible for this advance. On the other hand, mineral oils, print paper, hydranlic cement, structural iron and steel, and cotton manufactures, which are also among the chief exports to Brazil from the United States, were somewhat less than in 1919.

The commerce of the United States with the north coast countries, Colombia, Venezuela, and the Guianas, during 1920 amounted to 13 per cent. of its aggregate South American trade. Colombia, which ranked fourth among South American countries, outstripped the other territories of this group considerably during 1920, and, with the exception of Bolivia, showed the greatest relative growth. This development was due to exports to Colombia, which increased 34,998.631 dols., or 144 per cent., during 1920, and represented 52 per cent. of the total trade, whereas in 1919 they amounted to only 36 per cent. The principal gains occurred in cotton manufactures (which increased 15,000,000 dols.), pipes and fittings, steel rails, wire, sheets, plates, structural iron and steel, etc. Imports from Colombia increased only 10,732,613 dols., or 25 per cent., and amounted to 47 per cent. of the total trade in 1920. Coffee is practically the only product exported showing any

appreciable increase during 1920. Trade with Venezuela during 1920 increased 10 per cent., amounting to 51,540,831 dols., as compared with 46,539,987 dols. in 1919. Exports to Venezuela more than doubled during 1920, chiefly owing to larger shipments of cotton manufactures, wheat flour, auto tyres, pipes and fittings, and wire. This increase more than offset the fall in imports, which declined 30 per cent. in 1920, and amounted to only 43 per cent. of the total Venezuelan trade in 1920, as compared with 68 per cent. in 1919. Coffee and hides, shipments of which amounted to approximately 11,000,000 dols, less than in 1919. were chiefly responsible for this decline. with the Gnianas has so far been relatively mimportant. the total trade in 1920 amounting to only 15,903,611 dols. Of this snm, 11,809,077 dols. was with British Gniana alone. Commerce with the three colonics increased 75 per cent. in 1920, the growth in imports being most noticeable, although there was also a general gain in exports.

CHILE, PERU, ECUADOR, AND BOLIVIA.

Trade with Chile, the leading commercial country of the west coast, in 1920 reached 175,826,064 dols., or 29 per cent. more than in the previous year, but still lacked 24 per cent. of equalling the 1918 figures. This gain was principally due to the 46 per cent. increase in imports, which consisted chiefly of nitrates and copper ore. Sheepskins also showed a slight advance, but wool and unrefined copper shipments were somewhat less than in 1919. Exports to Chile were only 4 per cent. more in 1920 than in 1919, coal and mineral oil being the only items showing any notable increase. The gain in these two commodities, which amounted to 4,000,000 dols., was offset to a great extent, however, by the decline in cotton textiles, automobile types, newsprint, and iron and steel manufactures.

Commerce with Pern during 1920 amounted to 110,768,092 dols, and exceeded that of 1919 by 84 per cent. Imports gained 92 per cent, during the past year,

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dne principally to the large shipments of raw cotton and sugar, eausing an increase of approximately 30,000,000 dols, in the import figures. Copper ore and unrefined copper were received in about the same quantities as in 1919, but the imports of tungsten, rubber, wool, hides, and skins decreased in value about 1,411,000 dols. Exports from United States to Pern during 1920 increased 74 per cent., cotton manufactures, steel rails, and structural iron and steel showing the largest gains.

During 1920 trade with Eenador increased 62 per cent., and with Bolivia 109 per cent. Imports from and exports to Ecnador show approximately equal gains, the former having increased 5,513,468 dols., or 61 per cent., and the latter 4,743,562 dols., or 63 per cent. The growth in trade with Bolivia, on the contrary, was due to the increase in imports, which consisted largely of tin. copper, tungsten ore, and to a less degree, rubber, hides, skins, fur. wool, etc. Exports to this Republic were somewhat less than in 1919.

WEST INDIES AN IMPORTANT TRADE CENTRE.

The trade of the United States with the West Indies during recent years has been only slightly less than that with South America, and in 1920 actually surpassed the latter by 59,980,555 dols. Whether the West Indies will be able to retain this lead can not, of course, be determined at this early date. Commerce with this region increased decidedly during 1920, imports having gained 72 per cent. and exports 81 per cent. This growth was due to a great extent to the increased shipments of sugar from Cuba, which account for 88 per cent. of the gain in imports and 47 per cent. of the total gain in trade. Other imports from these islands are tobacco, cacao, coffee, fruits, and spices, each island specialising as a rule in one or two products; cotton textiles, wheat flour and other cereals, bacon, salt pork, lard, condensed milk, tools, hardware, and other supplies for plantation use make up the chief exports sent to them. The value of the trade between the United States and the West Indies for the years 1919 and 1920, arranged according to political groups, appears in the following table :-

	Import	s from.	Exports.		
Countries.	1919.	1920.	1919.	1920.	
Cuba Haiti Dominican Republic British West Indies* Dutch West Indies Freuch West Indies Virgin Islands	Dols. 418,610,263 9,705,147 12,190,302 17,159,039 3,126,999 56,321 1,593,120	Dols. 721,695,905 8,973,534 33,878,099 24,671,030 4,431,950 163,480 4,541,786	Dols. 278,391,222 16,327,848 18,740,756 29,856,024 1,914,587 8,781,391 1,804,117	Dols. 515,082,549 19,990,380 45,528,750 50,580,360 3,544,468 7,958,820 3,993,478	
Total	462,741,191	798,355,784	355,815,945	646,588,803	

* Including the Bernudas.

CUBA LEADING LATIN AMERICAN TRADE REGION.

About 85 per cent, of the trade of the United States with this region is with the Republic of Cuba, which containing approximately but three per cent, of the total population of Latin America, and having an area somewhat less than the State of Pennsylvania, nevertheless outranks any other Latin American Republic in the extent of its trade with the United States. As a further indication of the importance of Cuba, it might be stated that in 1920-36 per cent, of the total trade between the United States and Latin America was with Cuba, and that it surpassed in value the combined trade with Argentina, Brazil, and Chile by 25 per cent.

Imports from Cuba during 1920 continued to predominate over exports, although there was a slight shift in their relative values, the imports making up 58 per ceut. of the total trade, whereas in 1919 they constituted 60 per cent. Imports increased 72 per cent. during 1920, this gain being due almost altogether to the large shipments of sugar, which, forming uine-tenths of the exports to the United States, amounted to approximately 295.000.000 dols, more in 1920 than in the previous year. Exports increased 85 per cent., the most striking gains

appearing in the export values of foodstuffs, cotton textiles, automobiles and accessories, locomotives, and other manufactures of iron and steel, although statistics covering nearly all exports to Cuba were higher than during 1919.

HAITI, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AND COLONIAL WEST INDIES.

The island of Santo Domingo, which is divided politically into Haiti and the Dominican Republic, ranks second in the West Indian group when considered from the standpoint of its trade with the United States. American trade with these two Republics during 1920 amounted to 108.280,763 dols., an increase of 90 per cent. over the previous year. This gain, which in the cent. over the previous year. case of imports amounted to 95 per cent. and of exports 86 per cent., was chiefly the result of growth in trade with the Dominican Republic, commerce with Haiti having done little better than hold its own during 1920. The comparatively large sngar exports from the Dominican Republic, which amounted to 24,681,772 dols. in 1920, as compared with 706.347 dols. in 1919, were chiefly responsible for the rise in imports. The staple exports to these Republies show general increases in

value during 1920.

The trade of the United States with the colonial West Indies is relatively unimportant, amounting to only six per cent, of the total trade with this region in 1920. There has been a general growth in this commerce during recent years, it having nearly trebled since 1914. largest gains have, of course, taken place in the trade with the British West Indies. This trade increased approximately 12,000,000 dols. in 1919 and almost 28.000,000 dols. in 1920; exports, between the years 1914 and 1920, show a gain of 35.600,000 dols., while imports increased only 8,400,000 dols, during the same period. The trade of the United States with the French and the Dutch West Indies and with the Virgin Islands (formerly the Danish West Indies) during 1920 was between 7,000,000 dols, and 8,000,000 dols, in each case. Trade with the Virgin Islands since 1914 shows a greater relative increase than with any other territory in this region, the total trade in 1920 more than doubling that of the previous year, and amounting to over nine times that for 1914.

Porto Rico, which is racially and geographically one of the West Indies, although a record of its trade does not appear in these statistics, ranks next to Cuba in the value of its commerce with the United States. with this territory during 1920 amounted to 278.037.819 dols., of which 156,476.245 dols, covered imports from Porto Rico, and 121,561,574 dols, exports. The gain in imports, which was 106 per cent., was chiefly due to the large quantities of sugar shipped. These shipments amounted to 125 per cent, more than in 1919, and represented 77 per cent. of the total increase in imports. Tobacco consignments to the United States last year also increased, the gain in this commodity amounting to about 12.500.000 dols. These are the two chief imports from Porto Rico, coffee being in comparison relatively unimportant. Exports show a gain of 79 per cent. over 1919, the principal increases occurring in cotton manufactures, foodstuffs, and iron and steel manufactures.

TRADE WITH MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA.

The position of Mexico in its trade with the United States has steadily advanced since 1915, except in 1918, when the value was practically stationary, and Mexico now ranks third among Latin American Republies, Cuba and Argentina alone surpassing it. Exports during 1920, which constituted a little over one-half the trade, amounted to 207.854,197 dols., an increase of 58 per cent. over 1919. Pipes and fittings, structural iron and steel, lumber, automobiles and accessories, raw cotton, sugar, mineral oils, and lard were chiefly responsible for the augmented value of exports. Sugar, wheat flour, and cotton manufactures, other important exports, declined somewhat. Imports show a relative loss in importance during 1920, amounting to only 46 per cent. of the total trade between the two countries, whereas

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in 1919 they represented 53 per cent. An actual increase of 20 per cent. took place, however, the 1920 imports having amounted to 180,191,075 dols., as compared with 148,926.376 dols. in 1919. The principal increases occurred in petroleum, unrefined copper, raw cotton, and lead, but these gains were counteracted to some extent by the smaller shipments of coffee, copper ore, hides, skins, and live cattle.

The commerce of the United States with Central America is less than that with any other division of Latin America, the total trade in 1920 only reaching 160,234,672 dols., which, however, was an increase of 53 per cent. over that of the previous year. Imports and exports advanced in about the same ratio, the former consisting largely of coffee, sugar, bananas, mahogany, hides, and skins, coconuts, and balata, while the latter are made up to a great extent of foodstuffs (especially wheat flour), cotton textiles, hardware and tools, machinery, drugs, wearing apparel, etc. American trade during 1919 and 1920 with each of these countries is shown in the following table :-

Countries.	Impor	ts from.	Exports to.		
Countries.	1919.	1920.	1919.	1920.	
	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.	
British Honduras	2,791,479	3,685,056	2,918,393	3,398,333	
	6,581,789	10,133,282	4,920,724	9,887,108	
Guatemala	12,115,065	20,076,519	8,391,535	10,202,620	
Honduras	7,415,588	8,306,364	7,691.928	15,361,919	
Nicaragua .	5,496,275	7,971,426	6,694,597	9,542,964	
Panama	7,395,029	8,272,586	22,019,316	33,333,155	
Salvador	4,146,113	11,915,320	5,934,418	8,148,018	
Total	45,941,338	70,360,553	58,570,911	89,874,119	

SUMMARY OF LATIN AMERICAN TRADE IN 1920.

Statistics covering imports from Latin America during the first half of 1920 reflect generally the confidence felt in business circles and the optimistic tone of the market. As a result of the break in prices for wool, hides, skins, rubber, coffee, cacao, etc., imports from South America were the first to decline; and though no actual decrease in values took place until the third quarter, statistics during the second three months of 1920 failed to show as great an increase in percentage as those for the first three months. During July, August, and September there was a fall in import values, which amounted to 8 per cent, less than for the corresponding months in 1919 and were about 22,000,000 dols. less than in the preceding quarter. Imports from Cuba and Mexico, on the contrary, show the greatest increases during the third quarter, in the former Republic doubling and in the latter amounting to nearly one third more than shipments in the corresponding period in 1919.

A general decrease is noticeable for all three sections under discussion when comparing values for the last quarters of 1919 and 1920, the greatest losses appearing in imports from Cuba and South America, which fell off 50 and 40 per cent. respectively. The only appreciable fall in Mexican imports occurred during December, when they amounted to approximately 5,000,000 dols. less than in December, 1919. This decline, however, was sufficient to eause a decrease of 8 per cent. in the value of imports for the last quarter of 1920, as compared with

the last quarter of 1919.

The market depression and the generally unfavourable exchange situation in the majority of the Latin American countries during the last half of 1920 are not observable in the statistics covering exports to South America, the figures for the last quarter of 1920 showing a greater percentage of increase over 1919 than for any other period of the year. This can be accounted for partly by the fact that goods shipped during this period were ordered during the early part of the year, when many plants were mable on account of the shortage in goods to fill orders immediately. The port congestion and consequent partial embargo on imports into Cuba, together with the moratorium which went into effect 10th October, were undoubtedly the leading causes for the slowing up of exports to that Republic in the latter half

of 1920, and it is noticeable that while export values for the last quarter actually reached higher figures than at any time during the past two years, the percentage of gain, compared with the corresponding period in 1919, was only 70 per cent., whereas during the third quarter it was 90 per cent., and during the second quarter 147 per cent.

FLUCTUATIONS DURING FOUR QUARTERS OF 1920.

The following table shows the percentage of increase or decrease in import and export values for each quarter during 1920 as compared with the previous year. On account of the natural fluctuations from month to month in the trade with Latin America, it has been thought that these percentages of the changes for a three-month period will be of more value than the monthly figures as indicating the course of the trade during 1920:—

		luerease (+) or decrease (-) in-							
Periods.		lm	ports from	n	Exports to-				
		Cuba.	South America.	Mexico.	Cuba.	South America	Mexico.		
First quarter Second quarter Third quarter Last quarter		Per cent. + 93 + 99 + 110 50	Per cent. +78 +54 -8 -40	Per cent. +26 +28 +31 — 8	Per cent + 46 + 147 + 90 + 70	Per cent. + 4 + 40 + 45 + 84	Per cent +21 +16 +81 +54		

DEVELOPMENT OF AMERICAN SHIPPING TO LATIN AMERICA.

A discussion of the United States-Latin American trade during 1920 would hardly be complete without at least a brief review of the status of American and foreign shipping employed in this commerce. The official statistics of the United States Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1914, reported approximately 25,500,000 tons of shipping (both sail and steam) employed in the trade with Latin America. Of the 5,500,000 tons registered under the United States flag, a little less than half was engaged in the West Indian trade, about one-third in the Mexican, and a little less than one-fifth in the trade with Central America. The American tonnage engaged in commerce with Sonth America was at that time almost negligible, amounting to only 344,538 tons.

By the end of 1920 the total shipping in the trade between United States and Latin America had increased to approximately 39,000,000 tons, exceeding the 1914 tonnage by 52 per cent, and that of 1919 by $54\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Approximately 31,000,000 tons, or 79 per cent., of this shipping are under American registry, and in the tonnage added during 1920 United States shipping has done somewhat better than hold its own, showing a gain of 57 per eent., while foreign tonnage gained but 45 per cent. little over one-half (51 per cent.) of the American vessels in 1920 were engaged in the Mexican trade, 27 per cent. in the West Indian, and 13 and 9 per cent. respectively in the South and Central American commerce. amount of tonnage added during 1920 Mexico lead all the other sections of Latin America, its shipping having increased approximately 7,500,000 tons, as compared with 1,500,000 tons for South America and 2,000,000 tons for Central America.—United States "Commerce Reports" Reports.

NOTICE.

The price of the "Board of Trade Journal" is 6d. (7d. post free). Annual subscription (post free), 30s. in the United Kingdom. Overseas subscription 31s. 6d. per annum, post free.

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Notes on Trade.

[While every care is exercised to ensure the accuracy of any explanatory articles or notes relating to Acts, Regulations, Orders, etc., published in the "Journal," it must be understood that such explanations are necessarily in the nature of summaries, and cannot be quoted as authoritative legal interpretations of the text of the documents themselves.

TAXATION OF WAR PROFITS IN ITALY.

The Commercial Counsellor to H.M. Embassy at Rome has forwarded a copy and translation of Decree No. 319, dated 27th March, 1921, containing regulations and provisions for the enforcement of the Law of 24th September, 1920, by which all war profits are to be ceded to the State.

The Decree now to hand is the result of the labours of the Inter-Parliamentary Committee convoked by the Minister of Finance, to examine and pronounce upon the proposals made by the Administrative Council, with a view to bringing the Law into practical effect at the earliest date possible. (See the "Journal" of 27th January, 1921, p. 96.)

The copy and translation of the Decree may be consulted by United Kingdom firms interested on application to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old

Queen Strect, London, S.W. 1.

AUSTRIAN CROWN NOTES: NEW POSITION.

The Commercial Secretary to H.M. Legation at Vienna states that a circular, dated 23rd April (of which he has forwarded copies and translation) has been issued by the Ministry of Finance to all the Austrian Customs Offices, raising from that date the prohibition on the import of the current Austrian notes and other notes of the Austro-Hungarian Bank stamped by other Succession States.

This alteration of the rules of the Devisen Zentrale represents the initial success of the commercial community in the campaign against the prohibition of the import and export of Anstrian erown notes. It is this restriction which has created the differences in value between "Inlands Kronen" and "Auslands Kronen." (See the "Journal" of 28th April, pp. 470-471.)

As the prohibition on the export of Anstrian notes remains in force, the permission to import crowns does not do away with the distinction between the "Inlands Kronen" and the "Auslands Kronen," and the imported Anstrian notes (which are not "Auslands Kronen," even while abroad) will not, of course, become "Auslands Kronen" when they reach Vienna. It may however, have the effect of raising the foreign quotation for the Anstrian notes ("Inlands Kronen"), as they can now be used for buying goods in Austria.

A semi-official Communiqué issued on the subject states that through the practice of the "Zentralstelle fuer den Zahlungsverkehr" of only allowing Austrian notes which come into Austria from abroad to be credited to an Inland account, the danger that the rate of the Austrian exchange might be prejudicially affected on foreign markets by transactions in importing and exporting banknotes is removed. There is, therefore, no reason why the import of Austrian stamped notes should not be permitted. In future, the Decree of 15th February, 1919, forbidding the import of Austrian bank notes of the Austro-Hungarian Bank, applies only to unstamped notes. Stamped notes which are now imported into Austria may only be used for payments in Austria, the Succession States (Czecho-Slovakia, Poland, Jugo-Slavia, and Hungary), and in Bulgaria and

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN BANK NOTES.

The Hungarian Government have issued a notice to the effect that the exchange of Austro-Hungarian Bank Notes stamped with the Hungarian Seal into the new Hungarian State Notes began on 9th May. During the fortnight 9th May to 22nd May the exchange will be made without any deduction. Sub-

NOTES ON TRADE-Continued.

sequent to the latter date the exchange will be made at a loss of 5 per cent. to the holder of the Austro-Hungarian Bank Notes.

GOODS IN CUSTOMS STOREHOUSES

AT BEYROUT.
H.M. Consul-General at Beyrout, Syria, has forwarded copies of an Arrêté (No. 792) modifying as from 1st April the rules as to storage surtax, known as penalties delay in removing goods from the Customs storchouses at Beyrout.

The Arrêté provides for a refund in cases in which the amount of the penalties previously inflicted exceeds half the Customs valuation of a consignment, and reduces other penalties. Even so, the new penalties will be considerable, and shippers would do well to instruct their local agents, or the banks through which they pass their documents, to arrange to withdraw for shippers' account goods not taken up by consignces within reasonable delay, and therefore likely to remain in the Customs storchouses for a considerable time.

A copy of the Arrêté (in French) may be consulted, and fuller particulars regarding it may be obtained by United Kingdom firms interested on application to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

CHINESE RAILWAY LOAN AGREEMENT.

II.M. Minister at Peking has forwarded a copy of a contract which was signed on 15th January, under which a group of 27 Chinese banks undertakes to issue to the Ministry of Communications a loan of 6,000,000 dols, at 95, bearing interest at 8 per cent., for the specific purpose of purchasing locomotives and cars for the Chinese Government railways

H.M. Minister comments that the loan agreement is one of the most interesting contracts recently concluded in China, in that a Chinese group has provided funds to the Government for productive purposes with conditions of control more favourable than have ever been accorded to a foreign lender.

The banking group retains the proceeds of the loan in its own hands, it disburses them direct to the suppliers of material with a right of veto on the contracts concluded under the specifications of the Ministry

The provision of Chinese funds for the financing of purchases of rolling stock should assist British manufacturers who desire to supply material hut who have neither the organisation nor the desire to become entangled in Chinese finance.

A copy of the contract may be seen by United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters on applica-tion to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

THE ARGENTINE TRADE CRISIS.

In view of the present economic erisis in Argentina the views of Mr. Carlos Alfredo Tornquist, the present head of the banking house of Ernesto Tornquist y Compañia, Limitada, are of interest, as to the causes leading to the present state of Argentine industry and trade, and the measures which, in his opinion, it will be necessary to take in order to arrest or reduce the effects of the present stagnation. In an interview granted to "La Razon," Mr. Tornquist points out that the present crisis is due to defects in the Argentine financial system as well as to disorganised business conditions in other parts of the world. In his opinion too much attention has been given in Argentina to the latter phenomena. and not enough to the necessity of reforming the Argentine banking and currency system, which, as organised to-day, is not calculated to diminish the effects on Argentine industry and trade of a severe financial crisis in foreign countries.

Mr. Tornquist believes that the two evils requiring immediate attention are the insufficiency of credits extended to the producer and the scarcity of the cir-

NOTES ON TRADE-Continued.

To remedy the credit situation, he culating medium. suggests (1) that the Bank of the Nation modify its commercial policy; (2) that a Central Federal Bank be created; (3) that the withdrawal and exportation of gold on a small scale be allowed; (4) that the floating debt of the nation be consolidated within the country and credits granted to foreign buyers of national products; (5) that long-time credits be granted to producers.

Some of the changes he recommends in the policy of the Bank of the Nation are the reduction of interest on time deposit; and the restriction of its activities, as far as foreign exchange is concerned, to fiscalisation. measures would obviate the present competition with other banks in Argentina, which, according to Mr. Tornquist, has resulted in almost half of all the deposits of the country being concentrated in the Bank of the Nation, where they are not readily accessible for promoting Argentine industry and trade. Another reform he suggests is the reorganisation of the re-discount so that it will function as intended and produce results, parallel to a certain extent to those attained by the establishment of the Federal Reserve Board in the United States. In his recommendation that a central State bank of issue and re-discount be created, Mr. Tornquist expresses the belief that if such is done, the Bank of the Nation should be converted gradually into an agricultural and live-stock bank, which would be in a position to grant long-time loans to these industries on which the prosperity of Argentina is founded.

Another important measure to be undertaken is the consolidation of the national debt within the country, by indirect issue if necessary, the capital set free to be used for making loans to foreign buyers of such national products as wools, hides, meats, and cereals. Such consolidation would not be desirable, however, unless the funds derived therefrom were employed in financing the

national production. The exportation of gold, according to Mr. Tomquist, a question of only relative urgency. While not is a question of only relative urgency. While not advocating complete freedom of withdrawing it from the Conversion Office and of exporting it, he believes that authorisation should be granted for the withdrawal of gold and its exportation up to a fixed sum, to be established in advance. The exportation of this gold should be used primarily for the benefit of the State and applied to the payment of interest, amortisations, and purchases abroad.

Referring to statements often made that Argentina has an excessive currency in proportion to its population, Mr. Tornquist said that he considered such statements misleading, and pointed out that the eirculating medium of a nation should be based on the value of the national production rather than on the number of inhabitants. Considering that before the war, when the annual national production reached 2,800,000.000 paper pesos, a circulation of 823,000,000 paper pesos was not too much; he pointed out that it would be natural to conclude that to-day when the national production exceeds 5,500,000,000 paper pesos, and when other factors, such as the rise in prices and the free circulation of Argentine paper in contiguous countries are taken into consideration, the 1.360,000,000 paper pesos now in circulation must be insufficient to permit handling these products with facility.

Mr. Tornquist also called attention to what he considers the excessive gold guaranty (80 per cent.) which backs the circulating medium. To relieve the situation further, he believes that the Bank of the Nation should resort to re-discounting, especially in times of great need, such as when the crops are moved. Private banks do no re-discounting, and the Bank of the Nation is. naturally, lacking in interest as long as it has a surplus of eash. In conclusion, Mr. Tornquist argues that if steps are not taken to remedy these defects in Argentina's fiscal system, the present crisis may be aggravated by the middle of the current year, and while it can not be so serious as those of 1912 and 1914, it can impede the prompt recovery naturally expected in view of Argentina's favourable position during the past five years.

Exhibitions and Fairs.

FOREIGN SAMPLES EXHIBITION AT COVENTRY.

An Exhibition of Foreign Samples will be held in St. Mary's Hall, Coventry, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 24th, 25th and 26th May. The arrangements have been made in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce at Coventry, and the Mayor of Coventry has agreed to formally open the Exhibition on 24th May, at 12.30 p.m.

About 400 invitations are being issued by the Department of Overseas Trade to firms in Coventry, Bedworth, Kenilworth, Leanington, Warwick, Nuneaton, etc., from a list of names supplied by the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce. Additional invitations can be obtained from the Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Earl Street, Coventry

A special invitation is extended to manufacturers to send groups of their workpeople and foremen to examine the exhibits, so that they may see from the actual samples the class and price of the goods sold in overseas markets.

The samples, several thousand in number, comprise Cycle Parts and Accessories, Cables, Small Tools, Ribbons, Cords and Braids, Trimmings, Galoons, Files, Varnish, Paints, Domestic Electrical Goods, Electrical Fittings, etc., etc., representing the manufactures of the United States, Germany, Japan, and other countries, sold in various markets.

In addition there will be displayed about 400 recently acquired Foreign Trade Catalogues.

FORTHCOMING FAIRS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

- International Rubber Exhibition—
 London, June 3rd-17th, Royal Agricultural Hall. Apply
 to:—Mr. H. G. Montgomery, 43, Essex Street, Strand,
 W.C. 2.
- W.C. 2.

 ART APPLIED TO BUSINESS EXHIBITION—
 Alpine Galleries, June 16th-28th.

 22ND ANNUAL CHEMISTS' EXHIBITION—
 Central Hall, Westminster, S.W. 1, June 20th
 Apply to:—"British and Colonial Pharmacist,"
 200, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2. June 20th-24th.
- HEALTH EXHIBITIONe. June 20th-29th. Apply to:—Royal Institution, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, Folkestone.
- Sanitary Institution, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W. 1. ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW, DERBY— June 28th July 3rd. (Includes agricultural machinery and

- June 28th July 3rd. (Includes agricultural machinery and forestry.)

 LONDON FAIR AND MARKET—
 Royal Agricultural Hall. July 4th-15th. Apply to:—
 International Trade Exhibitions. Ltd., Broad Street House, New Broad Street. London, E.C. 2.

 CONFECTIONERS' AND BAKERS' EXHIBITION—
 Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, September 3rd-9th. Apply to:—31, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. 4.

 Shipping. Engineering, and Machinery Exhibition—
 Olympia, September 7th-28th. Apply to:—Mr. F. W. Bridges, Exhibition Offices, 36-38, Whitefriars Street, London, E.C. 4.

 Grocers' Exhibition—
 Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, September 17th-
- Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, September 17th-23rd. Apply to:—31, Queen Victoria Street, London, 23rd. Apply to:—31, Queen E.C. 4.

 11TH LONDON MEDICAL EXHIBITION—

- ITH LONDON MEDICAL EXHIBITION—
 Central Hall, Westminster, S.W. 1, October 3rd-7th. Apply to "British and Colonial Pharmacist," 194-200, Bishol-sgate, London, E.C. 2.

 International Shoe and Leather Fair—
 Royal Agricultural Hall, October 3rd-8th. Apply to:—
 Manager. "Shoe and Leather Record," 40, Finsbury Square, London, E.C. 2.

 Fifth International Commercial Motor Exhibition—
 Olympia, London, October 14th-22nd. Apply to:—
 Exhibition Manager, Society of Motor Mannfacturers and Traders, Ltd., 83, Pall Mall, London, S.W. 1.

 15th International Motor Exhibition—
 Olympia and White City, London, November 4th-12th. Apply to:—Exhibition Manager, Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, Ltd., 83, Pall Mall, London, S.W. 1.

 Seventh Cycle And Motor Cycle Show—
 Olympia, November 28th-December 3rd.

EXHIBITIONS AND FAIRS-Continued.

OVERSEAS.

- GHENT INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND BUILDING EXHIBI-TION-
- April 16th-June 14th. Apply to:—Administrative Committee, No. 15, Coupure, Ghent.

 Turin Agricultural and Horticultural Exhibition—
 May. Apply to:—Société Royale Horto-Agricole du Piémont, Turin.
- Paleis Voor Volksvliyt, Amsterdam. May 4th-June 1st.
- BUENOS AIRES-Arrest Arrest Arrest Dairying Exhibition, May 8th-27th. Apply to:—The Manager, Argentine Rural Society, Sarmiento 834, Buenos Aires.

- Paris Fair—
 May 10th-25th. Apply to:—Comite de la Foire, 8, Place de la Bourse, Paris.

 Budapesthi Orient Fair (International)—
 May 14th-27th. Address, Bureau der Budapester Orientmesse, V. Szemere—U 6, Budapesth.

 Prague Automobile Exhibition—
 May 28th-June 5th. (Cars, tractors, motor bicycles and accessories.) Enquiries should be addressed to:—The Commercial Attaché, Czecho-Slovak Legation, 8, Grosvenor Place, London, S.W. 1.

 Posen Fair (Polish)—
 May 28th-June 5th.

 Reykjavik Agricultural Exhibition—
 June. Agricultural Machinery and Implements. Apply to:—Icelandic Agricultural Society, Reykjavik, Iceland.

 Padua Samples Fair—June 1st-15th.

 Lima Centenary Celebration—
 International Tech. 13-1-15.

- LIMA CENTENARY CELEBRATION—
 International Trade Exhibition. June 1st-October 31st.
 Charge for space, £1 per square foot. Apply to:—
 Peruvian Consul-General, 31, Lombard Street, London,
- E.C. 3.

- E.C. 3.

 Berdeaux Sample Fair (International)—
 June 15th-30th. Apply to :—Foire de Bordeaux, 7, rue
 du Maréchal-Joffre, Bordeaux.

 Basle Hotel Industries Exhibition—
 June 21st-July 3rd. (Swiss only.)

 Gothenburg Fair (Swedish)—
 July 4th-10th.

 Boston Shoe and Leather Show—
 July 11th-14th. Apply to :—Mr. Chester T. Campbell,
 National Shoe and Leather Exposition, Inc. 5, Park
 Sonare, Boston, Mass., United States.
- National Since and Leadner Exposition, flic. 5, Park Square. Boston, Mass., United States.

 Transylvania Fair (National)—
 Cluj. July 15th-August 15th.

 Riga International Agricultural and Industrial Exhibi-
- TION-August 1st.
- August 1st.

 Sundsvall Norrland Fair and Auto Show—
 August 1st-7th. Apply to:—Mr. O. Johnson, Norrlands-Mässam, Sundsvall, by June 1st.

 Pressburg (Bratislava, Czecho-Slovakian Industries)—
 August 6th-15th.

 Reichenberg Fair (International)—
 August 13th-21st.

- August 13th-21st.

 CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF TORONTO—
 August 27th-September 10th.

 NAPLES SAMPLE FAIR—
 Probably September. Offices:—c/o R. Museo Commerciale. Palazzo della Borsa, Naples.

 LUXEMBURG AGRICULTURAL SAMPLE EXHIBITION—
 Septembers (Approx.) Apply (Approx.)
- September (approx.). Apply to :-Mons. B. Clasen, l'Exposition Agricole d'Echantillons, Avenue Montierey, Luxemburg.

 Norwegian Industries Fair—
 Christiania, September 4th-11th.
- UTRECHT FAIR-Scotember 6th-16th. (All manufactured goods, and
- international.) LAUSANNE AGRICTETURAL AND FOOD PRODUCTS FAIR—September 10th-25th. (Swiss only.)
- VIENNA INTERNATIONAL FAIR-September 11th-17th.
- NETHERLAND EAST INDIAN FAIR—
 September 19th-October 9th, 1921. Apply to:—
 Chamber of Commerce (Netherland East Indies), 38,
 Dover Street, London, W. 1.
- Paris Motor Show—
 Grand Palais, October. Apply —Administration de l'Exposition Internationale de l'Antomobile, 51, Rue Pérgolèse, Paris.
- [Note.—The above list is not intended to include all forth-coming Fairs and Exhibitions throughout the world, but only to cover some of the more important ones, especially those of interest to the British manufacturer. Information regarding Exhibitions and Fairs other than those mentioned above is on file and may be obtained on application to the Exhibitions and Fairs Division, Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.]

Imperial and Foreign Trade.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

AUSTRALIA.

SUGAR PRODUCTION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Commonwealth Minister of Customs has announced that the Commonwealth Government will continue to pay Australian sugar growers £30 6s. 8d. a ton for raw sugar during the current year, and the refined product will be sold to distributors at £49 a ton, the retail price being 6d. per lb.

A heavy crop is expected this season, but it will not be available until the end of the year. If it fully meets Australian requirements, a reduction in price is possible in 1992.

The net result of the Commonwealth Government's transactions in sugar, taking all liabilities into account, was a loss or deficit on 30th June, 1920, of over £900,000, and it was found necessary to increase the amount which the Treasurer was empowered to borrow from the Commonwealth Bank to £1,000,000. It is hoped that by 1st August the losses on the sugar account will be overtaken. The sugar imports in 1918-19 were 52,569 tons, of the value of £1,052,124, or a little over £20 per ton; in 1919-20 the quantity was 112,805 tons, of the value of £4,359,203, or £38 12s. 9d. per ton. For 31st December, 1920, the imports were 24,475 tons, valued at £1,059,342, or a little over £45 5s. per ton.

It is hoped that the 1920-21 season's crop from Queensland will be sufficient for the whole of Anstralia, and so save the people the extra cost of bringing in the high costing product from abroad.

CANADA.

LINOLEUM TRADE IN WESTERN CANADA.

(From L. B. Beale, H.M. Trade Commissioner.)

Winn

For many years, until the war, there was a satisfactory and steadily developing trade between British manufacturers of linoleums and floor oilcloths and the distributors of these goods in Canada. The volume of this trade has indeed been out of propertion to the population in Western Canada, and the per capita consumption of this product in the Western Provinces, it is thought, may not possibly be equalled in the export markets of the world. This circumstance is probably accounted for by the almost prodigal use to which linoleum is put by the farmer of the prairie provinces.

Up to some seven or eight years ago a large business was done in almost all grades of goods made by the British manufacturers. These included inlaid and printed linoleum, printed floor oileloths, self-colonred plain linoleums, cork carpets and the standard "Battleship" linoleum used in large quantities by the British Admiralty and utilised in Canada as a floor covering for public institutions, for which it was found to be admirably adapted, and in particular for use in hospitals, where its hygienic qualities and comparative immunity from fire risks made it of special

RISE OF CANADIAN MANUFACTURES.

In recent years, however, there has been disclosed a marked tendency to narrow down the number of grades which had hitherto been imported from Britain, and this tendency has been to a great extent coincident with the development of the Canadian-made article. This is manufactured in Montreal, where a factory, established some years ago, has, under progressive and competent management, attained a degree of excellence in the manufacture of all grades of linolenm and floorcloth (with the exception of inlaid goods), which has resulted in immensely increased sales and a position of great strength in the manufacturing industry of Canada.

The Canadian goods, both as to quality and design, are rapidly approximating the British article. The policy of

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE-Continued.

the Canadian manufacturers as to selling price apparently has been to fix their prices on a basis which would land their goods at the various distributing centres in Canada at a cost to the buyer sufficiently under that of the British product—to which had to be added the Canadian tariff duty and increased transportation charges—to ensure their obtaining the larger share of what may be termed the everyday or ordinary trade.

EFFECTS OF THE WAR.

It may be useful to notice the abnormal conditions brought about by the war, as these conditions resulted in one or two developments which are likely to have permanent effects. Arising from causes due directly to war conditions, and which affected all imports, linoleum shipments from Great Britain to Canada practically ceased for about three years during the war period. As a result of this, demands were made on the Canadian manufacturers which, despite obvious difficulties, were met by a splendid response. Notwithstanding the Canadian effort, however, certain difficulties were encountered by merchants in getting adequate supplies, and the United States manufacturers were enabled, as a result of this shortage, to obtain for the first time a foothold in the Canadian market.

There was also introduced about this period, chiefly through a very large United States roofing material company, the "felt base" floor covering—an imitation of linoleum in respect to the printed surface, but the body of which is tar felt roofing composition. This so-called substitute found favour during a period of difficulty as a makeshift, and, while it is still being manufactured both in Canada and the United States, the present indications are that it need not be regarded seriously as a competitor of linoleum, although its influence cannot be regarded as wholly negligible.

THE PRINTED SQUARE.

The introduction of the felt base brought in its wake, however, a strong demand for a linoleum rug or square made in standard carpet square sizes. This class of floor covering had been made by a number of British manufacturers for a number of years previously, but there was apparently no market for them in Canada, and it may be stated, without reservation, that the demand for the printed rug emerged solely as the result of an aggressive advertising campaign commenced by one of the United States manufacturers of felt base goods. The printed square has now become a staple commodity, and British manufacturers would be well advised to give this department very special attention. The Canadian manufacturer has already recognised this demand by issuing a series of lithographs showing a carefully selected and attractive range of patterns suitable for his home market.

AMERICAN ADVERTISING.

The inlaid linoleum made in the United States did not meet the requirements of the Canadian user, accustomed to superior British products, and while it served a useful enough purpose in an emergency, the British inlay has reasserted its supremacy to the practical elimination of the other. It should not be overlooked, however, that the United States manufacturers continue to maintain a well-organised and lavish advertising campaign in periodical publications with a large reading public in Canada, and so long as this policy is pursued and the British manufacturers continue to regard it with complacency, the potential danger to their Canadian trade from this source cannot be ignored. It may be assumed also that the manufacture of inlaid linoleums by the Canadian manufacturer is under consideration, and that in course of a period which cannot now be determined the very favourable position now occupied by the British manufacturer may undergo very considerable change.

CANADIAN AND ENGLISH PRICES.

From what has been written it will be seen that the situation requires the very serious consideration of British manufacturers of lincleums and floorcloths if the very profitable trade which they have hitherto enjoyed in the Canadian market is to be maintained. Recent substantial reductions in the prices of the Canadian product, with no corresponding reductions by the British manufacturers, have created a disparity in the prices which appears to have had the effect already of almost closing the market to the British goods. Recent investigations among the large retail stores of Western Canada reveal that in printed linoleums the present trade is approximately 90 per cent.

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE—Continued.

from Canadian mills and 10 per cent. from the United Kingdom.

The following are the prevailing prices (wholesale) c.i.f. Winnipeg, duty paid, quoted by one of the principal merchants:—

	From United Kingdom Manufacturers.	From Canadian Mill.
Battleship linolenm 6 m/m, 8/4 Printed linoleum, Cana-		2.61 dols.
dian E quality, United Kingdom similar quality 8/4 Printed linoleum, 8/4, Canadian D quality,		79 cents.
United Kingdom similar quality	1.26 dols.	88 cents.

The United Kingdom product would probably command a 10 per cent. higher price than the Canadian product both wholesale and retail. In the opinion of the trade the Canadian product is rapidly approaching that from the United Kingdom in quality, and a greater allowance than 10 per cent. is not considered practicable.

GAMBIA.

TRADE IN 1920-21.

The following particulars of the trade of Gambia in 1920 are extracted from the Report of the Bathurst Chamber of Commerce for the year ended 28th February, 1921.

EXPORTS OF GROUNDNUTS, PALM KERNELS AND HIDES,

The year's yield of groundnuts amounted to about 87,000 tons, exceeding the previous year's crop by 15,300 tons. Of the total crop 85,190 tons, valued at £2,398,444, were exported during 1920, as compared with 71,677 tons, valued at £1,172,843, in 1919 and 56,490 tons, valued at £800,319, in 1918.

Prices paid to natives throughout 1920 were without precedent, in some instances as much as 8s, per bushel being given. The average price for the scason worked out at about 5s, per bushel. The 1920-21 season opened very quietly owing to the slump in the European markets and prices were limited to an average of about 2s, per bushel.

Last year's export of palm kernels amounted to 408 tons, valued at £9,470, as compared with 671 tons, valued at £15,824, in the previous year.

in the previous year.

Exports of hides during the year totalled 17,018, valued at £21,125, as against 14.405 hides, valued at £8,419, in 1919-20.

THE IMPORT TRADE.

The total value of imports for the year 1920 (exclusive of specie, valued at £695,295) amounted to £2,376,583, or an increase of £1,196,943 compared with 1919.

The following is a statement of the quantities and values of

The following is a statement of the quantities and values of the principal articles of import during the past two years. As will be noted, the figures for 1919 were exceeded in every instance except empty bags, spirits and tobacco.

			()1'A	NTITY.	V A 1.	UE.
			1919.	1920.	1919.	1920.
					£	£
Bugs, empt	V	 No.	614,113	484,345	56,175	36,892
Cotton piec		vds. 5	,062,091	6,937,633	285,262	681,569
Other cotto		nres		-	50,308	116,686
Flour		 CWL.	7,091	13.786	13,603	31,159
Hardware		 			47,765	56,420
Kola nuts		 CWE.	20.792	23,333	156.993	285,374
Provisions		 			12,269	38,717
Rice		 cwt.	57,650	157,811	104.101	329,069
Spirits		 galls.	14,111	9,740	12,295	10,735
Sugar		 CWL.	5,507	12,554	12,988	65,316
Tobacco		 Tb.	730,508	331,541	53,710	45,755

SOUTH AFRICA.

EXPORT MARKET FOR BUCHU LEAVES.

As is well known, states the "Journal of the Department of Agriculture" (Union of South Africa), buchu leaves contain valuable medicinal properties, and are extensively used in South African medical practice. Of the leaves exported, the bulk goes to the United States, where they are used in certain proprietary medicines.

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE-Continued.

Among British and European chemists, however, buchu leaves are not generally known.

The average annual export for the five years 1910 to 1914 was 204,271lb., valued at £30,394, while the average for the five years 1915 to 1919 was 130,161lb., valued at £23,937. In 1909 the average price of export buchn was 8d. per lb., in 1910 it rose to 1s. 9d. per lb., and in 1911 to 2s. 9d. per lb. Since then the price has never been below 3s. per lb. and in 1919 it was nearly 5s. per lb. These prices are the averages for all grades exported, but the best variety commanded 6s. 3d. per lb. in 1917, while in 1920 the Cape Town market price ranged from 9s. to 11s. per lb. In the 1919-20 Annual Report of the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce it is stated that "Our market here opened with quotations of 6s. per lb.; but little business was done until prices advanced to 7s. and 7s. 6d. Even these figures were not long maintained, and soon 8s. was not considered a high price." In London the average price during 1914-19 was 2s. 5d. to 5s. 6d.

per lb., according to quality.

According to an article in the "South African Journal of Industries," the questions which should occupy the close attention of those interested in the buchn trade are:—
"(1) Whether it will pay to cultivate the various species;
(2) the gathering of the leaves at the right time and the proper curing; (3) the proper grading of consignments, which should be quite free from adulterants."

The world demand for both the buchu herb and oil is rapidly increasing, and the future prospects of buchu as a field crop are good, so that increased interest is being taken in the cultivation of the plant, and experiments in this direction have recently been carried out at the National Botanic Gardens at Kirstenbosch, with very satisfactory results.

EUROPE.

FRANCE.

WINE PRODUCTION IN 1920.

According to figures published by the French Ministry of Finance, the French wine output in 1920 was abundant and showed a large increase over that of 1919. In the last-mentioned year 51,461,887 hectolitres were produced (1 hectolitre = 26.41 gallons), while the more recent harvest produced 56,034,124 hectolitres.

At the beginning of the 1919 season the stocks still on hand amounted to 1,034,024 hectolitres; at the beginning of the 1920 harvest they amounted to 3,544,038 hectolitres. These figures are significant as showing a post war falling off of the demand for wine, a situation which became more acute during the months following the last harvest.

In the Bordeaux district the 1920 harvest likewise consi-

In the Bordeaux district the 1920 harvest likewise considerably exceeded that of the preceding year and amounted to 9,321,369 hectolitres, as compared with 8,402,364 for 1919. The Department of the Gironde, of which Bordeaux is the capital, produced considerably more than half the amount turned out in the entire district during both years mentioned, namely, 4,869,954 hectolitres and 5,467,701 hectolitres respectively. The Departments of Gers, Lotet-Garonne, and Tarn were next in importance, and in these Departments the 1290 harvest greatly exceeded in quantity that of 1919.

ASIA.

CHINA.

TRADE SITUATION AT TIENTSIN.

Figures just made available show that imports into Tientsin from foreign countries (as distinct from native imports) reached a record in 1920, which, considering the depression all over Far Eastern Asia, can only be regarded as most satisfactory. The 1919 figure—Haikwan taels 85,348,380—was eclipsed by about taels 350,000. Exports, however, fell from the 1919 record of taels 71,550,033 by about the same amount as the imports rose.

about the same amount as the imports rose.

Native imports also dropped. The 1920 figure was taels 176,213,790 (1919's total was 189,775,934), so that in this branch of trade there was a 13 million tael drop.

PRESENT CONDITION OF MARKET.

Despite famine and general unrest in inland centres, the general tone of the markets is fairly well maintained. In

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE-Continued.

certain lines throughout the three months of 1921 there has been continued activity.

CARPETS.

The popularity of the Tientsin carpet is now established. Since 1st January exports have reached the large total of Haikwan taels 180,000. Last year's first quarter's total was taels 140,000.

Eggs

The cgg trade, despite certain drawbacks, is doing well, shipments for the early months of this year are about three times as much in volume as the first quarter of 1920.

WOOL.

Sheep's wool has already reached within 10 per cent. of the entire exports for 1920, the figures for the quarter being some 84,000 piculs, against 91,326 for the whole of 1920.

OTHER EXPORTS (QUARTER'S RETURNS).

Rapeseed is brisk. The amount that has gone forward so far this year is over one-third of the total export for 1920. Slinks crosses to the number of 2,307 went forward, comparing favourably with 2,826 during the first quarter last year. Dog mats total 32,954, against 64,546 in the same term last year. Fox tails are moving well, the figures 7,603 being greatly in excess of the amount in the first quarter of 1920, when only 2,281 pieces were recorded.

IMPORT TRADE.

It is not to be expected yet that any big import demand will set in. The latest Customs report shows that, in most of the principal lines coming into this market, increases are recorded. This applies to metals, dyes, railway material, timber, etc., but the market cannot be considered as normal.

PERSIA.

TRADE IN 1919-20.

The following particulars of the trade of Persia in the year ending 20th March, 1920, have been extracted from the Official Trade Returns for that period recently received from H.M. Legation at Teheran:—

Imports in 1919-20 amounted in value to 629,792,656 krans as compared with 476,286,793 krans in 1918-19. Exports also showed an increase at 367,817,353 krans,

against 270,867,943 krans respectively.

Imports from the whole of the British Empire marked an increase of 65,197.576 krans over 1918-19. The principal increases were in cotton and other piece-goods, cotton yarns, made-up goods, beverages, hardware, drugs, fruit, metals, timber, soap, leather goods, tobacco, flour and clothing.

Decreases were recorded in sngar, tea, spices and rice.

The following table shows the value of the principal articles imported into Persia during 1919-20:—

	Krans.
Cotton piece goods	219,273,848
Sugar	119,121,956
Tea	35,949,212
Iron and steel goods	25,690,397
Cotton yarn	$18,\!256,\!988$
Petrol	11,739,498
Made-up goods	10,051,466
Matches	9,766,769
Rice	6,824,382
from and steel bars and sheets	6,667,764
Pepper and carry	5,840,912
Wheat, barley, and other cereals	5,543,508
Woollen carpets	5,004,560

[Note.—The value of the kran in 1919-20 was 0.84 franc=5d. (approximately)].

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

FOREIGN TRADE IN 1920.

The Bureau of Commerce and Industry of the Philippine Islands reports that the value of the foreign trade of the islands for 1920 was 300,562,138 dols., an increase of about 64,000,000 dols. over that of 1919.

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE-Continued.

These figures are the highest in the history of Philippine commerce and were attained in spite of the premium on the American dollar, which ranged from 3 to 12 per cent. during the year. The total imports amounted to 149,438,282 dols. and the exports 151,123,855 dols.

during the year. The total imports amounted to 149,438,282 dols. and the exports 151,123,855 dols.

In 1919 the imports and exports were valued at 118,639,052 dols. and 113,117,826 dols. respectively. The United States contributed 62 per cent., or 92,289,778 dols., of the imports, and absorbed 69 per cent., or 105,216,282 dols., of the exports.

The biggest item in the year's export trade was cane sugar, which was valued at 49,619,260 dols., of which 39,348,934 dols. worth was consumed by the United States. Next to sugar was Manila hemp with a total of 35,862,000 dols., of which 20,614,026 dols. went to the United States. Also, the United States absorbed practically all the coconut oil shipped from the Philippines, amounting to 23,268,886 dols., and 10,546,303 dols. of the cigar exports valued at 12,721,138 dols.

Significant increases were registered in the import trade. The total value of the automobile imports was 7,460,683 dols., compared with 4,802,324 dols. for the year 1919. Cotton and manufactures totalled 10,117,182 dols., as against 7,409,135 dols. for 1919. The imports of iron and steel products amounted to 21,879,602 dols., representing a decrease of 487,985 dols. from that of 1919. Wheat flour importation was 4,721,076 dols., an increase of 256,493 dols. over that of 1919.

LATIN AMERICA.

BOLIVIA.

TRADE OF ORURO DISTRICT IN 1920.

(From H.M. Consul.)

ORUBO

The trade of Oruro district in 1920 can be considered as satisfactory. Good supplies of merchandise came forward and are still doing so, and while delays in execution of many lines still leaves much to be desired, deliveries are improving as the bulk of accumulated orders is worked off by home manufacturers. Importers of United States goods have been severely handicapped by the adverse exchange, a fact that has benefited in a marked degree the import trade from the United Kingdom, the figures for which, during 1920, it is generally anticipated, when the statistics become available, will show an improvement on 1919. In that year the United Kingdom supplied 17 per cent. of the Bolivian imports, the United States 38 per cent., Chile 18 per cent., and Peru 10 per cent. Bolivian exports consist almost entirely of mineral products. Of these a half is tin barrilla, shipments of which, in 1919, amounted to 48,211 tons, of which the United Kingdom took 56 per cent. and the United States 41 per cent.

IMPORTS OF MINING MACHINERY AND SUPPLIES.

In this branch of the import trade the United States continue to hold a predominant position. Their travellers make frequent visits to the various mining camps, and by keeping in touch get to know when new extensions are projected, and are able to quote far in advance of their competitors. As a rule the American traveller who represents mining machinery concerns has a practical and technical knowledge of his job, and this advantage is very often of use to the mine manager when such advice is sought. The practical man has a very profitable asset in his favour, therefore, in comparison with the salesman who works from book and catalogue knowledge only. For a tin producing country like Bolivia there is in normal times a constant demand for grinding and crushing machinery, concentrating plants, spares, etc.

TEXTILE IMPORTS.

With the exception of a few lines the greater variety of the cotton and woollen goods imported into Bolivia emanated from the United Kingdom. Business during the first half of the year was of a most satisfactory nature in view of the fact that practically all firms were selling 1918-1919 stocks on a rising market and realising considerable profits. In addition, stocks in the country were not large, a fact which enabled both wholesalers and retailers to command fairly big prices, and probably prices in this district reached their top limit from January to June. The July revolution and

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE-Continued.

subsequent political disturbances completely upset the market, confidence being entirely destroyed.

New high-priced goods commenced to arrive during the latter half of the year, but in view of the decline in prices of metals, merchants found it difficult to even cover the cost of these goods, and the end of the year was marked by general depression and serious declines in sales, the public in general having apparently made up its mind to buy only for immediate necessities. Hence, owing to the slack demand, the heavy fall in Manchester and Bradford prices, unless merchants are able to get out of their high priced stocks before new cheap goods arrive, they will be faced with a loss, and it may be safely assumed that 90 per cent. of the dry goods dealers in Oruro will lose money during the first half of 1921. At the present time merchants are making every effort to sell their dear goods at the best prices possible, and substantial reductions are offered for cash, but the scarcity of ready money, the restriction of credits, and the inability of the banks to facilitate transactions—such as the discounting of drafts, etc.—render business very difficult, and sales are smaller than for a long time past.

It is hoped that the reduced stocks which caution has led most importers to hold, and the delay in receiving new goods, will enable them to dispose of their high priced merchandise with the minimum possible loss. It is worthy of note that failures have been practically nil, a fact which proves that speculation here has been much less than in some other parts of the world.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION.

Local German firms are again asserting themselves in the market, and have received moderate supplies from the United Kingdom. The Germans, in most cases, have not found themselves in a position to concede such long credits as they did prior to the war, and have only done so in sales to Eastern Bolivia, where so much time is lost in transportation. In Oruro there is only one wholesale British firm earrying dry goods stocks. The remainder are mostly German, who will lend strong support to Germany in her effort to recapture her lost trade.

It may be said that during the year 1920 the United Kingdom made up quite a lot of ground lost during the war to the United States, and there is every prospect that she will continue to do so. In grey drills and grey domestics the United States still reigns supreme, the Massachusetts productions being preferred to those of Manchester. A good quantity of low grey cloths have also been imported from Pern. Small lots of textiles have been received from Italy, Spain, Japan, Belgium and France, and a very small amount of Berlin wool and shawls from Germany.

BRAZIL.

FOREIGN TRADE IN 1920.

The following tables, showing the values of the imports into and exports from Brazil during the past three years, are taken from the veturns issued by the Director of Statistics, Rio de Janeiro:—

Janeno .—	IMPORTS		
Africa	1918. £ 7,701	1919. £ 186,858	1920. £
North and Central America South America Asia Enrope Oceania	20,830,992 12,316,162 1,022,527 18,639,501	39,478,017 13,863,216 2.282,432 22,416,311 401	92,435 55,252,716 12,294,560 1,888,294 55,461,729 15,122
	52,816,883	78,177,235	125,004,856
	Exports		
	1918. £	1919. £	1920. £
Africa	738,172	1,684,240	1,730,446
America	21,702,774	54,299,076	45,490,362
South America	15,941,085	11,909,570	12,339,222
Asia	16,897	73,888	35,863
Europe	22,769,047	62,118,664	47,925,159
	61,167,975	130,085,438	107,521,052

A statement of the imports into and exports from Brazil, month by month, during 1920 and 1919, was published in the

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE-Continued.

"Journal" of 31st March (p. 355). That statement shows the extent of the falling off in export trade during the latter half of 1920 to which reference is made in the article in the "Journal" of 21st April (p. 443).

FRENCH WEST INDIES.

TRADE SITUATION AT MARTINIQUE.

(From H.M. Trade Commissioner.)

PORT-OF-SPAIN.

Outside of trade in fertilisers and soap the volume of Martinique's trade in imports from the United Kingdom is quite small, the highly protective policy of the French Government being adverse to its development. The Compaignie Générale Transatlantique, which has well equipped wharves and warehousing accommodation and coal depôt at Fort de France, formerly purchased its bunker coal from the United Kingdom, but of late this has been obtained from the United States.

During the war Martinique enjoyed great prosperity owing to the high price ruling for rum, which is the principal product of the sugar cane industry, but at present there is a serious slump in this trade, enormous stocks being held in the island, with little demand.

From time to time a few British as well as American travellers, representing manufacturers or export houses, visit Fort de France, but the adverse exchange conditions, added to the high tariff policy of the French Government, restrict buying. When exchange improves there may be a limited market for agricultural tractors. A few tractors of American manufacture have been tried, but do not appear to have proved a success, through their being either unsuited to hilly land or to the heavier clay lands in the valley bottoms. A representative of a United Kingdom engineering firm formerly called at Martinique in connection with the sale of sngar machinery, and it is suggested that if a British tractor firm could enter into an arrangement with this firm, this representative would be able to study the opening for British tractors on the spot. He might also investigate on behalf of British firms openings for light railway material and equipment for the cane plantations. This is a possibility which might be pursued, unless of course any of the British tractor firms contemplate, as they might well do, sending a representative throughout all the West Indies to study the possibilities of this market. Soil conditions vary considerably throughout the West Indies, and while a given type of tractor might be snitable for one colony it might be unsuited to

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Another branch of trade in which there may be an opening for British firms is that of boots and shoes. There exists a limited demand for a medium grade light boot for men, selling retail at about 100 francs per pair. The French tariff on boots and shoes is a moderate specific duty of so much per pair. The terms of payment should be cash against documents—the latter being sent to the Royal Bank of Canada, Fort de France, Martinique.

GENERAL.

The staple lines of textiles, such as low-priced shirtings used by the labouring classes, are of British manufacture, the purchases of these being effected through commission houses in Paris.

As already indicated, a certain amount of business is done in British sugar machinery, but implements such as machetes are of French manufacture. Agricultural forks of British make are to be seen in the hardware stores. The drug trade appears to be almost entirely French.

The few motor cars in the island are of American manufacture. There is a limited demand for push bicycles and for motor bicycles, those of the latter actually in use being of American manufacture.

The people of Martinique like to trade with the United Kingdom or Canada for such articles as they do not obtain from the mother country, but the main difficulty to the development of trade is the highly protective policy of the French Government, added to adverse exchange conditions.

Finance and Banking.

UNITED KINGDOM.

NEW CAPITAL ISSUES IN APRIL.

The following figures showing the issues of new capital during April have been compiled by the London Joint City and Midland Bank. The figures exclude all direct borrowings by the British Government for national purposes, shares issued to vendors, allotments arising from the capitalisation of reserve funds and undivided profits, issues for conversion purposes, and loans by municipalities and county authorities except in cases where there is a specified limit to the total subscription. The figures in all cases are based upon the prices of issue and are as comprehensive as possible. They do not include issues of capital made by private companies except where such information is made public.

NEW CAPITAL ISSUES* BY MONTHS.

		1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
		£	£.	£	£	æ°
Jannary		935,625	192,500	18,340,586	42,446,210	22,468,915
February		618,883	1,275,750	9,683,737	35,213,793	10,362,523
March		892,036	2,674,562	11,862,083	69,355,644	25,518,471
April		3,530,000	1,053,739	6,048,111	45,795,840	14.764,670
4 Months		5,976,544	5,196,551	45,934,517	192,811,487	73,114,579
May		3,340,764	5,320,618	17,541,224	20,860,980	
June		1,503,125	2,295,959	16,823,315	27,559,699	_
July		1,429,661	4,516,135	28,277,343	43,422,343	_
Angust		6,089,643	5,277,640	14,807,345	9,855,340	
September		1,092,694	5,986,672	9,294,271	20,064,482	
October		2,153,000	7,233,357	24,977,183	28,152,110	
November		3,726,568	1 22,354,756	33,106,761	33,021,283	
December		1,125,000	7,147,863	46,779,404	8,463,094	-
Year	, .	26,436,999	65,329,551	237,541,363	384,210,818	_

• Excluding British Government Loans raised directly for national purposes, GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF NEW CAPITAL ISSUES* BY YEARS.

Year t 31st Decen		Home Purposes.	Other Countries.	Total.
The state of the s		£	£	£
1911		28.317,000	163,972,000	192,289,000
1912		47,093,000	160,043,000	207,136,000
1913		44,611,000	197,528,000	242,139,000
1914		40,707,000	158,921,000	199,628,000
1915		8,297,000	74,685.000	82,982,000
1916		8,886,000	25,857,000	34,743,000
1917		8,806,000	17,631,000	26,437,000
1918		40,267.000	25,063,000	65,330,000
1919		187,669,000	49,871,600	237,540,000
1920		330,980,000	53,231,000	384,211,000
1921 (4 month	(s)	40,781,000	32,334,000	73,115,000

^{*} Excluding British Government Loans raised directly for national purposes.

INCREASES OF CAPITAL OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES IN APRIL.

The Banking Section of the Department of Overseas Trade has prepared the following tables, which include every notice of increase of nominal capital filed at Somerset House during April, 1921. In the period 1st to 30th April (inclusive), 139 companies increased their nominal capital by £5,657,856 in all, an average of £40,704 per company or £226,314 per diem (exclusive of non-working days.)

The figures for the four months, January, February, March and April 1921, are as follows:—

Month.	Number of Companies.	Total increase of Capital.	Average per Company.	Average per business day.
		£	£	£
January .	198	10,790,418	54,497	415,016
February	159	13,407,996	85,401	558,667
March	. 149	5,397,286	36,223	215,890
April	. 139	5,657,856	40,704	226,314
Four months .	645	35,253,556		

The April increases were distributed amongst the various trades as follows: — & £ £ On. 1,425,000

737.600

fuel and Power (other than oil, abo	ve):
Coal	439,000
Electricity	250,000
Coal Gas	46,6 0
Water	2,000

FINANCE AND BANKING-Continued.

	Total	£5,657,856
OTHER TRADES not enumerated above		8,500
FILMS AND PHOTOGRAPHY		125
EDUCATIONAL		1,000
Toys and Sports Goods		2,000
Leather		15,000
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS		40,000
Oils and Fats	23,000	73,000
Chemicals, Oils and Fats:	50,000	
PRINTING AND PUBLISHING		77,000
RUBBER		87,500
EARTHENWARE AND GLASS		100,000
		106,500
Financial: Investment Insurance	61,500 45,000	
T.		112,000
Athletic and other Clubs	10,000	442.000
RECREATIVE: Theatres and Cincinas	102,000	
Brewing and Distilling		113,000
D D		213,200
Motor Cabs	5,200	0.50
Shipping Cartage	200,000 8,000	
SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT:	900 000	
0		220,000
Furnishing	27,000	
Building and Furnishing: Constructional	193,000	
		230,456
Tobaeco	30,456	
Colonial Products:	200,000	
Paper and Stationery		250,000
LAND AND PROPERTY		275,000
Stores		292,000
MERCHANTS, RETAILERS AND MULTIPLE		202.000
1 13:1,		329,000
Baking and Confectionery Fish.	26,500 $1,500$	
Agricultural and Dairy Produce		
FOODSTUFFS:		101,000
Clothing	22,500	437,500
Cotton	40,000	
Hosiery		
Dyeing Wool	200,000	
TEXTILES:	200,000	
,		$512,\!475$
Motor cars, Lorries and Cycles		
Electrical Other metals		
Engineering and Machinery		
Iron and Steel	140,355	
METAL INDUSTRIES:	£	£

SOUTH AFRICA.

LAND AND AGRICULTURAL BANK'S OPERATIONS, 1920.

In the Report of the Land and Agricultural Bank of South Africa for the year ended 31st December, 1920, it is stated that a net profit of £45,693 12s. 11d. has been placed to the credit of the Reserve Fund (as compared with £45,790 18s. 1d. for the previous year) bringing the Reserve Fund up to £387,563 12s. 9d. Since the inception of the Bank the Reserve Fund has not been charged with any loss in respect of any advance made by the Bank.

Bank the Reserve Fund has not been charged with any loss in respect of any advance made by the Bank.

Administration expenses were 0.768 per cent. of the funds administered (compared with 0.669 in 1919) and total earnings represented 5.24 per cent. of the Bank's capital (against 5.12). Interest due to the Bank during the year amounted to £228,487 8s. (against £200,666 14s. 1d.), of which £201,542 5s. 6d. were collected

FINANCE AND BANKING-Continued.

(against £183,840 11s. 2d.), leaving £26,945 1s. 6d. in arrear (against £16,826 2s. 11d. a year ago).

The following table shows the amounts advanced during the year, and the purposes for which the advances were made :-

Province.	Improve- ments.		Discharge of Liabilities.	Purchase of Land.	Total.
Transvaal Orange Free State Natal Cape	50,974 20,104 10,375 8,128	£ 53,355 17,235 10,093 6,798	£ 135,416 90,099 52,420 56,260	£ 404,784 288,602 98,932 117,439	644,630 415,940 171,820 188,625
	£89,581	£87,481	£334,195	£909,758	£1,421,015

The Report, which includes a statement of the Assets and Liabilities of the Bank, and of the Profit and Loss Account of the period under review, may be consulted on application to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

Commercial Treaties and Arrangements.

UNITED KINGDOM-ROUMANIA.

DENUNCIATION OF COMMERCIAL CONVENTION.

H.M. Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received from the Roumanian Minister in London a communication, dated 18th April, 1921, giving notice of the deminciation by the Roumanian Government of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United Kingdom and Roumania, signed at Bucharest on 31st October, 1905.

In giving notice of denunciation of the above Treaty, the Roumanian Government have intimated that this should be considered only as a natural result of the general measures which have to be taken in view of the negotiations of the new economic regime of Grent Roumania.

In accordance with this deminciation the Treaty will

cease to have effect as from 18th April, 1922.

Railways.

UNITED KINGDOM.

THE RAILWAY BILL, 1921.

Although the Railway Bill which the Minister of Transport, Sir Erie Geddes, has introduced into the House of Commons is a complicated measure that fills nearly seventy printed pages, its outstanding features may be set out quite It is unnecessary to refer at length to the present condition of our railways —a condition which is at once the outcome of war, a reflex of trade conditions, and a result of great change in the economic handling of all great industrial undertakings. It will be apparent to one and all that provision is absolutely necessary to meet the changes that inust ensue when control lapses in August next; it is equally apparent that these changes should follow the lines of a greater efficiency in service, a large economy in management and a gradual extension of the public facilities that have been reduced by the abnormal conditions already referred

GROUPING THE RAILWAYS.

It has been decided in the first instance that the proper line of progress lies through the establishment of larger and better operating units. In order to abolish as far as possible competitive services for the same traffic, and a system of competition that exhausts competing railway lines without ultimate advantage to those they serve, it has been decided to bring about a wide measure of co-operation by organising the railways of Great Britain into six groups; amalgamating the principal lines, absorbing the smaller ones, and giving each group a strong incentive to develop the special area which it serves. In arranging these groups, operating economies and the financial position have been the determining causes, but it was clear from the outset that legislative action must stand in reserve behind negotiations. Apart from the fact that negotiations might have

RAILWAYS-Continued.

been protracted at great length over a dangerous period, it would have been the natural effort of each company to put itself in front of other companies likely to enter the same group, in order to secure special treatment. These efforts would not only have been wasteful but they would have contributed nothing to the public good. War has paved the way to change, and forced upon the attention of those most interested in the various railway companies the necessity for a certain measure of drastic change along sanc and well-considered lines.

The Railway Bill proposes to leave companies in the six groups to arrange their own amalgamation scheme, but if they cannot agree between themselves a Railway Amalgamation Tribunal will be set up to take the responsibilities they are unwilling or unable to assume. large measure of assent has been obtained through prolonged and patient negotiation with all the interests concerned, and at the time of bringing the Bill before the House of Commons only a few railways, including the Scottish companies, will be found in opposition to the principles which it follows. The position of the Scottish railways is a difficult one. They appear to have gone a little outside their usual practice in the matter of expenditure, and are undoubtedly rather uncertain about their own Scottish railway rates are on a lower basis than those obtaining in England, but the opinion is held that, with a return to normal trade conditions, they are at least sufficiently high to enable the Scottish railway companies to maintain a standard of prosperity and efficiency. In these circumstances it would be manifestly unfair to raise the level of Scottish charges to the level obtaining in England, where conditions are different. That would be penalising the user to benefit the owner.

The railway companies obtain certain definite advantages from the new Bill. They obtain security of tenure and a large freedom from competition, though not at the expense of the public. The Railway and Canal Commission is charged to look after the national interest in matters of service and minor extensions. At the same time, the Minister, on the advice of a Committee of Experts, can order common user of railway stock and give direction as to other essential matters with which the rights of those who use the railways are bound up. Companies within the six groups will not be permitted without sanction to combine or to make joint-purse arrangements.

A NEW RATES TRIBUNAL.

Hitherto the principle on which rates have been regnlated has been the establishment of maxima by Statute. This has left the actual rates within the maxima to the discretion of the companies (subject, of course, to the Act of 1894), but it would be unreasonable to maintain this condition after the amalgamations outlined by the Bill come into force. Moreover, the Railway and Canal Commissioners, to whom all appeals by hitherto, are an expensive body to approach, and their jurisdiction is limited. These Commissioners will retain very considerable limited. powers. They will continue to act as arbitrators for the Ministry of Transport or the Board of Trade. They will exercise jurisdiction in Public or Private Acts, and decide the services and facilities due from the railway companies in return for the advantages conferred upon them. But for the purpose of deciding the incidence of rating, a new Rates Tribunal is set up under the Bill, and the Tribunal will seek in general terms to impose upon each class of merchandise a fair share of the burden that railway companies must carry. The basis on which rates are to be fixed will be one designed to secure for each company a standard revenue, based upon that obtained in 1913, together with five per cent. upon capital expenditure made under Government control, and a further allowance in respect of large capital expenditure not fully remunerative in 1913. It is obvious that rates established in the immediate future will be upon the basis of existing conditions which cannot be regarded as stable; consequently these rates must be modified as conditions change. To this end they will be reviewed annually for three years, and thereafter at stated periods in the Minister's discretion. It is felt that a standard revenue that should be invariable would go far to destroy that initiative in railway companies upon which both the general prosperity of the company and the country must depend. Where the rates yield a return in excess of the standard, 80 per cent. of such excess will go in rate reduction and 20 per cent. to the revenue of the company carning it. It may be said that both the railway companies, the Federation of British Industries, and other bodies that look with a jealous eye upon their respective interests and privileges

powers.

RAILWAYS -Continued.

are satisfied with the principles that the Bill proposes to put into operation.

LIGHT RAILWAYS. It is admitted on all sides that the Light Railways Aets have not been nearly as effective as they were intended to be. They compel a light railway to be worked by an existing company if it is to receive State assistance, and the of the movement shows that this condition has red light railways seriously. The Ministry of Transhampered light railways seriously. The Ministry of Transport Act of 1919 empowers the Minister, with the consent of the Treasury, to make advances in aid of light railways without the restrictive conditions referred to. For the better promotion of enterprise in districts that would benefit greatly by the establishment of a light railway, the financial provisions of the Light Railways Acts will be repealed, and the provisions of the Ministry of Transport Act will take The Act in many ways encourages light railway enterprise, notably by giving such railways higher charging powers than main lines, and also securing to them a proportion out of the rates which will reflect these higher

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES AND THE BILL. The proposed relations between the Boards of Management and the employees of the railway companies have undergone a change in the past fortnight. The original intention of the Government was that workers should be represented on the Boards of the various new groups, and although this decision was opposed strenuously by the Railway Companies' Association, the Government had arrived at a very carefully considered decision, and was not disposed to modify it in response to pressure. of this decision, which was of definite value as a basis for bargaining, the National Union of Railwaymeu, the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, and the Railway Clerks' Association-the three largest Unions connected with the railway service—entered direct negotiation with the railway companies, and arrived at an agreement which was recently communicated to the Covernment. This agreement should make for peace and tranquility in the service, and is conditional, as to its principal provisions, on the understanding that the Railway Bill shall contain no other references to management or conditions of service than those to which the parties chiefly concerned have agreed. The workers have withdrawn their original demand for representation on Boards of Directors—the demand which the Government was prepared to support with all its influence and anthorityand in place they have accepted a scheme of joint councils of officers and elected employees. These Councils will function along the lines of Clause 16 of the Whitley Report. The Agreement maintains the Central and National Wages Boards, subject to a twelve months' notice, which may not be given before 1st January next (1922). Each of the parties to the Agreement will have several representatives on the Boards, and, in default of agreement between the Unions and individual Railway Companies on questions relating to payment, hours and conditions of service, reference will be made to the Central and National Wages Boards, provided that the constitution of this body does nothing to prejudice such appeal. Cases of discipline are to be dealt with as suggested in the Report of the Royal Commission of 1907 with an addition agreed to in 1915 by the companies, the National Union of Railwaymen, and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen. A further provision is made for the setting up of a Committee consisting of six representatives of the Companies, and six representatives of the Unions to prepare schemes for carrying this new Agreement into effect. In the eircumstances the Government will rest content with the definite and eonsidered expression of an opinion which events of the past few days have done nothing to vary; they do not feel justified in enforcing that opinion in opposition to the definite wishes of the parties directly affected by it.

JAPAN.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

An authoritative survey of the railway construction and extensions in progress or projected in Japan is contained in an article, based on information furnished by the Japanese Railway Department, which appeared recently in the "Far East Commercial Supplement.

Details of the railway construction work under way and projected, contained in the article indicated, may be inspected by United Kingdom firms interested on application to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

Minerals and Metals.

CANADA.

IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTION.

A statement recently issued by the Canadian Government on the production of iron and steel in Canada shows that shipments of iron ore from Canadian mines in 1919 were the lowest recorded during the last 19 years and amounted to 197,170 tons, valued at 693,386 dols., as compared with 216,608 tons, valued at 885,893 dols., in 1918. Mine owners reported the quantity of iron ore sold to the United States during the year as 7,083 tons and the quantity shipped to Canadian furnaces as 190,087 tons. In 1918 the quantity sold for export was 118,472 tons and that shipped to Canadian destinations 98,136 tons.

Returns received from blast-furnace concerns give the

quantity of imported ores charged to blast furnaces as 1,674,194 tons, against 2,146,995 tons in 1918. The 1919 figure included 519,722 tons from Newfoundland and 1,154,472 tons from the United States lake district.

PIG-IRON PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS.

With regard to pig iron, the total production in 1919, excluding ferro-alloys, was 917,281 short tons, having a value of 24,577,589 dols., as compared with a total production in 1918 of 1,195,551 short tons, valued at 33,495,171 dols., a decrease of 25 per cent. in quantity. Of the 1919 total, 910,080 tons were made in blast furnaces and 7,201 tons in electric furnaces from scrap material, chiefly shell turnings. In 1918 the blast-furnace production was 1,163,520 tons and the electric-furnace production from scrap steel 32,031 tons.

Exports of pig iron in 1919 amounted to 63,605 tons, exports of pig from in 1919 amounted to 63,005 tons, valued at 1,820,260 dols., and of ferro-alloys to 22,449 tons, valued at 1,229,341 dols. Of the pig iron, 57,845 tons went to the United States, 783 tons to Chile, 7 tons to Japan, and 4,970 tons to other countries; of the ferro-alloys, 15,371 tons went to the United States, 2,564 tons to the United Kingdom, and 4,514 tons to the other countries. Exports of pig iron and ferro-alloys for the previous year amounted to 23,781 tons and 2,130 tons respectively.

The imports of pig iron during 1919 amounted to 35,800 tons, of a value of 1,022,871 dols., and those of ferro-alloys to 16,222 tons, valued at 901,678 dols. The 1918 import figures for pig iron and ferro-alloys were 67,296 tons and 35,284 tons respectively. The total quantity of pig iron used in steel furnaces in 1919 was 609,670 tons, as compared with the 1918 figure of 897,537 tons.

STEEL INGOTS, CASTINGS, AND ROLLED PRODUCTS.

In 1919 Canada's total production of steel ingots and direct steel castings was 1,030,342 short tons, against 1,873,708 short tons in the previous year. The 1919 figure included 1,007,495 tons of open-hearth steel, 15,502 tons of electric steel, and 7,345 tons of crucible and converter steels.

The output of finished rolled products, in 1919 also decreased as compared with 1918, the total being 804,407 short tons against 1,164,610 short tons. However, a large increase was shown in the production of steel rails during 1919, the figures for that and the previous year being, respectively, 316,304 short tons and 162,747 short tons.

PORTUGAL.

COAL TRADE SITUATION AT LISBON.

(From the Acting British Consul-General.)

LISBON.

A material change has taken, and is taking, place in the condition of the coal market (see "Journal" of 17th March). Prices have risen again since March. Coal which could have been bought in March for 63s. per ton cannot now be bought for less than 75s, per ton.

It is difficult to estimate stocks of coal in Lisbon. Ex-

cluding the coal held by the large undertakings, such as the gas company, railways, and tram company, it is estimated that the usual amount of coal on the market is about 20,000 tons. The amount now is estimated at about 20,000 tons.

It may be said that as far as British coal is concerned the market is almost normal.

Textiles.

BRITISH WEST INDIES.

MEASURES AGAINST THE PINK BOLL WORM.

In our issue of 3rd March we gave particulars of the appearance of the pink boll worm in the cotton plantations of St. Kitts and Montserrat. The following methods for the control of the pest have been recommended by the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture, and instructions issued to the Chief Agricultural Officer in each Presidency to see that they are properly carried out. These recommendations, where necessary, have been supported by the proper legal authority.

- 1. Proper control of seed used for planting. All such seed which is grown under the supervision and control of the different Agricultural Departments must be properly disinfected, and precautions taken to kill the worm (dormant or astivating in the seed) before issue to the planters. This is effected by either fumigation in a sealed chamber with carbon bisulphide vapour (St. Kitts and Nevis) or by heating at a fixed temperature of 50 deg.-55 deg. C. for 5 to 10 minutes (Montserrat). Neither of these operations affects to any extent the germination of the seed.
- 2. The fixing by proclamation of a rigid close season—usually a period of one month—during which all cotton plants, bolls, etc., must be destroyed (by fire) and no cotton planted. By this method provision is effected for the destruction of the host plant of the boll worm, stainer and other pests, and also of shed bolls (which might escape general notice and carry on the pest for the next season). There is a penalty for the non-observance of this regulation of a fine not exceeding £100.
- 3. The absolute prohibition of the importation from all places of cotton seed and seed cotton, lint, baling cloth or any article coming into direct contact with cotton produce.
- 4. Ordinance 12 of 1920, St. Kitts-Nevis, also provides for the framing of regulations for
 - (a) The control of ginneries with respect to insect pests.
 - (b) Fumigation and disinfection of seed for planting.
 - (c) The control of the transport of seed for planting, cotton seed, seed cotton, lint, etc.
 - (d) Generally for the prevention of and eradication of insect pests and other diseases.

The Virgin Islands and Antigua are so far considered to be free from the pink boll worm pest, and the necessity of similar control of ginneries has not yet arisen.

SOUTH AFRICA.

POSSIBILITIES OF A WOOLLEN INDUSTRY.

As in Australia, there is a growing volume of opinion in South Africa that the woollen industry should be developed on a considerable scale. The Director of Census has issued the following statement of what might be expected from the utilisation in South Africa of the whole of the Union's annual wool clip in the manufacture of woollen goods:—

The average amount of wool in the grease exported from the Union for the last five years amounted to 130,000,000 lb. yearly. If this had been scoured in South Africa, the work would have required 4,800 additional hands (356 European males, 3,420 coloured males, and 1,024 coloured females), provided that the amount of labour required was in the same proportion to the amount of wool scoured in 1918-19.

If the same relation between the value of land and buildings and machinery, plant, and tools, and the amount of wool scoured held good, the additional value of land

TEXTILES—Continued.

and buildings required would be £172,000, and of machinery, plant, and tools, £167,000.

One hundred and thirty million pounds of wool in the grease will produce 52,000,000 lb. of scoured wool, which, taking the average for five years of the amount of scoured wool exported, would give 66,000,000 lb. to be converted annually into woollen cloth and worsted.

If this quantity of scoured wool were made into woollen goods in South Africa, 24,000 additional hands (2,660 European males, 4,620 European females, 14,280 coloured males, and 2,520 coloured females) would be required, provided that the additional labour required increased in the proportion of the amount of scoured wool treated.

On the same assumption, the additional value of land and buildings required would be £2,400,000, and of machinery, plant, and tools £1,660,000, provided that the cost of erecting new buildings, machinery, and plant were the same as the estimated value of buildings, machinery, and plant in 1918-19.

If the same proportion of fuel, light and power is required, the additional annual cost will be £284,000. This is an important item when making comparison with Anstralian figures, as a greater amount of electric power is used in this country, and in the course of time is likely to be even greater.

It must be understood that these figures take no account of any anxiliary industries.

FRANCE.

EXPORTS OF SILKS IN 1920.

(From H.M. Consul-General.)

Lyons

The values of the exports of silks from France during the past three years are given as 1,819,494,000 frs. in 1920, compared with 1,451,866,000 frs. in 1919, and 497,784,000 in 1918. They have been calculated on rates fixed at long intervals by the Commission des Valeurs, and do not form a sound basis of comparison. It is the quantities exported which show the real trend of the market. These quantities amounted to 75,638 quintals in 1920, against 60.119 quintals and 39,319 quintals, respectively, in the two preceding years. Thus the exports for 1920 show increases amounting to 15,419 quintals more than 1919, and 36,319 quintals more than 1918.

Analysis of Exports by Countries.

An analysis of the exports to different countries from January to June, and from July to December, 1920, reveals the effect of the general trade stagnation in the second half of the year, although the value appears higher than that of the first half year. This reduction in the latter part of the year applied particularly to exports to the United Kingdom, United States, Switzerland, Italy and Spain; while, on the other hand, Belgium, Brazil and the Argentine Republic increased their silk purchase during the period under review.

silk purchase during the period under review.

The following table shows the destinations of French silks during the two half-yearly periods of 1920:—

Destination.	First 1	alf-year.	Second Half year.	
Destination.	Kilogs.	1,000 Frs.	Kilogs,	1,000 Frs
United Kingdom	1,562,224	221,893	1,320,198	499,547
United States	668,346	89,794	471,066	164,837
Germany	170,232	28,363	39,066	28,297
Belgium	285,649	33,734	290,359	95,811
Switzerland	218,812	30.052	153,641	60,768
Italy	264,928	37.782	104,038	54,153
Spain	109,141	13.854	74.738	30,157
Brazil	51,554	7,449	60,795	19,571
Argentina	121,988	15,707	150,050	49,719
Algiers	112,607	15,478	54,238	27,056
Other Countries	600.314	78,332	679,808	217,090
Totals	4,165,795	572,488	3,398,005	1,247,006

Statistics for the month of January, 1921, give the value of silk exports at 121,621,000 frs. (almost twice as much as in January, 1920, though the total weight of silks exported was only 522,720 kilogs., as compared with 523,113 kilogs., and 418,419 kilogs, for the corresponding month in 1920 and 1919, respectively. The only countries which seem to maintain their power of absorption of silk goods at the present moment are Switzerland, the Argentine Republic and Morocco.

Openings for British Trade.

[NOTICE TO MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS. —British firms may obtain the names and addresses of the persons or firms referred to in the following notices of "Openings" by applying to the Department of Overseas Trade, and quoting the specific reference number and country.

In cases of doubt or difficulty in regard to restrictions on trading, reference should be made personally or by letter to the Department of Overseas Trade (Development and Intelligence), 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.]

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade, except where otherwise stated.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

AUSTRALIA.

TENDERS INVITED.
VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS REQUIREMENTS. VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS REQUIREMENTS.—II.M. Senior Trade Commissioner in Australia has forwarded copies of the specifications, conditions and forms of tender in connection with calls for tenders by the Victorian Government Railways for the supply and delivery of 200 hides of green enamelled leather or alternatively of 12,000 square yards of leather substitute of the same colont. (Contract No. 34,098.)

Sealed tenders on the proper forms will be received by the Victorian Railway Commissioners, Spencer Street, Melbourne, up to 6th July. The tenders must be accompanied by a preliminary deposit of ½ per cent. of the total amount of the offer. Local representation is essential, and as the time for the receipt of tenders is limited, it may be necessary for firms tendering to instruct their local agents by cable.

Copies of the specifications in connection with the above tenders may be consulted by United Kingdom firms interested at the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street (Room 59), Westminster, S.W. 1.

11.M. Senior Trade Commissioner in Australia has also forwarded goings of specifications conditions blue rejuts and forms of tender.

II.M. Senior Trade Commissioner in Australia has also forwarded copies of specifications, conditions, blue prints and forms of tender in connection with ealls for tenders by the Victorian Government Railways for the supply and delivery of:—

(1) 1209 steel tyres of various classes (Contract No. 33,851).

(2) Heavy grinding machine (Contract No. 34,114). Scaled tenders on the proper forms will be received by the Victorian Railway Commissioners, Spencer Street, Melbourne, up to 20th July. The tenders must be accompanied by a preliminary deposit of ½ per cent. of the total amount of the offer. Local representation is essential.

Copies of the specifications in connection with the above tenders may be consulted by United Kingdom firms interested at the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street (Room 59), Westminster, S.W. 1.

CANADA.

PPHOLSTERY FABRICS, LINGERIE, HOSIERY, ETC.—A manufacturers' agent in Toronto, of long business experience in England and Canada, desires to obtain the representation of l'nited Kingdom manufacturers of textiles, upholstery fabrics, men's furnishings, women's hosicry and lingerie, on a commission basis ishings, women's hosicry and lingeric, on a commission basis (Reference No. 621.)

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

NEW ZEALAND.

PROVISIONS, HARDWARE AND NOVELTIES.—One of the foremost manufacturers' representatives in New Zealand has recently arrived upon a short visit to the United Kingdom, and is prepared to negotiate for important lines in provisions (particularly proprietary articles), hardware (including shelf goods and small tools) and novelties of all descriptions. He is stated to be keen, energetic, and of the highest business and financial standang, and has been very successful in developing the agencies which he already holds. He is only prepared to disense the question of agencies with actual mainfacturers. (Reference No. 622.)

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

SOUTH AFRICA.

MINING SUPPLIES. BUILDERS' GOODS, FARMING REQUISITES.—The proprietor of a Johannesburg firm, manufacturing screening for mines and wire reinforcement for concrete, is at present in this country and desires to secure agencies for lines to run therewith, i.e., mining supplies builders' goods, and goods for the farming community. (Reference No. 623.)

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

BRITISH WEST INDIES.

TEXTILES, BOOTS, HOSIERY, HARDWARE, ETC.—A manufacturer's agent at Bridgetown, Barbados, desires to secure the representation for that Island of United Kingdom suppliers of textiles,

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE-Continued.

boots and shoes, hosiery, ties, canvas, rope, twine, paper and paper bags, matches, cannel goods, pickles, hams and bacon, paints, nails, enamelled utensils, galvanised iron, wire netting, barbed wire, pianos, talking machines, etc. (Reference No. 624.)

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

TEXTILES, HARDWARE, PROVISIONS, CYCLES, ETC.—A United Kingdom firm of manufacturers' representatives, who have recently established a branch in Cyprus, are desirous of scenning the representation of United Kingdom manufacturers of cotton picegoods, hosiery, ties, sacks and bags, boots and shoes, hardware, enthery, eyeles and motor cycles, jewellery, stationery, provisions and Virginian cigarettes. (Reference No. 625.)

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

EGYPT.

TENDERS INVITED.

TENDERS INVITED.

CANVAS, BUNTING, ROPES, ETC.—11.M. Commercial Agent at Cairo has forwarded to the Department of Overseas Trade copies of the specification and conditions of tender relating to the supply of eanvas, funting, ropes, etc., to the Egyptian Ports and Lighthonses Administration for the second half of the financial year 1921-1922.

Tenders will be received by the Director-General of Ports and Lighthonses Administration, Alexandria, up to noon on 15th June.

The tenderer must be a person residing in Egypt, or must have a representative in Egypt. In view of this condition United Kingdom firms who are not represented in Egypt may care to avail themselves of the services of a firm with an Egyptian branch through which tenders could be submitted. Names of suitable firms will be supplied on application to the Department of Overseas Trade.

A copy of the specification and conditions of tender relating to this contract may be inspected by United Kingdom firms interested on application to the Enquiry Room, Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

A limited number of copies are also available for loan to firms in the provinces who are mable to arrange for their inspection in London. Application for these should bear the reference number, 4935/FE/PN.

EUROPE.

BELGIUM.

BELGIUM.

BISCUITS, PRESERVES, MEDICINAL WINES, FOOD-STUFFS, ETC.—An Anglo-Belgian firm established in Brussels, with branches in Antwerp, Bruges and other towns in Belgium, wish to represent British firms manufacturing or exporting bi-enits, preserves, medicinal wines, and other groeeries and foodstuffs. The applicants employ travellers all over the country and already represent a British firm for the sale of ten as well as several French firms for the sale of wine. (Reference No. 626.)

CLOTH, LININGS AND COTTON PIECE-GOODS.—A Belgian textile commission agent established in Brussels, having a thorough knowledge of the textile trade and a large connection among Belgian wholesale houses, wishes to seeme the Brussels agency, on commission, of British manufacturers of cloth, linings and cotton piece-goods for making women's clothing and underwear. 30 days' credit and 2½ per cent. discount essential. (Reference No. 627.)

CANNED GOODS.—A British firm in Antwerp desires to seeme, on a consignment basis, the agency of British firms exporting canned goods. (Reference No. 628.)

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

DENMARK.

SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS AND SUPPLIES, SCIENTIFIC SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS AND SIPPLIES, SCIENTIFIC GLASSWARE.—A Danish firm, understood to have good connections among Danish polytechnical schools, laboratories, hospitals, etc., invite correspondence from l'nited Kingdom manufacturers of scientific apparatus and laboratory supplies, with a view to purchasing for cash. (Reference No. 629.)

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

FRANCE.

TEXTILES. - H. M. Consul-General, Paris, reports that a firm of commission agents in that city desire to get into touch with British manufacturers of all kinds of textiles. The firm wish to develop business on a commission basis. (Reference No. 630.)

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

GREECE.

MANUFACTURED GOODS, DRAPERY, PIECE-GOODS, MACHINERY, ETC.—A firm of commission agents at Salonica desire to get into touch with British manufacturers and exporters of the following lines:—manufactured goods, drapery, piece-goods, machinery, etc. (Reference No. 631.)

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE-Continued.

SERB-CROAT-SLOVENE STATE.

TENDERS INVITED.

MOTOR VEHICLES FOR BELGRADE.—The Scrb-Croat-Slovene Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs is calling for tenders for the supply of various motor delivery vans and lorries.

Seated tenders must be submitted to the "Ekonomsko Odelenje, Ministarstva Posta i Telegrafa, Belgrade," by 11 a.m. on 25th May. A translation of the technical and other conditions, a list (in Serbian and French) of spare parts required, and blue prints of the two patterns of covered postal vans may be consulted at the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street (Room 48), Westminster, S. W. 1. Westminster, S. W. 1.

SWITZERLAND.

GROCERIES, CATTLE FOOD. - 11.M. Consul-General at Zurich reports that a commission agent, established at Zurich, desires to obtain the representation of British firms for the sale of groceries and also of cattle food. He is prepared also to work on a basis of a fixed salary. Correspondence in English. (Reference No. 632.)

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

NEAR EAST.

PALESTINE AND TURKEY.

TEXTILES, HARDWARE, PROVISIONS, CYCLES, ETC.—A United Kingdom firm of manufacturers' representatives, with necently-established branch in Jerusalem, are desirous of representing United Kingdom manufacturers in the following lines:—cotton piecegoods, hosiery, ties, sacks and bags, boots and shoes, hardware, entlery, cycles and motor cycles, jewellery, stationery, provisions, Virginian eigarcties. Firm intends shortly to open branch in Constantinople. (Reference No. 633.)

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

AFRICA.

ALGERIA.

AGENT'S SERVICES OFFERED: MARKETS SOUGHT FOR ALGERIAN PRODUCTS.—A British subject in Bongie desires to obtain markets in the United Kingdom for all Algerian products, and obtain markets in the United Kingdom for all Algerian products, and to get into touch with British manufacturers and exporters desirous of developing trade with Algeria. The applicant also offers his services to any firm wishing to appoint resident agent for imports and exports. (Reference No. 634).

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A British firm established in San Francisco, California. with selling facilities for the Pacific Coast of the United States, desire to get into touch with United Kingdom manufacturers of Axminster, Wilton and other high class carpets, with a view to acting as their

representatives.

It is understood that the Lendon buying office of this firm would make the purchases and attend to shipment, etc., from this country. (Reference No. 635.)

Old Tribes (PRINTED). An old-established New York firm of cotton importers desire to get into touch with United Kingdom manufacturers or exporters of dimities (printed), with a view to acting as their agents, on either their own account, or commission basis, or on consignment. It is understood that the firm have facilities for covering the entire United States, and may be in a position to handle large quantities of goods. (Reference No. 636.)

HALF HOSE, UNDERWEAR AND SHIRTS, KNITTED SILK NECKTIES.—A British from established in San Francisco desire to get into touch with United Kingdom manufacturers of wool half hose, underwear, shirts and knitted silk neckties, with a view to acting as their agents on the Pacific Coast of the United States, on a commission basis, (Reference No. 637.)

STEEL STRIP FOR BEDSTEAD TUBES. -A firm of manu-STEEL STRIP FOR BEDSTEAD ICES.—A firm of manufacturers of art bedsteads in Chicago are desirons of receiving quotations for steel strip for bedstead tubes, of which material they are said to use about 1.500 tons annually. The sizes they are accustomed to purchase are as follows:—

Inch.	No.	Inch.	No.	Inch.	No.
.)	18	4	15	6.1	18
2	20	4 1%	20	6	16
15	20	1,".	18	71	1 8
1 5	20	1,11	16	7 1	16
21	20	5.1	15	84	18
21	18	55	16	× 1	16
4	20	53	18	93	16

The firm would be glad to have prices from British manufacturers delivered e.i.f New York, and quetations should, if possible, be accompanied by samples. (Reference No. 638.)

Applications for names and addresses must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

Customs Regulations and Tariff Changes.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

RATE OF EXCHANGE FOR CUSTOMS DUTIES.

A Bill has been introduced proposing to amend the Customs and Excise Duties Ordinance, 1920, by providing that, for the purpose of assessing the amount of the advalorem duty payable on any goods, the price or value thereof ascertained in the manner prescribed in the original Ordinance shall be converted into British Honduras currency at the market rate of exchange on the day on which the duty is paid, or on the day of arrival of the importing ship, at the election of the Collector of Customs.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

NEW EXPORT DUTIES.

The "Gazette" of 11th March, 1921, contains copy of Government Notification No. 961 imposing with effect from 1st January, 1921, the following export duty on the undermentioned articles, which, by Notification No. 3 of 7th January, 1921, may only be exported under licence:-

1. China-clay or kaolin

2. Potash-felspar or soda-felspar in-tended for use as a flux or glaze 2½ per cent. ad valorem.

3. China-stone

GOLD COAST.

INCREASED CUSTOMS DUTY ON SPIRITS.

Information has been received through the Colonial Office to the effect that revised import duties on spirits imported into the field Coast Colony have been imposed as from 27th April, 1921, on the same scale as those imposed in Nigeria which became operative on 25th April last.

The duties now operative on the importation of spirits are

as follows :-

Per Imperial gallon. s. d. I 5 0

for each degree or part of a degree over 50, and a decrease of 4d, per gallon for each degree below 50 down to 42 degrees.

JAMAICA.

PROHIBITION OF IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN BRUSHES.

A Proclamation dated 12th March, 1921, has been issued prohibiting the importation into Jamaica, as from that date, of all brushes or toilet articles containing or made from animal hair, which have been manufactured in Eastern or Sonth-Eastern Asia, India, Ceylon, Japan, the East Indian Islands or the Philippine Islands, unless a certificate is produced within 60 days of the arrival of the goods in the Colony from a responsible officer of the Health Department of the country of origin, satisfactorily identifying them, and certifying that the hair contained in them or from which they are made was effectively cleansed and disinfected before manufacture.

NEW ZEALAND.

WITHDRAWAL OF EXPORT PROHIBITIONS.

The "New Zealand Gazette" of 3rd March, 1921, contains Orders-in-Conneil of 21st February and 1st March, 1921, which revoke the prohibition of the exportation from New Zealand of (a) cheese, frozen mutton and lamb, chilled and frozen beef and veal; and (b) sheep and cattle respectively.

NIGERIA.

IMPORTATIONS BY POST PROHIBITED.

"The Gazette" of 14th April contains copy of a notice issued by the Postmaster-General stating that the following are prohibited from importation into the Colony of

Nigeria by post:—

(a) By letter post.—Coin, gold, silver, precious stones, jewellery, etc., arms of precision, including revolvers and shot guns, or parts of them, ammunition, cowries, cotton seed, dyestuffs from Germany, distilling apparatus or parts

Dutiable articles unless sent by parcel post are liable

to seizure. Pietorial posteards are not allowed as printed matter.

(B) By parcel post—Letters (except one for the addressee), coin, arms of precision, revolvers, shot gins and parts of them, ammunition, spirituous liquors and wines, distilling apparatus or parts thereof, cowies, cotton seed, dyestuffs from Germany, substances which liquefy easily, unless enclosed in hermetically scaled receptacles.

PALESTINE.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DUTIES ON TOBACCO.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "Tobacco Taxation Ordinance, 1921," effective as from 1st April, 1921, which provides inter alia for the collection of various Customs and Excise duties on tobacco in Palestine.

The Ordinance abolishes all the rights and privileges of the Régic Co-Intéressée des Tabaes de l'Empire Ottoman in so far as they apply to Palestine, and imposes the following taxes on tobaceo and tombac grown in that country, viz.:—

A tax of $\pounds E.2$ per dunum of land sown with Baladi tobacco or with tombae.

A tax of £E.4 per dunum of land sown with Turkish tobacco.

Under the present Ordinance duties are imposed on al tobacco and tombac imported into Palestine at the following

Rate of	lmport ilogran	
Uncut tobacco	P. T. P. T.	35 45
Cigars and chewing tobacco. Snuff Tombac	P. T.	60

Any person who re-exports from Palestine manufactured tobacco or eigarettes and proves to the satisfaction of the Customs Department that such tobacco or eigarettes were manufactured from imported tobacco, shall be entitled to claim from the Customs Department a drawback of 80 per cent. of the import duty paid by him.

Under the Ordinance an additional duty on behalf of minicipalities may be levied on import at the rate of P.T. 2 per kilogramme on all tobacco, eigars, eigarettes, snuff and tombac, with a minimum payment of P.T. 2. This duty will be collected by the Customs authorities in the same manner and subject to the same regulations as the Customs duty, and the proceeds of the duty will be distributed among the municipalities on an order to be made by the High Commissioner.

It is further provided in the Ordinance that the export duty of 1 per cent, ad valorem shall apply to any tobac cigarettes, eigars, snuff or tombac exported from Palestine.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

1MPORTATION OF SECOND-HAND CLOTHING.

The High Commissioner for South Africa has reported that instances have recently arisen at Union ports where consignments of second-hand clothing have been rejected owing to their failure to comply with the regulations as to disinfection, etc., governing the importation of these goods into the Union.

Full particulars of these Regulations have been published in previous issues of this "Journal." but for the purpose of easy reference they are reprinted below:-

DISINFECTION OF SECOND-HAND CLOTHING.

27. (1) Every consignment (exclusive of the personal effects of travellers) of bedding, blankets, body linen, or other articles of clothing which have been in use, or any rags or flock made of rags, or any used sacks, carpets, or canvas or any similar article

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND TARIFF CHANGES-Continued.

which has been in use and which is landed at any port of the Union shall be declared as such to the Customs at the port, and a certified statement submitted showing the place of origin and precise composition of the consignment.

(2) Every such consignment or any portion thereof, intended for sale or disposal in the Union shall be accompanied by a sufficient certificate furnished by a recognised public authority at the port of shipment or place of origin of the package, to the effect that the articles mentioned therein are clean and have been sufficiently disinfected to the satisfaction of such authority, and stating in detail the method of disinfection and the apparatus used, together with a certificate or other satisfactory evidence that since the issue of the certificate of disinfection the package has not been opened nor its contents in any way added to or tampered with. tampered with.

For the purpose of this Regulation "efficient disinfection" means disinfection by steam under pressure in a suitable apparatus, or other process which can be relied upon to destroy any infection or any vermin. Fumigation with hydrocyanie acid gas shall not be accepted unless some reliable germicidal process has also been carried out.

(3) Failing the production of satisfactory certificates as mentioned in clause (2) hereof, or if, despite the production of such certificates, the articles are found to be dirty or uncleansed, the

certificates, the articles are found to be dirty or uncleansed, the whole of such consignment shall be disinfected at the port of entry by, or to the satisfaction of, the port health officer, and at the sole expense, risk, and delay of the consignee.

(4) Consignments intended for places outside the Union if unaccompanied by the certificates mentioned in clause (2) hereof, may be landed under such guarantees as the collector of Customs may from time to time require that the consignment will be conveyed to the assigned destination outside the Union and that no bale, case, or package will be opened or any of the articles unpacked, disturbed, or dealt with or disposed of in the Union. Provided that if the Government of any South African territory requests the Government of the Union to apply African territory requests the Government of the Union to apply the provisions of this regulation to all such articles consigned to places within its territory, the same requirements shall be enforced in respect of all such articles as if the articles had been experienced to a place within the Union. consigned to a place within the Union.

(5) The recognised authority for granting the certificate of disinfection mentioned in clause (2) hereof shall be—
(a) the port health or sanitary authority of any British port at which the consignment has been shipped; or
(b) the local health or sanitary authority for any area in the British Islands or British Colonies at which the goods have been regarded.

British Islands or British Colonies at which the goods have been packed; or

(c) the port health or sanitary authority, or the municipality or other local health authority at any foreign port, or at any place abroad at which the goods have been packed, provided that the certificate thereof has been verified and countersigned by the British Consul.

(6) The tariff charges for disinfection by the Department of Public Health under these regulations do not include transport to and from the disinfector, or the unpacking and repacking or

to and from the disinfector, or the unpacking and repacking or bailing of the article disinfected. These services must be arranged for by the owner or consignee or his agent.

PROPOSED FURTHER INCREASE OF SPIRIT DUTY.

Adverting to the notice which appeared in the issue of this "Journal" of 28th April last, respecting the increase of various Customs and Excise duties in the Union, copy of a telegram has been received, through the Colonial Office, from the Governor-General of South Africa, stating that the Minister of Finance has given notice of an amendment of the Customs duties proposals which provides for an increase in the duty on spirits of 7s. 6d. per imp. gallon instead of 5s. per imp. gallon.

FOREIGN.

AUSTRIA.

PAYMENT OF CUSTOMS DUTIES ON A GOLD BASIS.

H.M. Minister at Vienna has forwarded copy and translation of an Austrian Deeree, dated 24th April, and effective as from 1st May which provides that the Customs duties on the goods specified in the subjoined list, when paid in banknotes, have to be paid at 130 times the rates prescribed in the Customs Tariff, and that the duties on all other goods, when paid in banknotes, have to be paid at 100 times the nominal rates. rates.

Tariff No.

*2 Coffee. *3 Tca.

*4-8

73 Tea.
4-8 Spices of all kinds.
10 Dried grapes and raisins; dried currants.
14 Dates, pistachio nuts, bananas (Pisang).
15 Pineapples.

Tariff No

ex 16

Almonds, unripe, in the shell.

Pine kernels (Zirbisnüsse), Neapolitan medlars, coconuts, and other exotic nuts; olives, fresh, dried or salted. 17

Pine kernels, shelled; pomegranates. 18

*ex 76 Oysters and lobsters.

Beer. Cognac, liqueurs, punch essences and other distilled spirituous liquors mixed with sugar or other substances. *ex 108 *110

Sparkling wines. Caviar and caviar substitutes

Chocolate, chocolate substitutes and chocolate manufactures. ex 127

Sweets, sugar candies, candied fruit, spices, roots, flower petals, ctc.: Turkish honey, sugar cakes, manufactures of tragacanth.

Carpets with knotted pile; other carpets (except those of felt or of dog, calf or cattle hair, mixed or not with weel) 130-32

ex 237 wool)

Wares of ornamental feathers. *ex 263

264

Wigmakers' and other wares of human hair. Hats of all kinds, ornamented. Fans of all kinds.

269

Ornamental wares coming under this Tariff number which Ornamental wares coming under this Tariff number which are dutiable on the basis of the duties on tulle, netted wares similar to tulle, lace, lace fabries, open work embroideries, gauze, other open woven tissues of all kinds, or tabries or ribbons of pure or mixed silk. Furriers' wares of time skins, made up. Wares of gold, silver and platinum. Unspecified wares of corals and imitation pearls; articles of

ex 346 *567-568

- 570
- Precious and semi-precious stones, unset; coral, manufactured and real pearls.

 Articles made of semi-precious stones.

Gold watches.
Articles of perfumery and cosmeties.

[Formerly, payment of Customs duty in banknotes could be made at 70 times the nominal rates, except in the case of the goods marked with an asterisk in the above list, which in virtue of a Decree of 26th December last, now abrogated, were subject to payment of Customs duty in gold coin, gold Customs drafts, dollars, Swiss francs, pounds sterling or Dutch gulden.]

BELGIUM.

EXPORTATION OF GOOSEBERRIES TO ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

In virtue of authority conferred by a Royal Decree of 2nd May, the Belgian Minister of Agriculture, by a Decree of 6th May, published in the "Moniteur Belge" for the 7th, has prohibited the exportation of goose-berries to England and Scotland unless accompanied by a certificate issued by a special phytopathological service to the effect that such fruit has been inspected and is believed to be free from American gooseberry mildew. The issue of a certificate is subject to the payment of a fee of 2 frs. 50 cts., and other charges incurred in connection with the inspection, etc., of consignments for export have to be borne by the exporters.

DENMARK.

IMPORTATION OF GOODS CONTAINING WHEAT FLOUR.

H.M. Commercial Secretary at Copenhagen reports that " dispensation duties " calculated on the difference between wheat prices in Denmark and abroad are now imposed on the import into Denmark of goods containing wheat flour, and are leviable in the same manner as the "dispensation duties" on sugar goods (see p. 482 of this "Journal" for

28th April).

The "dispensation duty" in the case of biscuits with sugar is at present 41 öre per kilog.; in the case of biscuits without sugar, unfilled wafers and macaroni 28 öre per kilog.; in the case of filled wafers 45 öre per kilog.; and in the case of honeycake 10 öre per kilog. When articles contain both sugar and flour, the "dispensation duty" is charged in respect of the sugar.

EXPORT OF FUEL PERMITTED.

The prohibition on the export of coal, coke, and other fuel (including coal-tar pitch) from Denmark, except under licence, has been withdrawn by a Notice of the Danish Ministry of Justice, dated 23rd March.

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND TARIFF CHANGES-Continued.

EXPORT RESTRICTIONS: COPENHAGEN FREE PORT.

With reference to the notice under the above heading at 498 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 8th April, 1920, it should be noted that in virtue of a Notice of the Danish Ministry of Justice, dated 23rd March, all goods arriving at the Free Harbour of Copenhagen are now exempt from the Danish export prohibitions. In the case of the export of spirits from the Copenhagen Free Port documentary evidence that the goods are despatched to the destination stated must be placed before the Customs authorities.

FRANCE.

CUSTOMS DUTY ON MEDICINES.

With reference to the notice at p. 612 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 18th November last respecting the modification of the Customs duties on medicines imported into France, it should be noted that the French "Journal Officiel " for 3rd May contains a Presidential Decree, dated 26th April, providing that the price of the containers and wrappings used for packing the medicines (inside the outer case) is to be included in the value of the medicines for import duty purposes, and is to be subject to duty at the same rate (i.e., 20 per cent. or 15 per cent. ad valorem). Containers and wrappings of kinds subject to import duty may, however, be assessed for duty separately at the rate applicable thereto, if a request to this effect is made on the Customs declaration.

EXPORT OF RAGS PERMITTED.

The French "Journal Officiel" for 6th May contains a Notice of the French Ministry of Finance which intimates that the export from France of rags, except cordage, twine, and white calico and white cloths (ex Tariff No. 167) is permitted without special anthorisation, until further notice.

EXPORT OF GLUCOSE PERMITTED.

The prohibition on the export and re-export of glucose (ex Tariff No. 93) from France, except under licence, has been withdrawn as from 27th April, by a French Presidential Decree dated 23rd April, and published in the "Journal Officiel" for 27th April.

GERMANY.

EXPORT RESTRICTIONS ON TEXTILES MODIFIED.

The "Dentscher Reichsanzeiger" for 3rd May contains a Proclamation dated 30th April, which contains a revised list of the goods falling under Category V. of the Tariff ("Textile materials and manufactures, prepared ornamental feathers, fans and hats") which are prohibited to be exported from Germany except under licence. As the result of the Proclamation various classes of goods, formerly prohibited, was a from 2rd May be expected from Germany without may, as from 3rd May, be exported from Germany without lieence. The amendments of the former "Export Free List" (particulars of which were given at pp. 777-9 of this "Journal" for 30th December last) are shown below; in most cases the items are additions to that list, but in some cases (marked with an asterisk) include goods which were already free from export restrictions.

Tariff No.

From Category V. (A.) -Silk.
*391-3 Silk and byssus silk, even combined with other textile materials

*100 Silk, artificial silk, floss silk, yarn (even if mixed with other textile material) in combination, but not wound round, with metal threads.

ex 409 Incandescent mantles, not burnt out, wholly or partly or silk.

From Category V. (B.)-Wool and other animal hair, except horsehair

415-416

ex 413 Wool and other animal hair, except horselaur (mane or tail).

ex 413 Wool and other animal hair, worked (except hair of the hare, rabbit, heaver, monkey, musk rat, nutria, eattle, deer, dog, swine and similar coarse hair), not including shoddy (No. 414.)

420-21 Hard combed yarn of lustrous wool over 20 cms. in leugth, mixed or not, if the yarn has not lost the quality of hard combed yarn as the result of the mixture; yaru of all kinds of wool or other animal hair, mixed or not with other regetable textile materials (except cotton) with other vegetable textile materials (except cotton) made up for retail sale.

Tariff No.

Press cloths, girths, dises and sheets of yarn of goat hair and coarse animal hair, for pressing oils or fats; still materials and rough felt fabries, continuously woven, for the manufacture of wood pulp, straw pulp, cellulose

or paper. Knitted or netted stuffs and knitted or netted wares.

From Category V. (C.)—Cotton.
Cotton. dyed, carded, combed, milled, bleached; also bleached waste from cotton spinning.
Cotton thread of all kinds, twisted, made up for retail 138 111

Knitted or netted stuffs, knitted or netted wares, except * 158-163

 fishing nets.
 167 Driving belts, woven or knitted.
 From Category V. (D.)—Other vegetable textile materials.
 171 Substitutes for crisp hair, composed of coconut, manila hemp, agave or similar fibre, even if mixed with animal hair. hair.

183

hair.

Yarn of other vegetable textile materials than cotton, without admixture of cotton or animal textile materials, made up for retail sale.

Rope makers' wares of other vegetable textile materials than cotton, without admixture of cotton or animal textile materials; carpets and matting.

Pocket handkerchiefs, bleached, dyed, printed or woven in colours. 189

Pocket handkerchiefs, bleached, dyed, printed or woven in colours.

Close woven tissues of pure jute for furniture and hangings. Velvet and plush and tissues similar to velvet and plush, of vegetable textile materials other than cotton, without admixture of animal textile materials or cotton.

Close woven tissues of yarn of hemp, hemp tow, manila hemp, New Zeakand hemp, agave, pincapple fibre, coconut fibre or other unspecified vegetable textile materials (except cotton, flax, flax tow, ramic, or jute), mixed or not with jute, but without admixture of flax or ramic.

Lace and lace tissues of all kinds, of vegetable textile materials other than cotton.

materials other than cotton.

Trimmings and buttonmakers' wares, wicks, and "sparteric," of vegetable textile materials other than cotton.

cotton.

From Category V. (E.)—Waterproof fabrics, etc.

Tissues waterproofed by coating or impregnating with oil, varnish or with substances of metallic origin, tar, or material other than rubber or gutta percha.

Tissues coated with celluloid or similar substances.

From Category V. (F.)—Wadding, felt, and unsewn felt articles.

511-2 Wadding (for medicinal use or other).

*513-4 Felts, felt carpets, and other unsewn felt wares (except hats).

From Category V. (G.)—Horselmir.

ex 515 Horselmir, combed, drawn, bleached or dyed.

Category V. (H.)

*517-22 Clothing, ornamental wares, and other sewn articles of spun wares or felt.

From Category V. (J.)—Shoes of Spun wares or of felt.

526 Footwear of plaited scraps or strips of cloth not having soles of other materials.

527 Footwear of spun wares or of felt, having soles of other materials sewn on.

From Category V. (K.)—Human hair; hats. Human hair in the rough, boiled, dycd, combed, spun or curled; also entangled.

Hats and hat bodies. 528-9

533 - 12

The following goods are also exempt from export prohibition

(1) Ribbons and tissnes similar to ribbons up to 20 cms, wide (ex Nos. 432, 453 7, 492-3).
(2) Varns and wares thereof combined with metal threads (wire or tinsel) (ex Nos. 418-25, 440-4, 472-82).
(3) Paper yarn and articles wholly or partly of paper yarn.

The items under Nos. 453 and 455 in the "Export Free List" printed in the issue of this "Journal" December, should be replaced by the following item:

ex 153 7 Broadstitch tissues (cotton).

WITHDRAWAL OF EXPORT PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN RAW MATERIALS.

In virtue of a Proclamation dated 30th April and published in the "Deutscher Reichsanzeiger" for 3rd May, the exportation from Germany of the following articles may be effected without licence as from 3rd May:— No. in German

Customs Tarilf.

ex 18 Cotton, cotton linters, jute and jute tow.

141 Merino wool and crossbred wool (except glover's wool).

ex 145 Hair of the vicuua, camel, goat, angora goat and other

caprine animals.
Feathers for beds, raw, cleaned or prepared.
Ornamental feathers, not prepared (heron, ostrich,

ornamental feathers, not prepared (heron, ostrich, poultry, etc.).
Birds' skins, heads, wings, and other parts of birds' skins, even if dyed, dried or prepared merely for protection against decay or moths.

152 Silkworms' cocoons.

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND TARIFF CHANGES-Continued.

IMPORT AND EXPORT OF GOODS TO AND FROM CUSTOMS WAREHOUSES.

A Proclamation dated the 30th April and published in the "Deutscher Reichsanzeiger" for 4th May ays down the following regulations respecting the import and export of goods to and from Customs warehouses (im Zollagerverkehr) which came into force on 10th May:—

which came into force on 10th May:—
Import licences will not be required for goods conveyed from the frontier Custom House of entry, under Customs control, to the warchouses mentioned in the following paragraph, provided that they are re-exported within the prescribed time limit and that they remain in such warehouses until the time of re-export. The condition as to re-export will be dispensed with if a licence-issuing Office authorises the release of the goods for free circulation. Export licences will not be required for the re-exportation of goods imported in necondance with the above provisious. goods imported in accordance with the above provisions, provided such goods have remained uninterruptedly in the

The warehouses referred to above are :-

(a) For all goods

General public warehouses (\$\frac{1}{2}\$ 97 and 98 of the Customs Law);

Private transit warehouses and private sorting warehouses under official supervision (§ 108 of the Customs Law).

For building or other industrial timber (Tariff Nos. 74-76 and 78-85), also the following— Private transit warehouses (timber stores) for timber (b) For

exclusively destined for sale abroad (real transit depôts not being jointly locked by the Customs, § 2a of the Timber Warehouse Ordinance).

Exemption from licences will not be granted in respect of foodstuffs, fodder, oils and fats, spirits of all kinds and "colonial" wares which are otherwise subject to import licence. The following goods, however, come under the provisions of this Proclamation :-

Chicory and chicory roots. 26

ex 38

Fruit trees.
Hazel nuts and walnuts.

ex 46 ex 51 Oranges, including tangerines.

ex 61 Collee, raw.

Tea. ex 175 Manioc and tapioca.

ex 176 ex 177 Molasses sugar, denatured for use as fodder.

Wine, in casks or tank wagons.

Corned beef (simply prepared beef in hermetically sealed ex 219 receptacles).

JAPAN.

FORTHCOMING AMENDMENTS OF THE CUSTOMS TARIFF.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, The Board of Trade have received, through the Poteign Office, from the Commercial Counsellor of H.M. Embassy at Tokio, translation of the Bill (referred to at p. 385 of the issue of this "Journal" for 7th April) passed by the Japanese Diet, making certain amendments to the Japanese Customs Tariff Law. The measure is to come into force on a date to be fixed by Imperial Ordinance, and information as to the date of enforcement will be published in this "Journal" when received in the Board of Trade. in the Board of Trade.

Levy of ad valorem Duties. Article II. of the Customs Tariff Law is amended by the present measure so as to provide that import duties on articles subject to ad valorem duties levied in accordance with the value of the goods at the time of importation, i.e., on being taken out of bond. Previously such duties were leviable on the value of the articles at the time of arrival at the port of importation.

Drawback.—Article IX. of the Customs Tariff Law is amended to read as follows:

"In the case of imported raw materials used for manufacturing goods for export specified by Imperial Ordinance, the whole or part of the import duties may be waived or a drawback allowed in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance. In the case of imported raw materials such as flowers of zine, zine sheets not exceeding 0.25 mm, in thickness and others used for manufacturing the fertilisers specified by Ordinance, the whole or part of the import duties may be waived or a drawback allowed.

"In case of exemption from import duties mentioned above, the deposit of scenrities corresponding to the amount of duty may be required at the time of importation. Persons receiving or attempting to receive drawbacks by fraud or improper means shall be punished in accordance with Article 75 of the Tarill Law." Law.

Shipbuilding Materials, etc.—Article X. of the Tariff Law is amended as follows:— "from and steel materials, ships' equipment and parts thereof, steam engines or parts thereof designated by Ordinance, to be

used in building or repairing ships will be exempted from import duties according to the provisions of the Ordinance."

Hitherto drawback was only allowed if the vessel was exported within two years of the date of importation of the material.

Changes in Import Duties,-The measure also provides for the alteration of the Customs duties on or classification of, certain articles. Particulars of these alterations are shown below, additions to the text of former Tariff headings being shown in italic type, and matter now deleted being enclosed in square brackets :

]Yen=100 sen $-2s,\,0\frac{1}{2}d,\,par$ value and at the present rates about $2s,\,5d,\,$; 100 kin =132–277 lbs. avoirdnpois.]

111116	A 41 1	Impor	t Duty.
Tariff No.		Present.	Proposed.
		Yen.	Yen.
29 (2)	Seeds of india-rubber trees, gutta-percha trees, Indigo fera anh, I. tinetoria, and		
	sugar beet	Free	Free
110	Stearin	per 100 kin 4.50	per 100 kin 12.00
111 (4)	Olein	1.70	Free per 100 kin 12.00 5.00 12.00
163 (2)	Stearin Olein Paraiffin wax Caustie soda and caostie potash, unretined Soda ash and materal soda Peroxide of soda	0.70	1.50
165 (1)	Soda ash and natural soda	0.35	0.35
172 (2)	Peroxide of soda		35 % ud val.
	Hydrochlorate of cocaine Articles made of coal tar pitch and asplatt	per kin 19.30	35 % ad val.
418 (1)	Asbestos and manufactures thereof not	-	Free
	powder, or libre linelading that con-		
462	taining platinum powder]	Free	Free
102	1. In humps, ingots blooms bitlets slabs	Assorbit	100 15
	sheet bar and tin bar: Pig iron Spiegeleisen Ferro-manganese Other non-malleable iron alloys [Ingots, blooms, billets, and slabs]	0.10	per 100 kin 0.10 10 % ud val.
	Ferro-manganese	0.25	10 % ud val.
	Other non-malleable iron alloys	5 % ad cul. ! per lottkin (
	[Ingots, blooms, billets, and slabs]	0.50	12 ° and ral.
169	All other	72° ad val.	,0
202	angle shaped, etc., bars or rods	0.60	15 ° ad cal.
	[Ingots, blooms, billets, and slabs] [Keg steel and bamboo steel] All other 2. Bars or rods, including T shaped and angle shaped, etc., bars or rods 3. Wire rods, in colls 4. Plates and sheets : (a) Not coated with metals :	0.90	15 ° o da vat.
	[Checkered]	0.70	
	[Other, not exceeding 0.7 mm], in timek-	1.35	
	ness] [Other, not exceeding 1.5 mm. in thick-	0.40	15 °o ud ral.
	ness	0.75	
	(b) Coated with common metals: Tinned, ordinary Tinned, crystallised, embossed, or the		
	Tinned crystallised, embossed, or the	0.90	
	Finned, crystallised, embossed, or the like Galvanised (corrugated or not) Gther Wire: (a) Not coated with metals (b) Poated with base metals	2.35	t5 °o ud val.
	Other	20 % <i>ad ral.</i> per 100 kin	20 ° ad cal.
	(a) Not coated with metals (b) Coated with base metals:	1 or 1.15	15 % ad ral.
	L. Galvanised	1.20 or 1.35	15 °o ad val.
	6. Reed wire	1.85	15 % ad cal. 15 % ad ral.
	S. Bands (hoot) fron):		
	(a) Not coated with metals (b) Coated with base metals	0.50 \ 10° ad rat. }	15 ° ad cal.
		per 100 km , 4.10	15 % ad val. 15 % ad val. 20 % ad val. 20 % ad val.
	(a) Not coated with metals 10. Wire rope and twisted wires 11. Barbed twisted wire 12. Pipes and tubes : (a) Not coated with metals :	2.20	20 % ad val. 20 % ad val.
	(a) Not coated with metals:		
	1. Elbows and joints:	per 100 kin = 2,40	per 100 kin 2.40
	(b) Other	2.80	2.40 15 ° ad cal.
	Cast	1.00	[. (n)
	HITDEF, SCHUIESS, HOT exceeding 10	1 90	
	cm. in internal diameter[[Other, brazed, not exceeding 5 cm.	1 90	15 "o ad val.
	[Other, brazed, not exceeding 5 cm, internal diameter]	1.10	
ex 467	(h) Coated with base metal	20 % <i>ad cal.</i> per 100 kin	2) % <i>ad rad.</i> Der 100 kin
		0.70	3.00
	those nickelled, coated with enamel paint, varnish, etc.) exceeding 0.25		
ex 477	tom. in thickness	2.95	3.30
(.7.41)	(a) Not coated with metals	1.25	1.90
	(b) Other	1.55	3.20 5.60
	(a) Not coated with metals (b) Other	1.30	2.80
cx 179	7. Iron dog-spikes	1.45	2.20
	Metal nets or nettings: 1 (a) Woven, of fron 2 (a) Not woven, of fron	13.50	11,10
ex 452	Materials for railway construction, not otherwise provided for 1 Rails		
		() ~()	lo co ad ral.
		1 50	per 100 km
	3 Turntables and parts thereof 1. Lishplates, fie plates and sleepers	2. a5 1.10	15 ° ad ral. 20 ° ad ral. per 100 km 3,50 15 ° ad cal.
ra 483	Polis and other materials for suspending		
	electric lines, not otherwise provided ter 1. Post and parts thereot 2.(a) Other, of iron	1.85 4.85	15 "o ad ral. 5.30
			3.0.

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND TARIFF CHANGES-Continued.

Tariff	Articles.	lmpo	rt Duty.
No.	Milities.	Present.	Proposed.
		Yen.	Yen.
	Materials for construction of buildings, bridges, vessels, docks, etc., not otherwise provided for, solely of iron	per 100 kin	per 100 kir 2.80
485	provided for, solely of iron Gas holders, tanks for liquid, and parts thereof (of Iron)	1.95	2.90
488	Iron anchors	1.95	15 o ad cal
(2)	thereof (of Iron)	2.00	2,99 15 % ad cal. per 100 kin 3,80
ex 493 (3)	Hinges, hat hooks, and metal fittings for doors, windows, furniture, etc., of		
	iron	0,40	7.60
(3)	Tanks and Keys, or non	11.20	12.10
cx 496	Mechanies' tools, agricultural implements, and parts thereof, not otherwise provided for:		
	1. Anvils 2. Handbers	2.55 4.00	20 % ad val. 20 % ad val. per 100 kin 13.70
	3. Wrenches	12.60	13.70
	3. Wrenches 4. Pipe cutters and ratchets 5. (a) Tongs, nippers, and pliers, weighing not more than 5 kilors, each	15.90	17.00
	the same and the s	22.10	23,30
	1	5.15	5.60
	(a) not more than 10 cms	27.90	33.80
	(b) ,, ,, ,20 , (c) 30	9.70	18.90
	(d) more than 30 cms	8.50	1),)0
	9. Stocks and dies, or screwplates	$\frac{12.50}{20.10}$	22.30
	10. Shovels and scoops:	1.10	5.00
	10. Shovels and scoops: (a) With handles (b) Other Table knives, not otherwise provided for (other than those with handles made of or combined with ivory, mother)	$\frac{1}{2}.10$	3.60
198 x 199	Table knives, not otherwise provided	7.80	8,20
2) (B)	for (other than those with handles		100
	of pearl or tortoiseshell, or enamelled)	1,65	5.00
05 (1)	Hand under souther	oer 100 kin	per 100 kin
	Hand sewing needles	per gross	per gross
506	Pen nibs (except gold)	0.10 or 100 kin	0.16
516	Bedsteads and parts thereof Iron manufactures, not otherwise provided	8.85	9.70
	for in the Tarill: 1. Enamelled	12.70	13.60
	3. (b) Other (not including those coated with common metals), not east:	.=	
	(a) Weighing not more than 5 kilogs.	12.00	13.00
	(b) Weighing not more than 50	7.50	
	(c) Other	5.00	8.50 6.00
0(2)	each (b) Weighing not more than 50 kilogs each (c) Other Springs (for clocks) Parts of locomotives, tenders, and other	12.60	16.70
. 502	veniries running on rails, not benerwise		
	provided for in the Tariff: 1 (a) Wheels and axtes for locomotives	2.40	3.30
	1 (b) Other wheels and axles	2.40 1.50 3.00	2.40
	3. Buffers and springs	cach	cach
55 (2)	('yeles (without motive machinery) Parts of cycles, excluding motive machinery	16.00	16,60
7 200	Parts of cycles, excluding motive machinery und chains: 2. Rims, spokes, nipples, and mudguards 3. Handle bars, saddles, pedals, [chains],	er 100 kin	per 100 kin
	2. Rims, spokes, nipples, and mudguards 3. Handle bars, saddles, pedals, Ichainsl.	18.10	21.00
	sprocket wheels, lutbs (except those		
	with brakes) and roller brakes 1. Coaster brakes, gear cases, free wheels	31.10	32.90
5.4545	and valves Steam boilers	97.10	99.50 5.00
570	Flanged botter plates for steam botters	2.45	4.10
		7.60	9,00
	(a) Propoled by steam power (b) Other	9.20	10.60
71 (1)	portable steam engines [and steam road		
(-1)	rollers] Steam road rollers	5.20 5.20	6,60 5,90
583	Cranes:		
	1. Combined with motive machinery	3.90	5.00
\$5 (1)	Dredging machines, not framed	5.00	5,90
98 (1) v 605	Parts of machinery, viz. :	per 100 kin	per 100 kin
5) (A)	(ranges: 1. Combined with motive machinery 2. Other 2. Other 3. Dredging machines, not framed Weaving looms of metal Parts of machinery, viz.: "Travellers for spinning or twisting yarn. (of iron Reeds of metal	mcl'd'g inn	er packings)
	of iron 1	er 100 kin	per 100 kin
(10)	Reeds of metal	12.50 Fer cobie	[G, 00
		metre	15
	Teak, ent. sawn or split, simply	1.20	Free
((')			
(C) 319 (2)	Calabaser conditining platicum or platicum suits		Free

MOROCCO (FRENCH ZONE).

EXPORTATION OF CEREALS.

H.M. Representative at Tangiers reports that a Dahir has heen isned, dated the 3rd May, removing, as from the 4th May, the prohibition formerly in force on the exportation from the French Zone in Morocco of barley, maize, sorghum, alimentary pastes and bran, and authorising the exportation of 5,000 metric tons of wheat of the 1920 crop.

NETHERLANDS.

BILL TO INCREASE IMPORT DUTIES.

H.M. Commercial Secretary at The Hague has forwarded particulars of a Bill which has been laid before the Nether-

lands Legislature proposing to increase the Customs duties leviable on goods imported into the Netherlands.

It is proposed in the Bill that the 5 per cent. ad valorem duty at present charged on many important categories of goods (including most metal and textile wares) should be replaced by a duty of 7 per cent. ad valorem, and that the duties on the undermentioned goods should be increased, as shown:—

Posts of Import duty (in flowing)

	Rate of Import duty (in floring		
	Present.	Proposed.	
	per 100 kilogs.		
Almonds	1.00	6,00	
Ordnance, metal	7.50	11.00	
Ordnance, iron	7 -1"	2.00	
Shells		1.10	
Beverages: Cyder, perry and mead	per hectol.	per hectol. 4.50	
Beer	7	9.00	
Mineral and spring waters:			
In bottle containing less than		per 100	
7 litres ln jars	0 .)*	$0.70 \\ 0.35$	
In jars In bottles containing more		per bottle	
than 7 litres		0.06	
	per 100 kilogs.		
Cards, playing, loose or in sheets,	3.00	1.50	
in addition to the internal			
tax:			
In packs containing not more		ber, back	
than 32 cards Other packs	$0.12\frac{1}{2}$	0.171	
Cheese (except potted cheese im-	0.25 per 100 kilogs,	0.35 per 100 kilogs.	
ported by land)	5.00	7.00	
Chocolate containing sugar	25.00	30.00	
Confectionery, pastry, cakes, etc.			
including foodstuffs, such as preserved meat, fish, game,			
poultry, vegetables or fruit	1		
in hermetically scaled tins;			
champignous, manilloes,	1		
racahout, artificial mustard	.) = 00	30.00	
and sauces	25,00 10.00	15.00	
Currants	1.50	2.50	
Figs	1.00	1.50	
Fruit:			
Salted or preserved in vinegar or brine	10% ad val.	14% ad val.	
or brine	per 100 kilogs.	per 100 kilogs.	
Preserved in syrup or sugar	18.00	20.00	
Gold and silver leaves in books,	110/ 1 1	49/ . 7 . 7	
gold and silver thread	3% ad val. per 100 kilogs.	4% ad ral. per 100 kilogs.	
Gunpowder	5.00	7.00	
Honey	2.50	3.50	
	per hectol.	per hectol.	
Lemon and citron juice	3.00 per 100 kilogs.	4.50 per 100 kilogs.	
Macaroni and vermicelli	2.00	3.00	
Meat:* All kinds, not specially men-			
tioned, including sausages,	1		
fresh or salted	6.00	9.00	
Smoked or dried	8.00	12.00	
Mutton, pork and bacon: Salted	0.75	1,10	
Smoked or dried	1.00	1.50	
Oil not specially mentioned in the			
Tariff (not perfumed)	0.55	$0.80 \\ 2.50$	
Pepper and pepper powder Pimento and allspice	1.50 1.00	1.50	
Platinum, manufactured, and pla-	per kilog.	per kilog.	
tinum wire	0.10	0.15	
Potato flour and farina (manu-	per 100 kilogs.	per 100 kilogs.	
factured) Plums, except fresh	2.00 1.50	$\frac{3,00}{2,50}$	
Raisins, not specially mentioned	1.00	1.50	
Revalenta arabica Salt, refined	0.40	0.60	
Salt, refined	4.00	1.50	
Ships, barges and vessels destined to remain in the Netherlands	1% ad ral.	11% ad rat.	
Soap:	per 100 kilogs.	per 100 kilogs.	
Perfumed and transparent	4.00	6.00	
Other, hard (including soap	2.00	2 00	
powder) Other soft	2.00 1.00	3.00 1.50	
Sugar, dextrose manufactured from	.,,,,		
starch, and earamel	6.00	7.00	
Tea	25.00	35.00	
Tobacco: In rolls or leaves, and nn-			
pressed stems	0.70	1.00	

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND TARIFF CHANGES-Continued.

Rate of Import Duty (in florins).

	Present.	Proposed.		
Tobaceo—continued:				
Pressed stems	1.50	2.50		
Cut or otherwise manufactured	12,00	18.00		
Cigars	40.00	60.00		
Yarns (woollen and worsted) of more				
than 2 threads, dyed or un-	3% and val.	4% ad val.		
Spirits, including all liquidscontain- ing alcohol, liqueurs, bitters,		1 - 70		
and similar distilled bever- ages; also scents, varnishes				
and other non-potable liquids				
prepared with alcohol con-				
taining more than 5 litres	per hectol.	containing		
of pure alcohol at a tempera-		at 15 degs. C		
ture of 15 degs. C	3.50	5.00		
Wood spirit and liquids manu-				
factured therefrom or mixed	per hectol.	per hectol.		
therewith	6.67	6.70		
Solid matter containing wood	per kilog.	per kilog.		
spirit	8.40	8.44		

^{*} Not including fresh pork or mutton.

It is proposed that the new duties shall be payable on all goods which have not yet been declared and which have not been distributed (cleared) before the enforcement of the

SPAIN.

IMPORTATION OF CODFISH.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" for 29th April contains a Royal Order, dated 28th April, which provides that, as from 1st May, all consignments of salted codfish (bacadao) leaving the port of origin with a manifest viséd later than that date must be accompanied by a certificate of origin, in order to to be admitted into Spain at the "second tarriff" rate of duty (viz. 24 posets) ner 100 kilogs) of duty (viz., 24 pesetas per 100 kilogs).

IMPORT AND EXPORT OF CEMENT.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" for 8th May contains a Royal Order dated 3rd May which re-establishes the Castoms duty (50 centavos per 100 kilogs.) on cement, which was temporarily suspended by the Royal Order of 26th October last. Consignments proved to have been despatched direct to a Spanish port up to 9th May, inclusive, will be religible to the free be admitted duty free.

The Order further authorises the free exportation of 100,000 metric tons of natural and artificial cement.

SWEDEN.

CUSTOMS TREATMENT OF IMPORTED CEREALS AND FLOUR.

The Swedish Royal Decree of 21st August, 1919, providing for the fixing of the Customs import duties on wheat, rve, barley, and flour and groats thereof on a sliding scale basis. the application of which was postponed by subsequent Decrees until 31st May, 1921, has now been abrogated by a Royal Decree (No. 151) of 20th April, which provides for revised sliding scale duties on such products during the period 21st April, 1921, to 31st May, 1921 (inclusive).

The present Decree lays down that, during the period in question import duty shall be leviable on wheat, rye and barley imported into Sweden when the import price of wheat is less by 1 krona or more per 100 kilogs, than the domestic normal price, and that the duty shall be equivalent to onehalf the difference between the normal Swedish price and the import price. During the same period the import duties on flour (meal) and groats, malt and bread, are to be levied at a rate of 1 krona 50 öre per 100 kilogs, plus the duty on unmilled wheat increased by 35 per cent., provided that this rate is not to exceed the duty on unmilled cereals by more than 75 per cent.

The rates of duty leviable under the above Decree have been fixed as follows:

For the period 21st to 30th April— Unmilled rye, wheat, and barley... 4.07 kr. per 100 kilogs.

Croats and flour or meal of rye, wheat or barley; also malt and bread kr. per 100 kilogs. Unmilled rye, wheat and barley ... Groats and flour or meal of rye, wheat or barley; also malt and 5.23 kr, per 100 kilogs. 8.60 kr. per 100 kilogs.

SWITZERLAND.

IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN ARTICLES.

Decree of the Swiss Federal Council, dated 29th April, and published in the "Recueil des Lois Fédérales" on 30th April, prohibits the importation of the following goods into Switzerland, as from 3rd May, except under licence from the Import and Export Section of the Department of Public Economy:

1.- Half-manufactured iron: ex Tariff Nos. 714-5. Round iron up to and including 50 mm.
 in diameter, including wire iron.
 ex Tariff Nos, 718 and 721. Flat iron, square iron, and iron
 in special shapes, up to and including 30 mm, in maximum
 width.

width.

Tariff Nos. 722 4.—Iron, drawn or cold-rolled (rough, tinned coated with lead, zine, copper or nickel, polished, painted,

ex Tariff No. 730.—Sheet iron of a thickness of 1 mm, but less than 3 mm, in ordinary forms 1×2 and $1\cdot 25\cdot 2\cdot 5$ m tres.

- Iron wares :— Tariff No. 709. — Iron scale.

Tariff Nos. 703.—1700 scale.

Tariff Nos. 764-5.—1700 and steel rope and cable.

Tariff Nos. 766-9.—Rivets, screws, nut bolts and nuts.

Tariff Nos. 770-1—Small iron work (hinge pins, door, etc., fittings).

774-6. - Wire nails, tacks, and cut nails (without Tariff Nos.

heads of other materials).

Tariff No. 779. Frying pans, polished or tinned, ex Tariff Nos. 783-4. -Safety chests and cash boxes, mainly of

Tariff Nos. 787-788, ex 789 and 790.—Manufactures of sheetiron; wire; ironmongers and tinsmiths' manufactures not elsewhere mentioned in the Customs Tariff (except painted, varnished, bronzed or gilt packing material, signboards and

similar articles).

—Articles of precions metals, and gilt or silvered articles, viz.:

Tariff No. 837.—Gilt or silvered wares of copper or copper alloys.

Tariff No. 873.—Wares plated, gilt or silvered by fire, or by

galvano plastic process, ex Tariff No. 874.—Gold and silversmiths' wares; also chains

and bracelets.

-Automobiles (ex Tariff Nos. 913 and 914) (not including motor

hieyeles).
5. Pianos (Tariff No. 957.
6. Furniture, viz.:—
7. 19 Nos. 259-267.— 6. Furniture, viz.:—
Tariff Nos. 259-267.—Wooden furniture falling under these numbers.

Tariff No. 268a/b.—Fancy articles and cabinet-maker's wares.
 Tariff Nos. 714-715, 718b, 720, 721-724, 726 and 730b.—Iron parts for furniture falling under these numbers.

* The importation of furniture coming under Tariff Nos. 259-267 and 268a/r, except under licence, was already prohibited by a Decree of 6th December, 1919, which is new abrogated.

REVISED EXPORT PROHIBITIONS.

With reference to the notice under the above heading at pages 338.9 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 24th March, the Board of Trade have now received copy of a Decree of the Swiss Department of Public Economy and the Federal Food Office, dated 25th April, and published in the "Recueil des Lois Fédérales" for 27th April which provides that, as from 1st May, all goods, except those enumerated below, may be exported from Switzerland under general licence.

(a) Goods Subject to Licence Issued by the Federal FOOD OFFICE-EXPORT SECTION.

From Category I .- Foodstuffs.

No. in Swiss Customs Tariff.

91 Milk, fresh.

ex 92 Milk, condensed, sterilised, in consignments of more than 500 kilogs.

ex 98 and $_{\rm ex}$ 99 Cheese, hard and soft; Schabzeiger cheese.

From Category II .- Animals. ex 138-42 Cows, heifers and young female cattle.

(b) Goods Subject to Licence Issued by the Federal Department of Public Economy—Import and EXPORT SECTION.

From Category VII. Textiles, etc.

260-3, 369 Cotton fabrics, Idain, twilled or figured, unbleached or creamed.

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND TARIFF CHANGES-Continued.

From Category XI. - Metals and Metal Wares.

No. in Swiss

Customs Tariff. 708 Was 711 Scra Waste from iron working (fillings, turnings, etc.). Scrap iron and old iron.

868 ex 869

Scrap from and old from.

Parings, ashes and dross of precious metals,
Gold, silver and platinum, unwrought; coined gold.

Gold, silver and platinum, rolled, in plates or bands.
Gold, silver and platinum wire and thread; metal wire spun round with gold or silver; metallic wire of chromium, manganese, titanium, manian and vanadium (but not molyhdanum or tungsten wire) 870 ex 871 (but not molybdenum or tungsten wire).

872 Fabrics of gold or silver thread; gold or silver leaf.

From Category XIV. - Drugs, Chemicals. Colones, etc.

1070

"Trois-six," spirits of wine, denatured.

Aniline, anthracene and naphthaline colours, and tar colours not specially mentioned in the Swiss General Customs Tariff.

1099 Indigo, natural or synthetic; indigo solution.

Government Notices affecting Trade.

POSTAL SECTION.

WEST INDIES: DAMAGED MAILS.

The Postmaster-General announces that Letter Mails for Barbados, Grenada, British, French and Dutch Guiana. the Leeward Islands, Tobago, Trinidad, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Cindad Bolivar, dated 27th April to 1st May. and Parcel Mails for the same destinations, except French Gniana, the Leeward Islands and Cindad Bolivar, dated 26th to 29th April, have been seriously damaged and in some eases destroyed by a fire on the steamship "lugoma."

GENERAL.

NON-FERROUS METAL INDUSTRY ACT: LICENCES

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 1, Sub-Section 7, of the Non-Ferrons Metal Industry Act, 1918 (7 and 8 Geo. 5, Ch. 67), and No. 11 of the Statutory Rules and Orders No. 265 of 1918 (Non-Ferrous Metal Industry), that licences under the Non-Ferrons Metal Industry Act have been granted by the Board of Trade to the undermentioned companies, firms, or individuals:—

Lanzer, Sidney Benjamin, 60, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. 4.

Marshall Brothers and Company, 152, Gresham House,

Old Broad Street, London, E.C. 2. Scott, John Walter, trading as Scott and Company, 57, Cheupside, London, E.C. 2.

PATENTS AND DESIGNS ACTS, 1907 and 1919.—LICENCES OF RIGHT.

Notice is hereby given that, by virtue of the provisions of Section 24 of the Acts the undermentioned Patents were indorsed "Licences of Right" on the 11th day of May, 1921:

No. and Year of Patent.	Grantec.	Title.					
30,502 09	Johnson, J. V. (Badische Anilin) de Soda Fahrik)	" Improvements in the mannfacture of nitrates."					
974-13	d Soda Fabrik)	"Improvements in and relating to chemical reactions in gases by means of electric ares."					
102,381 (16655 16)	Dawson, C. F. and another	"Improvements in and relating means for mobilising and positioning heavy guns."					
113,623 (3213 18)	N. V. Fab. van In- strumenten en Electrische Apparaten "Inventum."	O Improvements in electric heating apparatus.					
117 621	Wunderli, F	"Self-disconnecting single pulley drive."					
121.747 (7492 16)	Jennings, J. T	"Improvements relating to carborettors for internal combustion engines."					
137.087 (21380 18)	McCorky, T	"Improvements relating to hose pipe joints or connections."					

The Patent Office,

W. TEMPLE FRANKS. Comptroller-General.

Commercial Returns.

COTTON IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

THE WEEKLY RETURN.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the week and the 19 weeks ended 12th May, 1921.

		Week ended 12th May, 1921.	19 Weeks ended 12th May, 1921.	Week ended 12th May, 1921.	19 Weeks ended 12th May 1921.	
		Імро	RTS.	EXP ORTS.		
		Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Balos.	
American		22,109	525,939	5,302	85,036	
Brazilian			9,921	_	1,641	
East Indian		201	14,455	612	7,985	
Egyptian		3,977	100,199	216	16,842	
Miscellaneous		1,618*	61,346†	38	5.178	
Total		27,905	711,860	6,168	116,682	

^{*}Including 314 bales British West Indian and 1,253 bales British West

THE MONTHLY RETURN.

April, and January to April.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, and Returned to Ports, during the month and four months ended April, 1921, compared with the corresponding periods of 1920 :-

		Month of April.		Four months ending April.				
		1920	1921	1920	1921			
		Imports.						
		Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.			
American		295,562	82,919	1,551,005	494,980			
Braziliau		18,460	4,410	58,456	9,951			
East Indian		19,240	934	66,035	14,254			
Egyptian		16,112	20,339	220,707	83,919			
Miseellaneous		21,516	14,702*†	127,422	61,790;			
Total		370,890	123,304	2,023,625	664,894			
		Exports.						
	1	10 00"	15 510	r + 0 = u	=0.100			
American	***	16,805	15,716	55, 253	79,168			
Brazilian	***	223	289	2,533	1,641			
last Indian		5,364	965	35,414	6,927			
Egyptian	0.00	8,930	7,250	120,813	15,016			
Miscellaneous		3,021	1,145	10,267	4,951			
Total		34,343	25,365	224,280	107,703			
		FORWARDED from PORTS to INLAND TOWNS						
American	1	193,138	71,999	828,192	313,727			
Brazilian		2,590	4,110	19,921	11,821			
T 22	• • • •	4,170	1,733	14,903	5,724			
East Indian	***				11.12.1			
Corretion		19 014	6 955	199 799				
		12,914	6,255	123,722	31,289			
Miscellaneous	•••	12,914 8,817	3,510	46,502	31,289			
					31,289 14,236 376,791			
Miscellaneous		8,817	3,510	1,033,240	31,289 14,236 376,791			
discellaneous Total		8,817 221,629 Forward	3,510 87,607	46,502 1,033,240 AND TOWNS	31,289 14,236 376,791 to Pours.			
Total American		8,817	3,510 87,607 ED from INL	1,033,240	31,289 14,230 376,791 to Poets.			
Total American Brazilian		8,817 221,629 Forward	3,510 87,607 ED from INL	46,502 1,033,240 AND TOWNS	31,289 14,236 376,791 to Pours.			
Total American Brazilian Cast Indian		8,817 221,629 Forward	3,510 87,607 ED from INL 46 —	46,502 1,033,240 AND TOWNS 560 —	31,289 14,236 376,791 to PORTS.			
Total American Brazilian Sgyptian Sgyptian		8,817 221,629 FORWARD 207	3,510 87,607 ED from INL 46 - 9	46,502 1,033,240 AND TOWNS 560 — 18	31,289 14,236 376,791 to Pours. 108 39 9			
Total American Brazilian East Indian		8,817 221,629 Forward	3,510 87,607 ED from INL 46 —	46,502 1,033,240 AND TOWNS 560 —	31,289 14,236 376,791 to PORTS.			

^{*}Including 1,533 bales British West Indian, 2,883 bales British West African, and 631 bales Foreign East African. †Revised figures. ‡Including 2,530 bales British West Indian, 9,491 bales British West African, 7,515 bales British East African and 1,455 bales Foreign East African.

COMMERCIAL RETURNS-Continued.

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 14th May, 1921, pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882:—

				1	Average Price.					
					Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
					8.	d.	5.	d.	в.	d
Week end	ed 14	th May	, 1921.		86	5	46	2	38	8
Correspon	ding	week in	1—							
1914					33	0	25	10	19	()
1915					62	0	34	1	32	- 8
1916					55	0	52	10	33	0
1917					77	11	64	10	55	2
1918					73	4	56	6	46	4
1919					73	3	62	4	47	11
1920					72	10	85	8	60	10

*Section 8 of the Coin 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. of oats.

OUTLOOK FOR WORLD'S CROPS.

The Statistical Bureau of the International Institute of Agriculture (Rome) in its Bulletin for April states that the prospects of the winter-sown crops are favourable in the United States, where the promise for wheat is 9 per cent. above the average of the past ten years. At the beginning of April the outlook was also good in Germany, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Spain, Great Britain, Poland, Roumania, and North Africa: and an average in Italy and Japan. In parts of British India the want of rain has been detrimental to wheat crops.

The spring sowing has made favourable progress in Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Great Britain, Italy, Roumania, and Japan, but delay has occurred in Spain, Ireland, and

Czecho-Slovakia.

Turning to the southern hemisphere, we note that the maize crop in Argentina is 5.9 million metric tons, indicating a decrease of 11 per cent. as compared with that of last season, but an increase of 21 per cent. over the average of the preceding five years.
Including the yield of this important country and other

maize crops of the southern hemisphere, we find the aggregate world production of maize to be 94.8 millions tons— 9 per cent. above that of last season, and 15 per cent. over the average.

Statistics of live stock in Germany show an increase during 1920 of 3 per cent. in the number of cattle, 15 per cent. in sheep, and 34 per cent. in pigs, while there also are additions of 16 per cent. to the number of cattle in Belgium, and 27 per cent. to that of pigs.

RECENT OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS.

Publications relating to Commerce, Industry, etc., recently issued by various Government Departments. To be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2, and Branches. (Post-free prices are in parentheses.)

Business Premises. Index to Report from the Select Committee on H.C. 237.—Ind. (5\frac{1}{2}\text{d.})
Factory Form No. 56. February, 1921. (New edition.) (4d.)
Factory Forn No. 57. February, 1921. (4d.)
Ministry of Transport. Memorandum on Railways Bill. (Cmd. 1292.) (3d.)
Ministry of Transport. Railway Statistics. No. 15. Particulars of passenger train traffic. Tonnage of Freight Traffic carried, and Statistics of Operation. etc., for the month of February, 1921. (1s. 8d.)
National Expenditure. Index to the Reports from the Select Committee on. Session 1920. II.C. 100, 113, 138, 150, 172, 183, 209, 248.—Ind. (3d.)

on. Session 1920. H.C. 100, 118, 138, 150, 172, 183, 209, 248.—Ind. (3d.)
National Health Insurance Joint Committee. Report of the Departmental Committee on Approved Societies' Administration Allowance. (Cmd. 1291). (44d.)
Notes from the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh. January, 1921. Vol. XII. Number LX. (2s. 2d.)
Peace Handbooks. Vol. XX. Spanish and Italian Possessions in Africa. Independent States. (15s. 6d.)
Port of London Authority. Copy of Eleventh Annual Report of the Port of London Authority, for the year ended 31st March. 1920. Hcl. 195. (54d.)
Post Office Engineering Department. Technical Pamphlets for Workmen:—Automatic Telephone Systems. (7d.)
C.B. Exchanges. 40 volts. (7d.)
C.B. Exchanges. 40 volts. (7d.)
C.B. Exchanges. 40 volts. (7d.)
Heating Systems. (7d.)
Private Branch Exchanges. Magneto. (7d.)
Routine Testing for Telephone Exchanges. (7d.)
Subscribers' Apparatus C.B.S. (7d.)
Subscribers' Apparatus C.B.S. (7d.)
Sechical Common Battery System. (7d.)
Technical Terms. (7d.)

^{*} Including 344 bales British West Indian, 11,863 bales British West African, † Including 2,444 bales British West Indian, 11,863 bales British West African, 4,249 bales British East African, and 1,455 bales Foreign East African.

British Chambers of Commerce in Certain Foreign Countries.

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

- Argentina.—British Chamber of Commerce for the Argentine Republic (Inc.), Calle Reconquista 46, Buenos Aires. British Chamber of Commerce in Rosario (affiliated to the above), c o British Consulate, Rosario.
- Austria.—British Chamber of Commerce in Austria. Karntnerstrasse 41, Vienna 1.
- Belgium.—British Chamber of Conunerce in Belgium (Incorp.), 2, Rue de la Bourse, Brussels.
- Bolivia.—British Chamber of Commerce in Bolivia, Correo Casilla 84a, La Paz. Branch at Oruro.
- Brazil.—British Chamber of Commerce in Brazil (Inc.), 51/53, Avenida Rio Branco, Rio de Janeiro. graphie address, "Chambrit, Rio de Janeiro."

(Representative in London-Mr. F. W. Perkins, c/o Messrs. Norton, Megaw and Co. 36, Lime Street, London, E.C. 3.) Ltd.,

Baliia Branch.—c/o British Consulate, Bahia.

Pernambuco Branch.—P.O. Box 46, Pernambuco.

Pará Branch.-P.O. Box 47, Pará.

British Chamber of Commerce of São Paulo and Southern Brazil. 20, Rua 15 de Novembro, São Paulo. (Telegraphic address, "Britchamb, São Paulo.")

(Representative in London.-Mr. T. Johnson, 6, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C. 2.)

Santos Branch.—25, Rua Santo Antonio, Santos.

Porto Alegre Branch.—215, Rua dos Andradas, Porto Alegre.

- Bulgaria.—British Chamber of Commerce (Turkey and Balkan States), Solun Street 19, Sofia.
- Chile.—British Chamber of Commerce in the Republic of Chile (Inc.), Calle Cochrane 741 (Casilla 329), Valparaiso.

China.

Shanghai British Chamber of Commerce, 1, The Bund,

Amoy British Chamber of Commerce, Amoy. Canton British Chamber of Commerce, Canton. Changsha British Chamber of Commerce, Changsha. Chefoo British Chamber of Commerce, Chefoo.

Chinkiang British Chamber of Commerce, Chinkiang. Chungking British Chamber of Commerce, Chungking.

Foochow British Chamber of Commerce, Foochow. Hankow British Chamber of Commerce, British Municipal Council Buildings, Hankow.

Harbin British Chamber of Commerce, Harbin. Mukden British Chamber of Commerce, c/o British

Consulate-General, Mukden.
Newchwang British Chamber of Commerce, c/o British Consulate, Newehwang.

Peking British Chamber of Commerce, Culty Chambers, Peking.

Swatow British Chamber of Commerce, Swatow. Tientsin British Chamber of Commerce, Tientsin. Tsinanfu British Chamber of Commerce, Tsinanfu.

- Egypt.—British Chamber of Commerce of Egypt, 6. Rue de l'Ancienne Bourse, Alexandria, and Savoy Chambers, Cairo.
 - (Agents in London.-Messrs. Back and Manson, Egypt House, 36, New Broad Street, E.C. 2.)
- France. -- British Chamber of Commerce, France (Incorp.), 6, Rue Halévy, Paris IXème.
 - (Correspondents in all the principal towns of France. Commercial Representative in France of the Commonwealth of Australia.)

France (continued).

British Chamber of Commerce for the French Riviera and Principality of Monaco, 4, Avenue Massena,

British Chamber of Commerce (Inc.), Marseilles, 2, Rue Beauvau.

- Germany (Occupied Territory).—British Chamber of Commerce in Germany, 100, Hohestrasse, Cologne.
- Greece.—British Chamber of Commerce, 7, St. Theodore's Square, Athens.
- Italy.—British Chamber of Commerce for Italy (Inc.), 3. Via Orifiei, Genoa (with Sample Show Rooms for British goods).

Branches-

238, Via Sicilia, Rome. 12, Via Silvio Pellico, Milan. Scali d'Azeglio 3 p. p., Leghorn. Via A Depretis, 31, Naples. Piazza dell Unità, No. 6, Trieste.

- Madagascar.—British Chamber of Commerce, Antananarivo.
- Mesopotamia.—British Chamber of Commerce, Bagdad.
- Morocco.-British Chamber of Commerce for Morocco, Tangier.
- Persia.--British Chamber of Commerce, Bushire. British Chamber of Commerce, Mohammerah.
- Persian Gulf.—Basrah British Chamber of Commerce, c/o. Eastern Bank, Basrah.
- Portugal.—British Chamber of Commerce in Portugal (Inc.), 4, Rua Vietor Cordon, Lisbon. (Telegraphic address, "Briteham, Lisbon.")

Branches-

39, Rua do Choupelo, Vila Nova de Gaia, Oporto. 81, Rua dos Netos, Funchal, Madeira.

- Roumania.—British Chamber of Commerce in Roumania (in course of formation), 12, Strada Vasile-Boerescu.
- Serbia.-See Turkey.
- Spain.—British Chamber of Commerce for Spain, Rambla de los Estadios, 8, Barcelona. (Telegraphic address, "Britcom, Barcelona.")
 - Branch.—Calle Marqués de Cubas, 9, Madrid. (Delegates at Cartagena, Valencia, and Canary
- Switzerland.—British Chamber of Commerce in Switzerland (Inc.), 20, Rittergasse, Basle.
 - Branch-3, Place St. Francois, Lausanne.
- Tunis.—British Chamber of Commerce, Rus Es-Sadikia, 35,
- Turkey.—British Chamber of Commerce of Turkey and the Balkan States (Inc.), 34, 35, Buyuk Tunnel Han Galata, Constantinople.
 - Branch Secretaries in Belgrade, Bucharest and Sofia.
- United States of America.—British Empire Chamber of Commerce in the United States of America, 165, Broadway, New York City.
- Uruguay .- British Chamber of Commerce in Uruguay, Calle Rincón, 508, Montevideo. (Postal address, Casilla de Correo 465.)
- N.B.—Some of these Chambers issue periodically a Journal or Annual Report, which may be inspected at the Department of Overseas Trade (Development and Intelligence), 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

