

April 9, 1914.]

THE BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.

(Crown Copyright Reserved.)

*Extracts may be published if the
source is duly acknowledged.*



THE
Board of Trade
Journal.

VOLUME LXXXIV.

January to March, 1914.

LONDON :

PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE

By JAS. TRUSCOTT & SON, LIMITED, SUFFOLK LANE, E.C.

1914.

THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LXXXIV.]

January 1, 1914.

[No. 892

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.—registered telegraphic address, "Advantage, Stock, London;" Code, 5th Edition A.B.C.; telephone number, Central 12807. A statement of the objects and work of the Branch will be found on p. 53.

Attention is called to the **Sample Room** at the above address, and in particular to the following samples:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
Paper—Bulgarian Contract offering	1st Jan., 1914	10
Leather Belting Austrian enquiry	18th Dec., 1913	619
Twine and Wrapping Paper—Montreal enquiry	11th " "	549
Foreign Earthenware. China and Glass sold in South Africa: { Special samples forwarded by H.M. Trade Commissioner }	4th " "	504
" Kieselguhr " from Chile	" " "	530
Tarpaulin Canvas—Australian (Victoria) Contract offering ...	20th Nov., "	384
Vegetable Wax from Bolivia	" " "	423
Raw Fibre prepared in Argentina from Flax Straw, and material woven therefrom	6th " "	292
Lead Foil, for packing tea—Batoum Enquiry	9th Oct., "	59
Coal from Erzeroum	18th Sept., "	704
Silk Cocoons of 1913 Crop from Persia	11th " "	648
Raw Cotton from Hayti	31st July, "	289
Braid made in Japan of Cotton and of Artificial Silk	24th " "	227
Foreign Hardware sold in New Zealand	17th " "	137
Beans, Peas, &c. from the Hokkaido	12th June, "	688

Attention is called to the following notices:—

	Page.
Work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch	53
Register of firms in the United Kingdom who may desire to receive Confidential Information relative to openings for trade	14
List of Trade Commissioners in the Self-Governing Dominions	53
List of Trade Enquiry Offices in London of the Self-Governing Dominions	54
List of British Chambers of Commerce in Foreign Countries	54
List of the more important Articles on trade subjects contained in Foreign and Colonial Publications, &c. received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch	49

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE. CANADA.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for Canada (Mr. C. Hamilton Wickes) reports that tenders are invited by the Canadian **Submarine Cables.** Department of Public Works for the supply of 10 knots (about 20,260 yards) of gutta-percha telegraph cable with four conductors, and 14 knots (about 28,370

Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

yards) of gutta-percha telegraph cable with two conductors, to be delivered at Halifax, N.S., or St. John, N.B., by 1st May next. Sealed tenders, marked "Tender for Submarine Cables," and accompanied by an accepted cheque* equal to 10 per cent. of the value of the offer, will be received, up to 4 p.m. on 15th January, by the Secretary, Department of Public Works, Ottawa, whence copies of the form of tender, &c. may be obtained.

A copy of the specification and form of tender (which are typewritten and only cover one page each) may be seen by United Kingdom makers of submarine cables at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where also copies of the documents mentioned can be made.

(27,283.)

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

Two companies have been incorporated in Ontario for the manufacture of bricks and tiles. See Note †.

Brick and Tile Works Plant.

(27,363.)

A company has been formed in Quebec, with a capital of 500,000 dols. (about £102,700), for the exploitation of waterfalls and the generation and transmission of power for lighting, heating and other purposes.

It is stated that the company has already ordered one water-wheel, and a generator and switchboard. See Note †.

(27,359.)

Note †.—The names of the companies to which the two foregoing notices relate may be obtained by United Kingdom manufacturers desirous of supplying plant, &c. on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for Canada reports that a company in Montreal wishes to get into touch with United Kingdom manufacturers of solid metal window sashes and frames, and also fireproof roof glazing materials.

Metal Window Sashes and Frames; Fireproof Roof Glazing Materials.

The name and address of the company may be obtained by United Kingdom manufacturers of these goods on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above. Any further communications regarding the enquiry should be addressed to H.M. Trade Commissioner, 3, Beaver Hall Square, Montreal.

(26,984.)

* An accepted cheque is one whose payment has been provided for by the bank on which it is drawn having transferred the amount from the account of the drawer and marked the cheque either "accepted" or "certified."

Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—continued.

H.M. Trade Commissioner also reports that he has received an enquiry from a Canadian firm for the names of United Kingdom manufacturers of iron and brass cabinet and furniture locks. Communications in this connection, accompanied by catalogues in duplicate and names of agents (if any) in the Dominion, should be addressed to H.M. Trade Commissioner, 3, Beaver Hall Square, Montreal.

(27,248.)

A United Kingdom firm manufacturing paint brushes, saddlery brushes, domestic brushes, &c. wishes to appoint agents having established connections in allied goods, or able to influence business for Canadian territory. Communications in this connection should be addressed to the Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Birmingham.

(27,277.)

AUSTRALIA.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for Australia (Mr. G. T. Milne) reports that tenders will be received at the office of the Deputy Postmaster-General, Melbourne, up to 3 p.m. on 17th February, for the supply and delivery of 1,330 *protected cable boxes* (Schedule No. 986). See *Note*†.

(26,972.)

The Imperial Trade Correspondent at Adelaide (Mr. J. K. Samuel) reports that tenders will be received at the office of the Deputy Postmaster-General, Adelaide, up to noon on 11th February, for the supply and delivery of 50 pole cable terminals (Schedule No. 308). See *Note*†.

(26,971.)

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

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

H.M. Trade Commissioner for Australia reports that tenders will be received by the Victorian Railways Commissioners, as follows:—

Lubricators ;
Felt Blocks ;
Sodium Acetate ;
Pig Iron ;
Galvanised Wire.

(1) Up to 11 a.m. on 4th February*, for the supply and delivery of 25 *five-feed lubricators* for locomotives, including automatic chest plugs and control valve.

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

Openings for British Trade.

AUSTRALIA—continued.

(2) Up to 11 a.m. on 4th February*, for the supply and delivery of 1,500 *felt body blocks* for extended cars.

(3) Up to 11 a.m. on 11th February*, for the supply and delivery of 10 tons of *sodium acetate* (commercial) for the maintenance of footwarmers.

(4) Up to 11 a.m. on 18th February*, for the supply and delivery of 50 tons of *pig iron*.

(5) Up to 11 a.m. on 25th February*, for the supply and delivery of 20 tons of *galvanised telegraph wire*.

Sealed tenders should be addressed to the Secretary, Victorian Railways Offices, Spencer Street, Melbourne, from whom copies of the specifications, drawings, and forms of tender may be obtained. A deposit of £1 is required in the case of (5), and of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value of the offer in the case of each of the other contracts. Local representation is necessary.

Copies of the specifications, forms of tender, &c. may be seen by United Kingdom makers of the above-mentioned goods at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (27,346.)

H.M. Trade Commissioner also reports, under date 25th November, that tenders are invited by the Railway and Tramway Construction Branch of the Department of Public Works of New South Wales for the manufacture, supply and delivery of 14,000 tons of steel rails and 800 tons of fishplates.

Tenders, made out on the proper forms, should be addressed to the President of the Tender Board, Department of Public Works, Sydney, New South Wales. No date for the receipt of tenders was announced at the time of writing. A preliminary deposit of £10 is required for tenders of from £500 up to £1,000, and of 1 per cent. of the value of the offer in the case of tenders of £1,000 and over; the maximum deposit to be £500.

Drawings and specifications, &c. may be obtained from the Contractor's Room, Public Works Department, Sydney, New South Wales. A copy of the specification, conditions and form of tender, together with drawings, may be seen by United Kingdom makers of rails and fishplates at the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above. (27,350.)

H.M. Trade Commissioner further reports that tenders are invited by the New South Wales Government Railways and Tramways Department for the supply and delivery to the tramway sub-stations at Sydney of five 1,000 k.w. rotary converters, fifteen 365 k.w. single-phase transformers, four blower sets, and accessories. Tenders made out on the proper form, and accompanied by full specifications, descriptions, drawings, &c., will be received by the Chief Commissioner for Railways and Tramways, Phillip Street,

* See Note at foot of preceding page.

*Openings for British Trade.***AUSTRALIA**—*continued.*

Sydney, N.S.W., up to noon on 25th March. Tenders must also be accompanied by a deposit on the following scale:—£5 for tenders not exceeding £200; £10 for tenders over £200 but not exceeding £500; £15 for tenders over £500 but not exceeding £1,000; £20 for tenders over £1,000 but not exceeding £2,000; and 1 per cent. of the value of the offer if above £2,000. *Local representation is necessary.*

Copies of the specification, conditions and form of tender may be obtained* from the office of the Electrical Engineer, New South Wales Government Railways and Tramways, 61, Hunter Street, Sydney, N.S.W., on payment of 10s. each. A copy may be seen by United Kingdom makers of electrical power plant at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

(27,347.)

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade is notified that tenders on the proper forms will be

Weighbridges. received by the Chairman of the Supply and Tender Board, Adelaide, South Australia, up to

3 p.m. on 13th January* for the supply of five weighbridges, each of 30 tons capacity, for a 3 ft 6 in. gauge railway.

Copies of the specification and form of tender may be obtained at a cost of 2s. 6d from the Supply and Tender Board Office, Adelaide. A copy of the specification may be seen at the office of the South Australian Inspecting Engineer in London, Mr. S. A. Strickland, 85, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

NEW ZEALAND.

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

Electric Power Station Plant.

reports that the Feilding Borough Council invites tenders for plant for the municipal electric power station. The contract includes the supply and erection of 2 Diesel oil engines, 2 alternating current generators with exciters, &c., a switchboard, 2 fuel storage tanks of 100 galls. capacity each, a 10-ton bulk oil tank, a travelling crane, a cooling tower and tank, &c. The plant will be used to generate alternating current at 2,400 volts, single phase, 50 periods.

Tenders, made out on the proper form, and marked "Tender for Power House Plant" will be received, up to 30th January,* by the Town Clerk, Feilding, New Zealand, from whom copies of the form of tender and further particulars may be obtained. *A cheque for £100 on a bank in Wellington must accompany each tender. Local representation is necessary.*

A copy of the specification, conditions, &c. may be seen by United Kingdom makers of electric power plant at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

(26,979.)

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

Openings for British Trade.

NEW ZEALAND—*continued.*

The Imperial Trade Correspondent at Auckland (Mr. A. J. Denniston) reports that the Auckland City Council is calling for tenders for the supply and erection of a high-lift centrifugal pump coupled direct to a direct-current motor. The pump must be capable of delivering 45,000 gallons of water an hour against a vertical head of 180 feet. Tenders, accompanied by a cash deposit of £25 and a full description and sectional drawings of the pump, will be received, up to 4 p.m. on 6th March, by the Town Clerk, Auckland, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

The Trade Correspondent adds that tenders are not being called for outside Australasia, but United Kingdom makers can tender through local firms.*

A copy of the specification and conditions of tender may be seen by United Kingdom makers of pumping plant at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (27,360.)

In connection with the notice on pp. 282-3 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th May, 1913, relative to hydro-electric and water supply schemes in the Whangarei district, the Imperial Trade Correspondent at Auckland reports that, according to the local press, the Borough Council of Whangarei has decided to take a poll of the ratepayers for permission to raise loans of £38,000 for an auxiliary water supply and £13,000 for an electric power and lighting scheme. For the water supply it is proposed to utilise a number of springs in the Mauni district with a flow of 1,500,000 gallons daily, and to bring the water into the town by gravitation. (26,797.)

**Water Pipes;
Electric
Lighting and
Power Plant.**

SOUTH AFRICA.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for South Africa (Sir R. Sothorn Holland) reports that tenders for the supply and delivery of 1,300 corrugated steel pale tree guards, required by the Johannesburg Municipal Council, will be received, up to 30th January, by the Town Clerk, Municipal Offices, Plein Square, Johannesburg, from whom copies of the specification and form of tender may be obtained.† The tree guards may either be of the pattern on view at the Municipal Offices, or of the tenderer's own design; in the latter case, drawings and full particulars of the alternative styles must accompany the tender.

A copy of the specification, conditions and form of tender may be seen by United Kingdom makers of tree guards at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (27,047.)

* In case of need, makers in the United Kingdom should apply to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for names of likely agents.

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

Openings for British Trade.

SOUTH AFRICA—*continued.*

H.M. Trade Commissioner also reports that the Municipality of Ficksburg, Orange Free State, has sanctioned the expenditure of £15,000 on the following works:—*Electric lighting system*, £8,000; *street improvements*, £4,750; *Town Hall improvements*, £1,050; *water works extension*, £1,000; *fencing*, £200. (27,048.)

EGYPT.

H.M. Consul at Cairo (Mr. A. D. Alban) reports that alternative tenders* are invited by the Egyptian State Railways and Telegraphs Administration for the supply of 600 impermeable tarpaulins required for the year 1914, or 1,800 for the years 1914-16.

Tarpaulins.

Tenders, accompanied by samples, will be received by the General Manager, Egyptian State Railways and Telegraphs, Cairo, up to 10 a.m. on 12th February. *A deposit of 2 per cent. or a bank guarantee of 10 per cent. of the value of one year's supply is required to qualify any tender.*

Copies of the *cahier des charges* may be obtained, on payment of 4s. each, from Sir A. L. Webb, K.C.M.G., Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W., where standard samples can be inspected.

A copy of the specification and form of tender may be seen by United Kingdom manufacturers of tarpaulins at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (27,129.)

RUSSIA.

With reference to the notice on pp. 9-10 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd October relative to the authorisation of a loan for Perm (among other places), H.M. Embassy at St. Petersburg reports that, according to the official "Bulletin of Laws," part of the loan of £370,000 to be raised by the Perm Municipal Authorities is to be spent as follows:—*Drainage* £100,500; *extension of water supply* £21,700; *electric tramways* £116,400; *extension of electric station and lighting system* £50,800; and *re-organisation of telephone system* £8,000.

As usual with work paid for by municipal loans in Russia, preference is to be given to Russian factories and works, and foreign material may only be purchased with the special sanction of the Minister for

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

Openings for British Trade.

RUSSIA—continued.

the Interior, acting in agreement with the Minister of Commerce and Industry. *Although the contracts may go to local firms it does not follow that opportunities for the sale of plant and supplies from outside Russia will not occur.* (C. 9,514.)

The "Pravitelstvennei Vyestnik" (St. Petersburg) of 14th December contains an article on the growth of the importance of Nicolaiev harbour during the past few years, and the consequent need for harbour extensions in order to keep abreast of developments. The proposals put forward include the lengthening of the wharves, dredging, &c., the total cost of which is estimated at 1,780,000 roubles (about £188,000). The work will take 2½ to 3 years to complete.

**Harbour and
Dredging Work.**

of Nicolaiev harbour during the past few years, and the consequent need for harbour extensions in order

to keep abreast of developments. The proposals put forward include the lengthening of the wharves, dredging, &c., the total cost of which is estimated at 1,780,000 roubles (about £188,000). The work will take 2½ to 3 years to complete.

RUSSIA (SIBERIA).

The "Torgovo-Promyshlennaya Gazeta" (St. Petersburg) of 14th December states that a meeting was recently held by the Bourse Committee at Omsk on the subject of the expediency of providing cold storage wagons and warehouses on Russian railways with the object of extending the trade in perishable goods. A similar Committee in Siberia has already had the matter under discussion and reported favourably on the proposals brought forward. The scheme comprises the erection of cold storage warehouses at Chelyabinsk, with a capacity of 40,000 pounds; Kurgan, 100,000 pounds; Petropavlovsk, 70,000 pounds; Omsk, 100,000 pounds; Novo-Nicolaiev, 100,000 pounds; and, in conjunction with the Altai Railway, at Barnaul, 100,000 pounds, Biesk, 50,000 pounds, and Semipalatinsk, 15,000 pounds.

1,000 pounds = 16 tons (about).

RUSSIA (FINLAND).

**Hydro-electric Plant.
Canal Works Plant.**

See notice on p. 41.

NORWAY.

The British Vice-Consul at Bergen (Mr. D. F. S. Filliter) reports that the local Health Authorities are about to request the Town Council of Bergen to grant a sum of 13,000 kroner (about £720) for the purchase of a motor ambulance van, with accessories, and for the erection of a garage.

The address to which communications should be sent may be obtained by United Kingdom manufacturers of motor vehicles on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (27,272.)

Openings for British Trade.

FRANCE.

The "Journal Officiel" (Paris) of 29th December publishes a decree granting to the town of Versailles powers to contract a loan of 2,100,000 francs (£84,000) to defray the expenses connected with the enlargement of the Versailles-Chantiers station.

**Railway Station
Material.**

SWITZERLAND.

The "Feuille Fédérale Suisse" (Berne) of 24th December contains a Decree granting to Mr. A. Schräml-Bücher, or to any syndicate which he may elect to form, a concession for the construction and working of an electric funicular railway from the highway between Halden and Lucerne to the Montana Hotel. The cost of the undertaking is estimated at 250,000 francs (£10,000).

**Electric
Funicular
Railway Material.**

ITALY.

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" (Rome) of 23rd December notifies that tenders are invited for the laying of water mains for the purpose of bringing drinking water from the Niello Springs into the village of Lauria. The upset price is put at 270,500 lire (£10,820). Tenders, which will be opened on 30th January, should be addressed "Al Signor Prefetto Commissario Civile, R. Prefettura di Potenza," Potenza.

Although this contract will in all probability be awarded to an Italian firm, nevertheless the carrying out of the work may involve the purchase of some materials outside Italy.

The "Gazzetta" of 19th December publishes a decree confirming the contract arranged with the "Società Anonima Nord-Milano," Milan, for (1) duplicating the railway line from Bovisa to San Pietro Martire, (2) laying a third track between the stations of Bovisa and Affori, and (3) increasing the rolling stock for the line from Milan to Incino and Erbe.

The same issue of the "Gazzetta" contains another decree granting to the above-mentioned company a concession for constructing and working a railway from Erba to Asso *via* Canzo.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) of 20th December states, on the authority of the Belgian Consul-General at Milan, that the Italian Government has decided to proceed with the re-construction of public buildings in Messina. The Government has already approved of the plans for the re-construction of the Palace of Justice and the Treasury, the cost of which is estimated at 2,300,000 lire and 570,000 lire respectively. The buildings already in course of construction and the estimated cost of same are as follows:—Custom House, 1,050,000 lire; Post Office, 1,250,000 lire; and Police Station, 1,200,000 lire. Works for the construction of the Municipal Offices, Provincial Offices and the Education

**Building
Materials.**

Openings for British Trade.

ITALY—*continued.*

Offices will be put out to contract during the course of 1914. It has also been decided to erect dwelling-houses for the use of people in the employ of the Government, the cost of which is estimated at 4,115,000 lire. The report of the Consul-General concludes by stating that at present the city of Messina presents a very good market for building materials of all kinds.

25 lire = £1.

MONTENEGRO.

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Cetinje reports that sealed tenders for the supply of various steel tools and implements, including *spades, shovels, rakes, pickaxes, axes, &c.*, will be received, up to 11 a.m. on 25th January, at the "Section des Travaux Publics et des Communications du Ministère Royal des Finances et des Travaux Publics," Cetinje, where further particulars may be *obtained*, and where patterns may be seen. *A deposit of 20 per cent. of the value of the offer must accompany each tender sent in by a foreign firm.* Local representation is recommended.

A copy of the call for tenders (in French) may be *seen* by United Kingdom makers of these articles at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

(27,369.)

BULGARIA.

H.M. Vice-Consul at Sofia (Mr. W. B. Heard) reports that tenders for the supply of 648,000 kilogs. of paper required by the Government Printing Office will be received, up to 12th January, at the "Direction Financière du District de Sofia," Sofia. The upset price of the contract is placed at 288,800 frs. (£11,552).

A copy of the conditions of tender (in Bulgarian), together with samples of the papers required, may be *seen* by paper makers in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

Local representation is necessary. A list of agents established at Sofia may be obtained by United Kingdom manufacturers on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch.

(27,412.)

ROUMANIA.

The "Monitor Oficial" (Bucharest) of 25th December publishes a decree authorising the Ministry of Finance to arrange for a loan of 50,000,000 lei (£2,000,000) to defray the expenses connected with an extensive scheme for building primary schools in the country districts of Roumania.

**School Building
and Furnishing
Materials.**

Openings for British Trade.

ROUMANIA—continued.

The Acting British Vice-Consul at Braila (Mr. J. Pitts) reports that a gentleman who was for 11 years with a firm in that city has now come to London in order to trade as an agent between the United Kingdom and Roumania and would like to get into communication with United Kingdom firms desirous of appointing such an agent.

Commercial Enquiry.

The name and address of the applicant can be obtained by United Kingdom firms on enquiring at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. Any further communication regarding the enquiry should be addressed to the British Vice-Consulate, Braila. (27,148.)

CRETE.

H.M. Vice-Consul at Canea (Mr. E. C. D. Rawlins) reports that tenders are invited by the Cretan Government for the supply of three motor stone-crushers. Sealed tenders, in two envelopes, the inner marked "Offre pour la fourniture de trois concasseurs auto-moteurs et automobiles," and the outer addressed to the "Direction des Travaux Publics de l'Île de Crète," Canea, will be received there up to 5 p.m. on 9th February. *Local representation is necessary. Each tender must be accompanied by a certificate proving the deposit of 3,000 frs. (£120) in the Bank of Crete or some other public bank in Crete.* The stone-crushers will be admitted into Crete free of customs duty.

A limited number of copies of the official Cretan "Gazette," containing further particulars of the machines required and the conditions of tender (in French), may be obtained by United Kingdom manufacturers of stone-crushers on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (27,275.)

TURKEY-IN-ASIA.

H.M. Consul at Trebizond (Mr. H. E. Satow) reports that sealed tenders will be received by the Trebizond Municipality, up to 14th March, for a 40 years' concession for the electric lighting of that town. The total power of the lamps for lighting the streets, which cover a total length of 20 kiloms. (about 12 miles), is to be not less than 40,000 candle power. *A deposit of £ T. 500 (£450) will be required to qualify any tender.*

H.M. Consul adds that the population of the town is estimated at some 50,000 to 60,000, which, at the computation of five persons to a house, would mean about 10,000 to 12,000 houses, the majority of which are inhabited by the poorer classes; this point, taken into consideration with the fact that most of the shops, as well as the Municipal offices and schools, are closed by sunset, seems to raise ground for doubt as to whether at the present moment electric lighting in Trebizond would be a paying proposition. If, however, the enterprise is undertaken, water power would doubtless be obtained from the Deirmen River, which enters the sea about $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile to the east of the town.

Openings for British Trade.

TURKEY-IN-ASIA—continued.

An English translation of the conditions of tender, forwarded by H.M. Consul, may be seen by United Kingdom electrical contractors and manufacturers of electric lighting plant at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (26,913.)

Articles in Demand at Smyrna. See article on pp. 22-4.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

H.M. Consul-General at New York (Mr. C. W. Bennett, C.I.E.) reports that a company in that city desires to purchase direct from, or to represent, United Kingdom manufacturers of *circular machine knives; other machine knives of every description; cigarette and meat knives; band and circular saws; hand saws; and circular machine metal saws.* See Note †. (27,035.)

H.M. Consul-General also reports that a firm in New York wishes to obtain the names of United Kingdom manufacturers of *sailors' sweaters and jerseys*, such as are supplied to the large steamship companies. See Note †. (27,036.)

H.M. Consul-General further reports that a firm in New York wishes to get into communication with United Kingdom exporters of *arnica flowers, Calabar bean, dandelion root, lily of the valley root, belladonna leaves, colchicum root ergot, stramonium leaves, sarsaparilla root (Mexican), buchu, digitalis, gentian, and henbane.* See Note †. (27,536.)

Note †.—The names and addresses of the enquirers may be obtained by United Kingdom manufacturers of the goods mentioned on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. Any further communications regarding the enquiries should be addressed to the British Consulate-General, New York.

H.M. Consul at Galveston (Mr. C. A. S. Perceval) reports that a firm of manufacturers' agents in Texas wishes to secure the representation of United Kingdom manufacturers of *iron and steel bars, bolts, nuts, rivets, structural shapes, steel plates and sheets, galvanised sheets, tin plate, track spikes and bolts, wire nails, and wire fencing.*

The name and address of the firm may be obtained by United Kingdom manufacturers of the above-mentioned articles on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. Any further communications regarding the enquiry should be addressed to the British Consulate, Galveston, Texas. (26,792.)

*Openings for British Trade.***HAYTI.**

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Port-au-Prince (Mr. J. Pyke) reports that the Administrator of Finance at Aux Cayes has called for tenders for the construction of a District Hall at that place; the estimated cost of the work is £2,600.

**Building
Material;
Re-inforced
Concrete.**

The Administrator of Finance at St. Marc is calling for tenders for the construction of a re-inforced concrete building for an Office of Finance at that place, at an estimated cost of £900.

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires adds that it is not probable that these contracts will be awarded to foreign (*i.e.*, non-Haytian) firms. Communications from United Kingdom firms desirous of supplying material to the successful contractors should be addressed to the Administrators at Aux Cayes and St. Marc, respectively. (26,916.)

With reference to the notice on p. 730 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 25th September last relative to a competition of plans for the construction of a Palace for the Senate at Port-au-Prince at a cost not exceeding 100,000 dols. (about £20,500),

**Material and
Fittings for
Senate House.**

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at that place reports that this competition was cancelled, but that a fresh competition, under the same conditions, will take place on 4th January. The work will most probably be entrusted to a local architect, but United Kingdom manufacturers desirous of supplying their fittings and accessories of all kinds may address communications to the British Legation, Port-au-Prince, marked "For the Architect of the Palace of the Senate." (26,941.)

ECUADOR.

The "Registro Oficial" (Quito) of 29th October contains a copy of a decree passed by the Ecuadorean Congress authorising the construction of a narrow-gauge railway line, starting from Babahoyo and proceeding by Pueblo Viejo to Ventanas. The raising of the necessary funds has been entrusted to the Municipal Treasury of the Canton of Pueblo Viejo, which has decided, with the consent of the Executive Authorities, to contract a loan of 600,000 sucres (£60,000). The Municipality of Pueblo Viejo is also commissioned to carry out the works, and to award contracts, etc., under the control, however, of the Public Works Department.

**Railway
Material.**

BRAZIL.

The "Diario Oficial" of 4th December publishes a Decree (No. 10,582) approving the plans and estimate of 2,635,935 milreis (about £180,000), to defray the expenses connected with repairing and relaying that section of the Bahia and Minas Railway which runs from Ponta da Areia to Presidente Bueno, as well as for the increase of rolling stock for the same section.

**Railway
Permanent Way
Material;
Rolling Stock.**

Openings for British Trade.

URUGUAY.

The "Diario Oficial" (Montevideo) of 2nd December states that tenders are invited for laying down water and drain pipes in the town of Colonia, including the necessary opening up of the roads for that purpose. Tenders, which will be opened on 17th February, should be addressed to the "Intendencia Municipal de la Colonia," Colonia, Uruguay, from which address further particulars can be *obtained*.

SIAM.

The following information is from the report by H.M. Vice-Consul at Bangkok (Mr. J. F. Johns) on the trade of that district for the year ended 31st March, 1913, which will shortly be issued:—

Some years ago the Siamese Government engaged an expert from Netherlands India to draw up a report for the irrigation of the Lower Menam Valley. The expenditure involved was, however, very large and the matter was dropped. The expenditure of the country has in the meanwhile grown steadily without any corresponding increase in the revenue. This fact, and probably also the smallness of the rice crops in two successive years, has caused the Government to reconsider the question of irrigation. For this purpose experts have been obtained from the Government of India, and a sum of 100,000 ticals (about £7,700) has been allotted in the 1913-14 Estimates for the preliminary expenses of investigating a suitable scheme of irrigation for the lower portion of the Menam Valley. It is hoped that a suitable spot for building a dam across the Menam will be found a little to the north of Ayuthia, and operations will probably be confined to the Monthons of Krung Kao and Krung Thep. They will, however, be so conducted as to admit of development in the future if required. The expenditure on the whole scheme will probably amount to between £2,000,000 and £3,000,000, and will be met by a loan.

OPENINGS IN ALL COUNTRIES.

Confidential Information.

Firms in the United Kingdom desirous of receiving confidential information as to opportunities for the extension abroad of those branches of trade in which they are specially interested, and as to other connected matters, may, upon application, have their names placed on a Special Register at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The confidential information communicated to firms so registered relates mainly to openings for British trade abroad, and is received from His Majesty's Consular Officers in Foreign Countries, from His Majesty's Trade Commissioners and the Imperial Trade Correspondents in the British Dominions, and from the Board of Trade

OPENINGS IN ALL COUNTRIES.

Confidential Information—*continued.*

Correspondents in the Crown Colonies, supplemented by information from other sources available to the Commercial Intelligence Branch.

Firms inscribed on the Register may indicate the particular lines of trade to which the information to be sent to them should relate, and a classified list of subjects is sent to all applicants for registration with this object. During 1912, 1,098 separate circulars were issued (to the number of 146,578 copies) to firms on the Special Register interested in the particular branches of trade to which the circulars related.

The great volume of information distributed under this system has rendered it necessary to make a small charge for the service *which includes the regular supply of the weekly "Board of Trade Journal,"* and accordingly firms whose names are inscribed on the Register are required to pay an annual fee of One Guinea to the Accountant-General of the Board of Trade, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W.

The "Journal" itself contains a large amount of information as to openings for British trade abroad and as to other matters of interest to British traders generally. Information published in it is not repeated by circular to firms whose names are on the Special Register; the confidential information communicated to the latter is confined to matters which, at the time, have not been published in the "Journal," or are not intended to be published at all.

Firms in the United Kingdom who wish to have their names inscribed on the Special Register should apply in writing to the Director of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the necessary form of application.

N.B.—Admission to the Register, and retention upon it, are at the discretion of the Board of Trade.

CONTINENTAL EARTHENWARE AND GLASSWARE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Exhibition of Samples at the Board of Trade.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade recently received from H.M. Trade Commissioner in South Africa (Sir R. Sothorn Holland) certain samples of Continental earthenware, china and glass, selling in the South African market. These samples, which were collected in order to give manufacturers in the United Kingdom an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the nature of the goods of foreign origin which sell in South Africa, are now available for inspection by United Kingdom manufacturers at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. Those manufacturers who have not already seen the samples at the offices of the North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce at Tunstall, may inspect them at this address, while those who have seen them and desire to make any statement, or to receive further information, regarding them are invited to do so.

The collection and exhibition of these samples by the Board of Trade is part of a general policy which was recently inaugurated of

Continental Earthenware and Glassware in South Africa.

placing before manufacturers here, actual samples of foreign goods which compete with United Kingdom goods in the Oversea Dominions, or the like of which made in the United Kingdom have not hitherto been sold in those Dominions, with full details as to prices, freights, customs duties, &c. Results show that these exhibitions have aroused considerable interest on the part of manufacturers here, and have also been of much practical value. (24,568.)

BRITISH TRADE WITH RHODESIA.

Visit to London of Imperial Trade Correspondent.

Mr. E. C. Baxter, Controller of Customs at Bulawayo, the Correspondent of the Board of Trade for Rhodesia, who is now on a visit to London, will attend at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., on 21st and 22nd January, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., and will be pleased to see British manufacturers and traders who may desire to consult him regarding trade conditions and openings in Rhodesia.

Applications for appointments with Mr. Baxter should be made promptly to the Director of the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above. (25,428.)

ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF CEREALS AND WINE IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES.

The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have received the following information from the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome:—

The total production of **cereals** in Germany and Austria is estimated as follows:—

Germany—

Wheat	...	91,623,000	cwts.,	or	6·8	per cent.	above	last
							year's	production.
Rye	...	240,519,000	„	„	5·4	per cent.	above	last
							year's	production.
Spring barley	...	72,284,000	„	„	5·5	per cent.	above	last
							year's	production.
Oats	...	191,157,000	„	„	14·0	per cent.	above	last
							year's	production.

Austria—

Wheat	...	31,939,000	cwts.,	or	14·4	per cent.	below	last
							year's	production.
Rye	...	53,221,000	„	„	9·1	per cent.	below	last
							year's	production.
Barley	...	34,443,000	„	„	2·6	per cent.	above	last
							year's	production.
Oats	...	52,694,000	„	„	10·2	per cent.	above	last
							year's	production.
Maize	...	6,647,000	„	„	13·1	per cent.	below	last
							year's	production.

Estimated Production of Cereals and Wine in Certain Countries.

The estimated production of **rice** in the United States is 10,341,000 cwts., or 28 per cent. *above* last year's production, and in Japan 140,485,000 cwts., or 0·3 per cent. below last year's production.

The production of **wine** in the following countries is estimated as 2,605,378,000 gallons, or 5·1 per cent. below last year's production:—Spain, France, Italy, Luxemburg, Roumania, Switzerland, Algeria and Tunis.

TRADE CONDITIONS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

GENERAL.

Roumania.—The “*Nachrichten für Handel*” (Berlin) of 18th December contains a report by the German Consul at Sofia on the trade outlook in the **districts newly acquired** by Roumania, from which the following is taken:—

Payments are said to be going on smoothly; the National Bank of Sofia has ceased doing business, but the larger Roumanian banks are active and the National Roumanian Bank has opened a branch in Dobritch. Although the Bulgarian Moratorium has ceased there is apparently still some difficulty in the settlement of debts. The demand for agricultural and industrial machinery will probably increase; it is, however, uncertain whether exemption from Customs duty of certain classes of machinery allowed by Bulgaria will be maintained.

* * * * *

Persia (Yezd).—The following information is from the report by the British Vice-Consul at Yezd (Mr. Blackman) on the trade of that district for the year ended 20th March, 1913, which will shortly be issued:—

The openings for British trade are apparently few. Many of the native merchants have offices in Bombay, and, in some cases, correspondents in the United Kingdom; moreover, there are always numbers of Parsees going to and coming from Bombay, who bring back anything at all on which there is the probability of a reasonable recompense for their pains. One or two English-speaking natives have lately taken to importing direct small trial consignments of sundries, tinned goods, cloth, &c. It should be noted that Yezd and its district are much behind the times, practically no machinery being used, and such common implements as pumps, carts and ploughs are unknown; tools of all sorts are in keeping with the workmen using them. While there is generally wind enough and to spare, only water mills of a primitive kind are used for grinding corn, notwithstanding the comparative scarcity of water; while for preventing animals straying on to growing crops it costs little to throw up a wall 30 inches high after the ground has been irrigated, which will last till the autumn. These are instances to show the improbability of a demand for expensive foreign machinery, iron railings and fencing, and other common needs of a civilised country. There is at present no demand for European fancy soaps, perfumes, &c. Enamelled ironware (principally Austro-Hungarian) and lately aluminium ware are sold in small quantities. It seems worthy of note that the extended use of artificial

Trade Conditions in Foreign Countries.

indigo followed on the visit of a travelling agent of one of the German chemical dye factories.

As has been noticeable for the last six or seven years, the anarchy on the Bunder Abbas road has curtailed trade by that route; moreover, constant robberies reduce the merchants' capital, the carriers' animals, and the purchasing power of the villagers. It should, however, be pointed out that the trade of other Western European nations is suffering in the same way as British. On account of the insecurity, heavy transport charges, the long delay of loads *en route*, and the lack of proper facilities for clearing and forwarding from the coast (firms who formerly undertook forwarding having given it up one by one, owing to the large amount of trouble now involved), ventures in British goods by English-speaking natives have not turned out so well as they might have done; but given a fair chance, it seems probable that many lines in which British trade has suffered would quickly recover themselves.

* * * * *

IRON AND STEEL.

Germany.—According to the "Börsen Zeitung" (Berlin) of 23rd December, the Upper Silesian metal sheet market was very unsatisfactory during the first half of December. Prices still remained low owing to the slackness in the home demand as well as to the falling-off in the export trade. Competition has also become keener on account of the opening of several new coarse sheet works. Moreover, customers have been exercising reserve, and in some instances works have been complaining of lack of work alike in respect of industrial sheet-iron and boiler plates. Business in iron plates for ships is also flat, and conditions in the fine plate trade are even worse. Exports to the Balkan countries were very poor.

(X. 5,027.)

* * * * *

Germany (Luxemburg).—The "Börsen Zeitung" (Berlin) of 20th December states that the slightly increased activity noticed at the beginning of December in the iron industry in Luxemburg has been maintained to some extent, though it is evident that the revival, such as it is, is merely due to efforts on the part of producers to complete outstanding orders. Apart from this, business is very flat. The industry passed through a rather serious crisis a short time ago, but though this is now over, the depression still continues, and there seem no lasting signs of renewed activity. During the last few months, the monthly production of pig-iron in the Lorraine-Luxemburg district has generally averaged about 540,000 metric tons, but during November only 508,607 metric tons were produced, and according to estimates, the production for December promises to be smaller still. Trade in oolitic iron ore is flat, but nevertheless the sales to other districts using the ore were normal and also there was no decline in the export to Belgium. It has been a well-known fact for some time that the mining industry has gradually become more and more depressed, and it will therefore not be surprising if the returns for December and the last quarter of the year do not reveal a still further decline.

(X. 5,072.)

* * * * *

*Trade Conditions in Foreign Countries.***TEXTILES.**

Germany.—The “*Börsen Zeitung*” (Berlin) of 27th December states that, contrasted with the spring and summer, very little change has taken place during the last quarter of 1913 in the German linen industry. Sales have been effected on something like normal lines, but prices have not been too remunerative. A decisive factor in favour of the German linen industry is a good and plentiful Russian flax crop, for the simple reason that German linen spinners depend almost entirely on Russian flax and tow as raw material, and a substantial supply of raw material at a reasonable cost is of primary importance. According to the reports to hand, the Russian flax crop will be somewhat less in quantity than last year's, but nothing definite is yet known. The better qualities of flax are somewhat rare, principally owing to the unfavourable summer weather for flax growing in Holland and Belgium. Flax spinners have been fairly busy during the past three months, and they also have a considerable number of orders on their books. Prices are firm. Linen weavers are also quite busy and the present outlook is encouraging. Prices are, however, not very remunerative, and competition is keen. (X. 5,073.)

* * * * *

France.—H.M. Consul at Lyons (Mr. E. R. E. Vicars) reports that the exports of silk goods from France during the first ten months of 1913 amounted in value to 354,076,000 frs. (£14,163,040), an increase of 80,834,000 frs. (£3,233,360) over the corresponding period of 1912. The bulk of the increase, which is mainly due to the heavy exports of tissues and ribbons of pure silk and to the general rise in the price of silk goods, stands to the credit of the United Kingdom, which purchased during the period January to October, 1913, goods to the value of 178,213,000 frs. (£7,128,520), exclusive of goods sent by parcel post. The exports to Belgium, the United States and Switzerland also showed substantial increases. On the other hand, the imports of silk goods into France have fallen off in value by over 2,000,000 frs. (£80,000) during the first ten months of 1913, as compared with the corresponding period of 1912.

Although the total amount of raw silk imported between January and October, 1913, exceeded that for the same months of the previous year, the increase in the quantity of raw silk exported during the period was so much larger than the increase in imports as to leave a smaller balance of the raw material in France. Moreover, the balance of imports of cocoons over exports was very markedly smaller than in either of the two previous years.

H.M. Consul adds that the shortage both of silk and cocoons, aggravated by a cocoon crop in France some 30 per cent. less than in 1912, is not only hard to reconcile with the striking growth in production, but has apparently exercised no beneficial effect on the raw silk market, which, after a period of comparative buoyancy, has lately been very flat and lifeless. This is ascribed to the temporising policy of manufacturers who, instead of making big forward contracts, content themselves with piecemeal purchases, just sufficient to meet their immediate wants. Consequently, silk merchants have to a great extent adopted the same policy, with the resultant lowness of stocks.

(C. 9,837.)

NOTICE TO BRITISH TRADERS WITH TURKEY.

Warning against Fraudulent Traders.

The following extract from the report by the Acting British Consul-General at Smyrna (Mr. C. E. Heathcote-Smith) on the trade of that district in 1912-13, which will shortly be issued, may be of interest in connection with the notice on pp. 661-2 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th March last, relative to the operations of the "Black Band":—

The year 1912-13 saw several exploits of the "Black Band" which for so many years past has operated from Smyrna and Constantinople, and found ready victims in every country with which it did business. Its methods are well known, but the caution given on previous occasions needs to be repeated. The various tricks of this swindling confraternity may be tabulated as follows:—

(1) Dealing honestly with one or two well-known firms and then giving them as references.

(2) Giving as references various bogus commercial enquiry offices.

(3) Giving each other as references and adopting false names, false addresses, &c.

(4) Forging bills of lading for goods ordered from Turkey, when payment or part payment on receipt of bill of lading has been agreed to.

(5) Sending stones, dirt, or other rubbish instead of opium, fruit, fine quality wool, or whatever may have been the goods ordered.

(6) When importing goods from the United Kingdom, &c., making a part payment on giving the order, and then, after receiving and selling the goods, when pressed for the remainder of the payment, forcing the foreign merchant's lawyer to accept say 20 per cent. rather than lose the whole amount by putting the swindler into bankruptcy, a proceeding which always results in finding that all the man's possessions have been long since transferred to others' names.

The British Chamber of Commerce of Smyrna has published the names of certain prominent members of the Black Band, and it seems largely due to its efforts that the Black Band somewhat neglected the United Kingdom in 1912.

IMPORT TRADE OF EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

According to the report for the year ended 31st March, 1913, by the Chief of Customs of the East Africa Protectorate, there was a marked improvement during that year in the commercial, financial and general situation in the Protectorate. This is in part due to the increasing prosperity shown by the record figures of exports. This prosperity among the natives can easily be seen from the increased consumption of cotton goods, beads, copper and brass wires, &c.

Land sales have been frequent and big prices have been obtained. Business in Nairobi, the capital, has been brisk. Firms at that place are extending their business premises considerably, and land is coming more and more under cultivation.

The relatively small number of failures in the Protectorate during 1912-13 is chiefly due to the fact that importing firms, though

Import Trade of East Africa Protectorate.

willing to grant credits, are exercising more caution than formerly. The import trade is now being transacted on a sounder basis, but improvement in this direction with Indian traders is difficult, and it would not be safe to overlook altogether the possibilities of failures.

The values of some of the more important articles of merchandise* imported into the East Africa Protectorate in the year ended 31st March, 1913, as compared with the two previous years, were as follows:—

	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.
	£	£	£
Cotton piece goods... ..	261,141	394,715	522,331
Apparel	25,065†	20,349	30,783
Provisions	77,351	76,878	95,600
Sugar	33,332	42,571	60,376
Grain and flour	80,654	100,903	115,437
Wine, beer, spirits, &c.	31,096	33,293	51,162
Tea	7,895	10,212	15,842
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	22,697	26,517	34,182
Kerosene oil	14,408	15,085	16,806
Beads	9,273	9,910	17,846
Brass and copper wares	26,303	18,763	26,404
Agricultural implements	29,265	27,438	35,419
Arms and ammunition	19,015	19,151	27,396
Building materials, including timber	40,173	52,603	124,089
Furniture	4,600	7,868	10,829
Bags and sacks	13,691	18,759	44,396
Cutlery and hardware	†	24,039	26,853
Iron and steel wares	†	13,191	28,100
Machinery	24,840	50,392	80,506
Soap	†	11,271	20,944
Vehicles	†	27,778	58,413
Other articles	277,184	245,574	364,629
Total imports of merchandise	997,983	1,247,260	1,808,343

‡ Including haberdashery.

† Not separately distinguished.

The imports of **cotton goods** into the Protectorate increased in 1912-13, as compared with the previous year, by 31 per cent. in value. In the entries of **firearms** and **ammunition** there was an increase of £8,245, owing to the increasing number of Europeans visiting and settling in the country. There was also an increase of 53 per cent. in the imports of **wine, beer and spirits**, whilst in **building materials** the increase was no less than 137 per cent. The growth of the imports of **agricultural implements, bags and sacks, machinery, vehicles, and iron and steel wares** is indicative of continued effort in the development of the agricultural and industrial resources of the country.

* Exclusive of imports on behalf of the East Africa and Uganda Administrations and for the construction of the Uganda Railway.

IMPORT TRADE OF SMYRNA.

The following information is from the report by the Acting British Consul-General at Smyrna (Mr. C. E. Heathcote-Smith) on the trade of that district in 1912-13, which will shortly be issued :—

Increased imports were mainly noticeable in coal, machine oil, petroleum, potash, tiles and bricks, tin, printed books, and coffee.

Decreases were general, but particularly remarkable in butter, cardboard, cheese, cloth (*abbas*), cotton manufactures and cotton yarns, dyes and colours, fancy goods, salt fish, furniture, glassware, raw hides, iron, iron plates and iron sheets, jute bags, lead and lead piping, leather, linen goods, ropes, safes, steel, timber and window frames.

As far as any general deduction is possible, the decreases show that Smyrna merchants recognised the necessity of buying only what was strictly necessary to tide over the period of war.

Account books.—These nearly all come from France, but United Kingdom manufacturers might study this item with profit.

Boots and shoes.—A small percentage is made locally, but in the last few years the United States have monopolised the market, which they exploited by wholesale advertising. The fashion for American boots is now giving way and footwear of United Kingdom manufacture is gaining favour.

Cheese.—Prices have ruled very high, and there would seem to be an opening for the cheaper Canadian cheeses.

China and earthenware.—Austro-Hungarian, German and French goods are found everywhere ; the excellent and cheap china of United Kingdom make is barely represented, except in toilet sets.

Manchester goods.—These articles form Smyrna's largest import, and the United Kingdom's most important export to Turkey. The total import in 1912 reached about £900,000 ; of this the United Kingdom supplied some 70 per cent., Italy some 17 per cent., and Belgium, France, Austria-Hungary, Germany, the United States, and Spain, &c., the remainder.

Grey shirting represents 65 per cent. of the imports of bleached and unbleached goods, and in these the United Kingdom is unassailable, though Italy, Austria-Hungary, the United States, Belgium and Spain also sell in the market. The tendency of prices was 10 per cent. higher than in previous years, and it is estimated that about 350,000 pieces of 24 to 40 yards were imported in 1912.

Cabots represent almost entirely the remaining 35 per cent. of bleached and unbleached goods, and are superseding Mexicans. The countries of origin are, in order of importance, the United Kingdom, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Spain and the United States. Italy is competing with considerable success against the United Kingdom. Practically all the bleached goods (*hassa*), are imported from the United Kingdom, and their consumption is on the whole extending as the wealth of the inhabitants develops.

In prints the United Kingdom holds 90 per cent. of the trade, and has even strengthened her position ; whilst in flannelettes, which are now important enough to represent 15 per cent. of the whole cotton goods import, the United Kingdom has only 5 per cent. of the trade, despite considerable efforts to secure a larger share. Italy is the most successful competitor, and then follow in order Germany, Austria-

Import Trade of Smyrna.

Hungary, Belgium, the Netherlands and Spain. Lace curtains and cotton quilts come from the United Kingdom, the former being a rapidly developing import. Printed and woven handkerchiefs are almost exclusively from the United Kingdom. Cotton underwear is supplied by Italy, France and Germany.

Cotton threads and yarns.—The imports average about £250,000. The higher counts from 16's to 24's are supplied by the United Kingdom, while the coarser yarns of 4's to 14's are mainly furnished from India. Ninety per cent. of the yarns imported are white and 10 per cent. coloured, but a fair proportion is dyed locally. Smyrna does not at present dye blue or red; the blue yarns are imported from the United Kingdom, and the reds from Austria-Hungary and Germany. Prices have ruled 10 per cent. higher.

Woollen goods.—These represent some 10 per cent. of all textiles imported. The fine dress goods are from France and Germany, while the coarse qualities (*abbas* or army cloth) come from Yorkshire. Nearly three-fourths of this army cloth is imported from the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Austria-Hungary supplying the remainder.

Ready-made clothes reach Smyrna from Austria-Hungary, but local competition (Jewish tailors) is now the chief source of supply. Woollen underwear is usually supplied by the United Kingdom.

Blankets reach Smyrna from Germany, Austria-Hungary, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, and are superseding the native *yoryhan*. These articles are also being made locally, mainly for the army.

Linen goods.—Very little business is done in these—100 tons in weight only—and prices were 20 per cent. higher than in previous years. Belgium secured the bulk of the trade.

Coal.—The war almost entirely stopped the importation of coal from Heraclea (Turkish coal from the Black Sea), and the year proved a good one for United Kingdom coal, which represents the major portion of the 74,000 tons imported in 1912. Prices ranged for Welsh coal at from £1 14s. to £4 a ton, and for North Country coal from £1 10s. to £2 5s. a ton, so great was the need. The Aidin Railway still uses British coal exclusively, but in normal times Turkish coal forms the bulk of the Smyrna import.

Drugs and chemicals.—The annual imports into Smyrna amount in value to about £100,000, of which Germany sends goods to the value of £60,000, France £20,000, and Italy and the United Kingdom £10,000 each. The United Kingdom's share tends to increase, particularly in patent medicines.

Furniture.—There is a steadily growing import in this article, despite the large quantity of furniture made locally. Austria-Hungary still supplies the greatest proportion of the chairs and suites, while the United States send the greater part of the office furniture, the demand for which increases.

Iron.—This is a large trade, iron and its manufactures such as rails, wire, sheets and nails, &c. reaching the big figure of nearly £200,000 in 1910. It is probable that the large item of £50,000 for rails was due to the railway extension, and was exceptional. Belgium is the principal supplier, followed by the United Kingdom and Germany.

Import Trade of Smyrna.

Leather.—The United Kingdom is scarcely represented in any section of the leather articles other than that of leather belting. Sole leather comes mainly from France, while the uppers, according to the leather used, are chiefly from France, Austria-Hungary or Germany. The total imports in 1910 (the last figures available) reached a value of nearly £60,000.

Machinery.—There is a continuous and increasing demand for plants for flour mills, while recently machinery has been required in connection with saw mills, a cloth factory, cotton spinning factory, cotton-seed oil extracting factory, and a new brewery. The United Kingdom supplied about 20 per cent. of this machinery. The total imports of machinery, including gas engines, agricultural machinery, &c., were valued at £100,000 in 1910.

Machine oil.—Whereas Smyrna only consumed an average of 350 tons some eight years ago, the import had nearly doubled (647 tons) in 1912. The United Kingdom was the chief supplier.

Paper.—Here again a remarkable increase testifies to the growing industry of the town. Austria-Hungary and France are the chief supplying countries, the United Kingdom being completely undersold, whether in cardboard, writing or wall paper.

Petroleum.—The consumption increases by leaps and bounds; it has risen from 17,000 tons in 1905 to nearly 34,000 tons in 1912. The American Standard Oil and the German-Roumanian Companies practically do the whole business.

Sewing machines.—These are proving very popular in Turkey, and find an easy sale, several kinds being on the market. Consumption rose from 50 tons weight in 1905 to 157 tons in 1912.

Sugar.—The import was valued at £333,000 in 1910, and was on the increase in the following year. There was a falling-off in 1912, partly due to the war.

Tea.—The import is growing but it is still a comparatively small one, representing some £14,000 in value and 180 tons in weight, as against a recorded import of 57 tons in 1905.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES IN 1909.

The following particulars of the production of agricultural implements in the United States during 1909, with comparative figures for the years 1904 and 1899, are extracted from the recently issued Bulletin of the United States Census of Manufactures for 1909:—

Product.	1899.	1904.	1909.
	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.
Implements of cultivation	98,010,506	30,607,960	35,246,030
Seeders and planters		11,225,122	13,679,921
Harvesting implements		30,862,435	34,568,131
Seed separators		6,639,883	11,030,412
All other products		30,703,618	48,690,082
Amount received for repair work	3,196,922	1,918,296	3,114,692
Total value	101,207,428	*112,007,344	*146,329,268

* In addition, agricultural implements to the value of 2,989,276 dols. in 1909, and 1,349,679 dols. in 1904, were made by establishments engaged primarily in the manufacture of products other than those covered by the industry designation.

Dollar = 4s. 1½d.

Agricultural Implement Industry of the United States in 1909.

Product.	1899.	1904.	1909.
<i>Principal kinds of implements.</i>			
Implements of cultivation—			
Cultivators—			
Beet	2,008	3,459	3,172
Small	207,171	239,173	469,696
Wheeled	295,799	313,088	435,429
Cotton scrapers	15,230	22,519	20,180
Harrows—			
Disc	97,261	104,323	193,000
Spring-tooth	380,259	86,408	112,832
Spike-tooth		262,442	394,988
Ploughs—			
Disc	17,345	39,146	22,132
Gang	†	†	91,686
Shovel	102,320	121,899	254,747
Steam	207	1,599	2,355
Sulky or wheel	136,105	138,899	134,936
Walking	819,022	956,898	1,110,006
Seeders and planters—			
Seeders—			
Broadcast	36,862	33,546	38,007
Combination			23,963
Corn planters—			
Hand	129,515	86,553	96,465
Horse	78,335	90,929	122,780
Listers	26,995	23,012	44,840
Cotton planters	45,575	127,052	79,271
Potato planters	23,338	35,756	23,092
Drills—			
Corn	21,940	28,238	20,137
Disc	†	†	21,292
Grain	91,635	76,929	68,611
All other	5,3 ²	606	32,507
Seed sowers	83,283	59,910	7,847
Harvesting implements—			
Grain cradles	36,163	30,056	22,635
Harvesters—			
Bean	1,425	665	1,409
Corn	20,707	6,924	19,693
Grain	233,542	108,810	129,274
Harvesters and threshers combined	†	†	543
Other	6,283	3,161	1,707
Hay carriers	54,303	85,121	45,064
Hay forks, horse	51,770	62,801	43,675
Hay loaders	7,273	27,174	34,705
Hay rakes, horse	216,345	236,297	266,260
Hay stackers	12,069	8,670	17,212
Hay tedders	14,510	35,745	34,396
Mowers	398,616	273,485	359,264
Potato diggers, horse	†	11,703	25,632
Reapers	35,945	60,996	58,294
Seed separators—			
Clover hullers	661	351	437
Corn huskers	10,726	1,327	372
Corn huskers and shredders	—	—	1,240
Corn shellers—			
Hand	106,381	47,189	74,223
Power	8,185	6,082	9,049
Fanning mills	30,369	22,994	33,805
Threshers—			
Horse power	1,314	2,237	822
Steam power	3,651	7,950	23,586

† Not reported separately.

SUGAR BOUNTIES IN AUSTRALIA.

With reference to the Notice which appeared on p. 444 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 20th February last, respecting the Abolition of the Sugar Bounties under Act No. 26 of 1912, the Board of Trade have now received copy of a further Act (No. 7 of 1913), which was assented to on the 30th October last.

The Act, which is to come into operation on a day to be fixed by Proclamation, provides that there shall be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to every grower of white-grown cane or beet within the Commonwealth, a bounty on all such cane or beet delivered for manufacture:—

(a) In respect of cane—after the 1st May and before the 26th July, 1913, and

(b) In respect of beet—after the 1st January and before the 26th July, 1913.

The rates of bounty payable under the Act are:—

(a) In respect of cane, 2s. 2d. per ton.

(b) " beet, 2s. 0d. "

The bounty is not to be payable to a grower of any cane or beet on which, in the opinion of the Minister, bounty would not have been payable under the Sugar Bounty Act, 1905-1912, if that Act had not been repealed.

(C. 9,907.)

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES. COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

The Board of Trade have received from H.M. Trade Commissioner in the Commonwealth of Australia, a letter dated the 12th November last, specifying the applications which had been received up to that date by the Inter-State Commission for Tariff Revision.

H.M. Trade Commissioner states that it is proposed by the Commission to publish each week particulars of any further applications which may be received. Due notice will be afforded of the dates upon which it is proposed to hear such applications, so that those interested may have full opportunity of being heard in support of or in opposition to the various claims. Representations to the Commission in connection with Tariff investigation must be made on the printed forms obtainable from the Secretary, Inter-State Commission, or from the Collector of Customs in each State, or from the High Commissioner in London. The Secretary to the Commission states that any application for Tariff investigation made by a person outside the Commonwealth should be accompanied by the name and address of some representative in the Commonwealth who, if required, will attend the Commission and give evidence in connection therewith.

Further information has been received from H.M. Trade Commissioner to the effect that it is not possible to state definitely the time that would be allowed between publication of an application received by the Commission and its subsequent hearing by them. The Commission will commence hearing on 12th January, and the first subjects to be dealt with are boots, shoes, leather, matches, brushware, pianos, and paper.

Proposed Tariff Changes.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—*continued.*

The following Statements show the applications received by the Commission up to the 12th November last, and the rates of import duty at present imposed on the articles referred to:—

APPLICATIONS FOR FURTHER TARIFF ASSISTANCE.

Tariff No.	Article.	Present Rate of Duty.	
		Under the General Tariff.	Under the United Kingdom Preferential Tariff.
1	Beer (bulk) per gal.	s. d. 1 0	s. d. 1 0
3	Whisky—		
	When not exceeding the strength of proof per gal.	14 0	14 0
	When exceeding the strength of proof. per proof gal.	14 0	14 0
	Excise rates—		
	Distilled wholly from barley malt 10s. per proof gal.		
	Blended ... 12s. per proof gal.		
55	Apples per cental	2 0	2 0
65 (A)	Bran, pollard and sharps ... per cental	1 0	1 0
75	Arrowroot per lb.	0 0½	0 0½
79	Matches and vestas—		
	In boxes containing 100 or less of matches or vestas per gross of boxes and relatively for larger sizes.	1 0	0 6
93 (A-E)	Pickles and sauces—		
	Quarter-pints and smaller sizes per doz. Relatively for larger sizes up to one quart.	0 7½	0 6
	Exceeding 1 quart ... per gal.	1 8	1 4
93 (F)	Curry <i>ad val.</i>	30 %	25 %
106 (A)	Woven smallware, viz.—		
	Boot loops, named and looping, plain and fancy <i>ad val.</i>	40 %	35 %
134 (A)	Woven smallware, viz. :—		
	Cap ribbons (named); cap badges and college bands (woven or embroidered design); cap and hat crowns; millinery tapes (named); galloons (named); webbing with woven names; pads, petershams, programs, hat bands, college bands, waist bands, belting, self-colour, striped or designed; medal ribbons ... <i>ad val.</i>	25 %	15 %
136	Artificial flowers <i>ad val.</i>	30 %	25 %
170 (A)	Miners' picks and pick eyes ... <i>ad val.</i>	30 %	25 %
234 (F)	Olive oil (in bulk) ... per gal.	2 0	2 0
236 (H)	Kalsomine cold water paints and distemper per cwt.	4 0	4 0
345	Boots and shoes <i>ad val.</i>	35 %	30 %
356 (I)	(1) Papers, viz. :—		
	Wrapping, bag, carpet, felt and candle carton paper per cwt.	5 0	4 6
356 (L)	Paper bags per cwt.	9 0	8 6
360	Writing ink and ink powders ... <i>ad val.</i>	30 %	25 %
395	Brushware <i>ad val.</i>	30 %	25 %
—	Mica, manufactures of	various	various

*Proposed Tariff Changes.***COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**—*continued.*APPLICATIONS FOR IMPOSITION OF DUTIES ON ARTICLES NOW EXEMPT—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Article.	Present Rate of Duty.	
		Under the General Tariff.	Under the United Kingdom Preferential Tariff.
434	Skirt bands (named); mantle and skirt hangers (webbing-); boot top bands; galloons, plain up to 36 ribs per inch; hat bands, plain	Free	Free
434	Umbrella handles (sticks)	Free	Free
—	Mica and manufactures thereof	—	—
—	Solders, platinum and gold	—	—
—	Pyritic ores and native sulphur	—	—

APPLICATIONS FOR TARIFF ASSISTANCE IN BOUNTY.

Tariff No.	Article.	Present Rate of Duty.	
		Under the General Tariff.	Under the United Kingdom Preferential Tariff.
235	Oil, crude, extracted from shale	Free	Free
356(X)	Wood pulp	Free	Free

(26,347.)

RUSSIA.

With reference to the notice at p. 143 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 17th July last respecting a Bill for the imposition of an export duty on crude platinum exported from Russia, at a rate, as fixed by the Council of Ministers, of 30 per cent. of its value, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Bill in question has been passed by the Duma and is expected to become law in due course, though probably not until February next. (C. 9,920.)

**TARIFF CHANGES
AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.**

The Board of Trade have received copy of a Supplement (No. 14) to the Customs Tariff Guide, 1908-11, dated 5th November, 1913, giving Customs decisions relative to the rates of duty leviable on certain articles on importation into the Commonwealth.

**Customs
Decisions.**

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—continued.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles.	No. of Tariff Heading.	Rates of Import Duty.	
		Under the General Tariff.	Under the United King- dom Preferen- tial Tariff.
Bags, baskets—			
Watch cases, over, celluloid	426	25 % <i>ad val.</i>	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
" " " " and metal..	170 (A)	30 % "	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
Bags, sacks, &c.—Filter bags, silk	391	15 % "	15 % <i>ad val.</i>
Bicycles, tricycles—Catches for side-car of motor cycle	378	15 % "	10 % <i>ad val.</i>
Hubs, 3-speed gear motor cycle—			
Hub	379	5 % "	Free
Belt rim, operating pedals, levers and rods	378	15 % "	10 % <i>ad val.</i>
Braces—Motor brace, similar to an ordinary brace, but adapted for use as a box spanner	170 (A)	30 % "	25 % "
Cloths—Filter cloths, silk	108	30 % "	25 % "
Condensers*—Ammonia, atmospheric, as ammonia condenser coils	188	25 % "	20 % "
Forks—Cast-iron (bedstead parts)	299 (A)	35 % "	30 % "
Gloves—Gloves (including gauntlet gloves) of horse hide or pigskin (irrespective of style of sewing)	120 (A)	30 % "	20 % "
Hats, caps—Oilskin hats, sewn, not miners'.	121 (E)	Per doz. 7s. or 35 % <i>ad val.</i> , whichever higher.	Per doz. 6s., or 30 % <i>ad val.</i> , whichever higher.
Iron and steel—Rodding, brass plated	189	15 % <i>ad val.</i>	15 % <i>ad val.</i>
Packages—Inner—Canisters, metal, im- ported containing confectionery and intended for subsequent use as containers for tea, coffee, &c.	170 (A)	30 % <i>ad val.</i>	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
Paper, lead foil (imitation), 15 in. by 22½ in.	357 (B)	30 % "	25 % "
Piece goods—Paper, woven, in appearance resembling canvas	123 (E)	5 % "	Free
Platters, bread—Having a glass dish to fit into the electro-plated mount, and also a wooden centre. These are inter-change- able so that the article may be used either as a dish to contain sweets, &c., or as a bread-platter—			
On the whole	170 (A)	30 % "	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
Sundials, adjustable, with compass (for use by surveyors)	448 (C)	Free	Free
Swivels*, malleable cast iron	170 (E)	Per lb. 1½d.	Per lb. 1¾d.
Vehicles and parts—Motor vehicle parts— Tanks, gas, for use with self-starters. (These are gas cylinders)—			
Tanks (cylinders)	199	Free	Free
Gauges	170 (A)	30 % <i>ad val.</i>	25 % <i>ad val.</i>

* Revised decision.

(C. 9,970.)

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—*continued.*

The Board of Trade are in receipt of copy of a Customs Order (No. 1690) dated 6th November, 1913, respecting the importation of empty bottles into the Commonwealth. The Order states that the absence of a statement of origin of the bottle upon empty bottles bearing a trade mark registered in Australia, and imported by the owner of the trade mark for use as containers of goods manufactured by him in Australia, is not to be considered a contravention of Section 90 (1) (b) of the Trade Marks Act, 1905-1912.

Under such circumstances it is considered that the trade mark (which is placed upon the bottles for the purpose of indicating that the goods to be placed therein are the manufacture of a particular person or firm) is not applied within the meaning of Section 90 (1) of the Trade Marks Act until the goods are actually placed in the bottles, and then it is applied not to the bottles themselves, but to their contents.

(C. 10,014.)

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

The "Federated Malay States Government Gazette" of the 24th November last contains copy of a Notification (No. 3,463) giving, under the Customs Duties Enactment, the valuation of articles in respect of which duty is leviable on an *ad valorem* basis on exportation from each of the Federated Malay States (Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang), with effect from 1st December, 1913, until further notice.

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

(C. 10,013.)

RUSSIA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that all the usual routes for the transmission of parcels by post through Russia to Persia are at present open. The routes are: *via* Julfa, *via* Baku to Astara, *via* Baku to Enzeli, *via* Askabad, *via* Baku to Meshed-Issar, and *via* Baku to Bender Guez.

The two routes *via* Julfa and *via* Askabad will, however, be closed by the Russian Government from the 1st February next (old style).

(C. 9,947.)

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GERMANY.

With reference to the notice at page 619 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 13th March last respecting the Law of the 13th February, 1913, which authorised certain temporary Customs facilities for the importation of meat into Germany up to the 31st March, 1914, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that, in reply to a question recently asked in the Reichstag, it was announced that the German Imperial Chancellor does not intend to recommend the introduction of a Bill which would prolong those facilities after the date specified. (C. 9,895.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The following regulations governing the marking of bolting and press cloths imported free of duty, under paragraph 422 of the United States Tariff Act of 1913, have been issued by the Treasury Department (T.D. 33929):—

Free Entry of Bolting and Press Cloths. Bolting cloths composed of silk, imported expressly for milling purposes, will be admitted to free entry when stamped with a mark extending from selvage to selvage, at intervals of not more than 4 inches, and bearing the words "Bolting cloth, expressly for milling purposes" in block letters 3 inches in height.

Press cloths composed of camel's hair, imported expressly for oil milling purposes, if cut into lengths not to exceed 72 inches and woven in widths not under 10 inches nor to exceed 15 inches, and weighing not less than one-half pound per square foot, will be admitted free of duty provided that the same are marked so as to indicate that they are for such purposes. Press cloths in order to be entitled to free entry are required to be stamped with a mark extending lengthwise along the centre of the cloth and bearing the words "For oil milling purposes" in block letters 3 inches in height and leaving not more than 10 inches of uncovered surface of cloth at either end.

The stamping should be of a permanent character, but acids or chemicals of an injurious character should not be used.

On the importation of bolting or press cloth not marked in the manner above indicated, importers will be allowed to stamp the goods in public stores under the supervision of Customs officers, whereupon deliveries will be permitted.

The foregoing regulations supersede Article 705 of the United States Customs Regulations of 1903.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 413 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 20th November respecting the tariff treatment of wheat, wheat flour, semolina, and other wheat products not specially provided for, under paragraph 644 of the United States Tariff Act of the 3rd October, 1913, a Treasury Department Circular (T.D. 33940) notifies that

Tariff Treatment of Wheat, Wheat Flour, &c. under the New Tariff Act.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—continued.

the articles in question may be admitted free of duty when imported directly or indirectly from *Denmark* (in addition to Finland, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom).

Duty is to be assessed on wheat, wheat flour, semolina and other products of wheat, not specially provided for, when imported into the United States, directly or indirectly, from any of the following countries:—Argentina, Austria-Hungary, Brazil, Canada, Chile, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, and Uruguay.

Should any of the articles covered by the paragraph 644 be imported from countries not named in the above lists, Collectors are to assess estimated duties thereon, suspend liquidation of the entries, and report the facts to the Treasury Department for instructions as to the dutiability of the merchandise.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 413 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 20th November respecting the tariff treatment of potatoes and products thereof under paragraph 581 of the United States Tariff Act of the 3rd October, 1913, a revised Circular of the United States Treasury Department on this subject (T. D. 33941) may be seen by persons interested, on application, at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

A proviso to paragraph 347 of the United States Tariff Act of the 3rd October, 1913, reads as follows:—

Prohibition of Importation of Certain Plumage. "That the importation of aigrettes, egret plumes or so-called osprey plumes, and the feathers, quills, heads, wings, tails, skins, or parts of skins, of wild birds, either raw or manufactured, and not for scientific or educational purposes, is hereby prohibited; but this provision shall not apply to the feathers or plumes of ostriches, or to the feathers or plumes of domestic fowls of any kind."

A Circular of the Treasury Department, dated the 2nd December (T. D. 33944), informs Collectors of Customs that the prohibition contained in this proviso applies to the plumage therein mentioned, whether imported as merchandise or as passengers' baggage or worn on the person as the trimming of hats or other wearing apparel. The prohibition extends also to the plumage of all wild birds, whether imported separately or upon the bird itself. It does not, however, extend to live birds, which may be imported upon compliance with the regulations contained in T. D. 30310.

While the prohibition applies to unplucked game birds, yet, in view of the legislation of various States, prohibiting the sale, shipment, or display of such game birds when plucked, the same may be admitted to entry upon the execution of a bond by the importers conditioned for the return of the plumage to the Collector of Customs, or for the presentation of competent evidence showing that it has

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—continued.

been destroyed or has been exported from the United States. This bond will be cancelled on the return of the plumage to the Collector or upon the affidavit of two reputable eyewitnesses that the plumage has been destroyed, or upon its exportation in the manner provided for the exportation of goods for drawback.

The following birds are held to be birds whose feathers may be imported for commercial use:—

- Ostrich.
- Domestic guinea fowl.
- Domestic turkey.
- Domestic geese.
- Domestic ducks (all varieties).
- Domestic chickens (all varieties).
- Domestic pigeons (all varieties).

As the plumage of the following species may be obtained from either wild or domesticated birds, such plumage will be admitted only upon the presentation of proof that it was in fact taken from domesticated birds:—

- Amherst pheasant.
- Reeves pheasant.
- Versicolour pheasant.
- Indian peacock.
- Black duck.
- Mallard duck.
- Mandarin duck.
- Muscovy duck.
- Swans.

The prohibition also extends to aigrettes when contained in the baggage or worn on the person of passengers in transit through the United States or from one point in the United States through a foreign country to another point in the United States, unless contained in baggage which is forwarded in bond.

The prohibited articles may be exported to a foreign country provided the owners have been guilty of no wilful intent to violate the law. In case the owners do not wish to avail themselves of the privilege of exportation the articles will be forfeited and destroyed, in accordance with law.

Attention is invited to paragraph 136 of the Tariff, exempting artificial flies used for fishing from the prohibition contained in the proviso to paragraph 347. Other manufactures of prohibited plumage will be excluded from importation, and in case of doubt the question as to the admission of the manufactured plumage is to be submitted to the Treasury Department.

A recent Circular of the United States Treasury Department (T.D. 33890) lays down certain regulations governing the exportation and re-importation of articles sent abroad for repairs, under paragraph 404 of the Tariff Act of the 3rd October, 1913, which provides that: "Articles exported from the United States

**Re-importation
of Articles sent
Abroad for
Repairs.**

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

“for repairs may be returned upon payment of a duty upon the value of the repairs at the rate at which the article itself would be subject if imported, under conditions and regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury.”

The regulations provide, *inter alia*, that upon return of articles exported for repairs exceeding 100 dollars in value there shall be filed with the entry a certified consular invoice, separately showing the value of the articles in their repaired condition and the cost or value of the repairs, or a bond given for its production, together with the certificate of registration* and a declaration made by the consignee, owner, or agent having knowledge of the fact that the articles entered are the identical articles covered by the certificate of registration, and that the value or cost of repairs is correctly stated in the entry. When the value of the returned articles, including the repairs, is less than 100 dollars, a bill or statement showing separately the value of the articles in their repaired condition and the cost or value of the repairs may be accepted in lieu of a certified consular invoice.

The term “repairs” is defined to mean any change, alteration, addition, renovation, cleaning, dyeing, &c. which does not destroy the identity of the article exported or create a new or different article.

The complete text of the regulations may be seen by persons interested, on application, at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

A further Circular (T.D. 33898) notifies that in an opinion rendered by the United States Attorney General on the 6th November, 1913, it is decided that the islands of Tutuila and Guam are not foreign countries within the meaning of the United States tariff laws; that the terms “export” and “import” refer primarily to foreign countries; that articles manufactured

in the United States by the use of imported materials or merchandise and shipped to the islands of Tutuila and Guam are not entitled to drawback under the provisions of Section 25 of the Tariff Act of the 5th August, 1909, or paragraph O of Section 4 of the Tariff Act of the 3rd October, 1913; and that imported merchandise in bonded warehouses in the United States can not be withdrawn without the payment of duties thereon for shipment to these islands.

With reference to the notice at pp. 142-143 of the “Board of Trade Journal” for the 17th October, 1912, respecting the additional duty which is levied on the importation into the United States of certain articles produced in Germany, *viz.*, articles on the exportation of which from Germany the German Government issue what are designated as “import certificates,” a Circular of the United States Treasury Department (T.D. 33953) containing revised provisions on the matter may be seen by persons interested, on application, at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C. 9,918.)

* The certificate of registration is a document issued to the exporter by the United States Customs Authorities.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SALVADOR.

The Board of Trade are informed by the Consul-General of the Republic of Salvador that, in accordance with a recent Decree of the Salvadorean Government, all forms of Consular invoices must, from the 1st January, 1914, be purchased at a Salvadorean Consular Office at a cost, which is fixed by law, of 20 centavos (10d.) per set of four copies. Consequently, from the 2nd January, 1914, no Consular invoices will be certified by Salvadorean Consular Offices established at London, Liverpool, Birmingham, Glasgow and Southampton, unless the proper official forms have been so procured.

(26,583.)

COLOMBIA.

With reference to the notice at p. 631 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 11th September respecting the submission to the Colombian Congress of a Bill for the revision of the Colombian Customs Tariff, the Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy of a telegram from H.M. Minister at Bogotá reporting that a new Customs Tariff was promulgated on the 18th December. Increases of the former rates will commence from the 6th December by steps of one-third during three months; diminutions of the former rates will commence after the expiration of ninety days from the 6th December by steps of one-tenth during ten months. The new Tariff will, consequently, not be in full force until January, 1915.

H.M. Minister is forwarding copies of the new Tariff by mail.

(C. 9,967.)

ECUADOR.

The following is the concluding portion of a statement (continued from p. 694 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal") showing the principal alterations introduced in the Customs Tariff of Ecuador by a Decree dated the 3rd November last. The Roman numerals placed within brackets in the columns showing the rates of duty indicate the classes of the Tariff under which the goods are included.

The rates of duty quoted are subject to surtaxes amounting in the aggregate to 125 per cent. of the rates.

[Kilog. = 2·2046 lbs. ; sucre (100 centavos) = 2s.]

Articles.	Former Rate of Duty.	Rate of Duty from January 1st, 1914.
	s. c.	s. c.
	<i>Per kilog. gross.</i>	<i>Per kilog. gross.</i>
Sparkling wines	(XX) 0 50	(XV.) 0 25
Articles of enamelled iron (<i>hierro esmaltado</i>) of two or more colours	<i>Not specified.</i>	(XVII.) 0 30
	<i>Per kilog. gross.</i>	
Cigarette paper	(IX.) 0 10	(XVII.) 0 30
Gunpowder for sporting purposes and for mines	(XXV.) 1 00	(XVII.) 0 30

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***ECUADOR**—*continued.*

Articles.	Former Rate of Duty.	Rate of Duty from January 1st, 1914.
	s. c.	s. c.
Matches in tins—	<i>Per kilog. gross.</i>	<i>Per kilog. gross.</i>
- Packed in wooden boxes	(XVII.) 0 30	(XIX.) 0 40
Without woollen receptacles		<i>As above, with a surtax of 20 per cent.</i>
	<i>Per kilog. net.</i>	<i>Per kilog. net.</i>
Toilet soap	(XVIII.) 0 30	(XIX.) 0 40
Cartridges, not charged, for guns (<i>escopetas</i>) ...	(XXXI.) 2 50	(XXII.) 0 60
Embroidered tissues of cotton	<i>Not specified.</i>	(XXIII.) 0 60
Tissue of ramie or vegetable silk	<i>Not specified.</i>	(XXIII.) 0 70
Discs and cylinders for gramophones and phonographs	<i>Not specified.</i>	(XXVI.) 1 00
Saccharine	<i>Not specified.</i>	(XXX) 2 00
	<i>Per kilog. gross.</i>	<i>Per kilog. gross.</i>
Butter and cheese	(IX.) 0 10	(XV.) 0 25
		<i>Per kilog. net.</i>
Artificial butter	(XI.) 0 15	(XIX.) 0 40

URUGUAY.

The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have been officially informed that cattle, sheep, and swine may be exported from the United Kingdom to Uruguay if accompanied by an official certificate testifying, *inter alia*, that no case of foot-and-mouth disease has occurred during the preceding six months in any county in which the animals have been located.

Further information and forms of application for the necessary official certificate may be obtained from the Secretary, Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W.

SIAM.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 642 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 18th December respecting the Siamese Morphine and Cocaine Act of 1913, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Act in question comes into force on the 1st January, 1914. (C. 9.922.)

EXCISE TARIFF CHANGES. COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 459 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 20th February last, respecting the repeal of the excise duty on sugar under Act No. 25 of 1912, the Board of Trade have now received copy of a further Act (No. 6 of 1913), which was assented to on the 30th

**Temporary
Re-imposition of
Excise Duty
on Sugar.**

October last.

Under this Act, which is to come into operation on a day to be fixed by Proclamation, it is provided that an excise duty of 4s. per cwt. of manufactured sugar shall, from and including the 26th July, 1913, be imposed on—

- (a) All sugar produced from cane delivered for manufacture after the 1st May and before the 26th July, 1913, and
- (b) All other sugar produced in Australia which was subject to the control of the Customs on the 25th July, 1913,

on which duty of excise has not been paid under the Excise Tariff, 1905, as amended in 1906 and 1910. (C. 9,902.)

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

RUSSIA (SIBERIA).

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Peking reports that it is now definitely decided that the railway from the main line of the Siberian Railway to Kiakhta near the Mongolian frontier is to be commenced next spring.

**Development of
Means of
Communication.**

The work of doubling the track of the Trans-Baikal Railway is not yet completed. The permanent way is finished and rails laid wherever no difficulties had to be met with, but difficult cuttings and embankments are not finished nor are many of the bridges.

The old post-horse communication between Verkhe Udinsk and Kiakhta is now replaced by motors and motor buses; breakdowns cause the change to be not over popular.

The owners of the two steamers, "Rabotnik" and "Seraphim," now plying on the Selenga river, intend to add two more steamers to the Selenga fleet. Shifting sands make navigation very difficult at low water seasons, and preclude the possibility of placing lanterns and other navigation marks on the banks. Navigation closes about the middle of October, and the journey from Ust Kiakhta to Verkhe Udinsk, timed to take 12 hours, at low water often extends into days owing to delays from running aground. (C. 9,768.)

NORWAY. SIBERIA.

With reference to the notice on p. 142 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th October, 1913, and to previous notices, relative to a proposed new trade route between Norway and Siberia, H.M. Minister at Christiania reports that, at a lecture on the subject

**New Trade
Route to the
Yenesei.**

*Shipping and Transport.***NORWAY, SIBERIA**—*continued.*

recently given in that city by Mr. Lied, the Siberian manager of the Siberian Steamship and Trading Co., it was stated that the passage by the Arctic Ocean was the only possible economic outlet for the Yenesei basin, a region which includes an area under timber five times as large as the whole of Germany. The "Correct," a vessel of 1,500 tons displacement, took only 16 days to do the outward journey from Tromsø and 10 days to return. Dr. Nausen also spoke, and advocated a service of several motor boats, fitted with wireless telegraphy, to cruise in the Kara Sea during the summer months. This was the only part of the voyage where difficulties were serious, and a thorough investigation of the ice conditions there was necessary. He thought that the middle of August was quite early enough for vessels to start from Tromsø, as September seemed to be the month when the ice was least to be feared. Vessels should not be larger than 1,500 tons, and the crew should be experienced in ice navigation. (C. 9,700)

FRENCH WEST AFRICA.

With reference to the notice on p. 201 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 24th April, 1913, relative to a proposed loan for railway and harbour works in French West Africa, it is noted that the "Journal Officiel" (Paris) of 24th December publishes the text of a Law authorising the Government of French West Africa to contract a loan of 167,000,000 francs, bearing interest at a maximum rate of 4 per cent., for the carrying out of the following important works in the French West African Colonies:—

	Francs.
Completion of the Thiès-Kayes Railway	25,000,000
Hygienic arrangements in Senegal	250,000
Construction of a railway from Bamako to Bougouni ...	15,250,000
Extending the Guinea Railway from Kankan in the direction of Beyla	25,000,000
Extending the Ivory Coast Railway from Bouaké in the direction of Comoé, with a branch from Dimbokro towards Daloa	44,000,000
Extending the Dahomey Railway	30,500,000
Improving Dakar Harbour	6,000,000
Improving Conakry Harbour	3,000,000
Works at the Ivory Coast port	8,000,000
Channelling the Senegal river	10,000,000

25 francs = £1.

PORTUGUESE WEST AFRICA.

H.M. Vice-Consul at Loanda (Mr. R. T. Smallbones) reports that the Benguella Railway Company has recently taken over from the contractors an extension of the line from Huambo to Chinguar, a distance of 73 kiloms. (about 45 miles); a train is to run to the latter point twice a week. It is understood that a contract has been made between the same parties to continue the line to Belmont, in the district of Bihé. (C. 9,784.)

Shipping and Transport.

SIAM.

The following information is from the report by H.M. Vice-Consul at Bangkok (Mr. J. F. Johns) on the trade of that district for the year ended 31st March, 1913, which will shortly be issued:—

The total length of the Siamese Southern Railway (see pp. 727-8 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 27th March, 1913) now open to traffic is 133 miles. The estimated expenditure on the main line for 1912-13 is 8,630,000 ticals (£663,846) and 8,712,133 ticals (£670,164) for 1913-14. This does not include the branch line from Trang across the peninsula, of which the section Trang to Kao Kao (27 miles) has now been opened. The estimated expenditure on this branch, which is being met from funds other than those supplied on loan by the Government of the Federated Malay States, for the years 1912-13 and 1913-14 is 1,570,500 ticals (about £120,800) and 1,207,310 ticals (about £92,870) respectively. The length of line now under construction in the peninsula is 590 miles.

MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

SOUTH AFRICA.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for South Africa (Sir R. Sothorn Holland) reports the publication, in the "Transvaal Provincial Gazette" of 21st November, of an Ordinance regulating the registration of motor cars and the licensing of motor-car drivers in the Transvaal.

The Ordinance provides that every motor vehicle must be registered and must have its registered number affixed. The annual licence fee for a motor cycle is £1, or £1 10s. with side car. For motor cars there is a basic charge of £2 with an additional 1s. for every unit of horse-power or portion thereof, and 2s. for every 100 lbs. of weight or portion thereof. The horse-power is to be calculated by the Dendy-Marshall formula, viz., $\frac{D^2 \times S \times N}{200,000}$ = horse-power, when D = diameter of cylinder in millimetres; S = length of piston stroke in millimetres; and N = number of cylinders.

The "Gazette" containing the text of the Ordinance, which comes into force on 1st January, may be seen by United Kingdom firms interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (26,466.)

RUSSIA.

With reference to the notice on p. 699 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal," and to previous notices, relative to the scarcity of pig-iron in Russia, H.M. Commercial Attaché for Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) reports that it was announced in the "Torgovo-Promyshlennaya Gazeta" (St. Petersburg) of 12th December that a special

Scarcity of Pig-Iron; Conference called.

*Minerals, Metals and Machinery.***RUSSIA—continued.**

conference would be held at the Ministry of Commerce at an early date, under the presidency of the Head of the Department of Industry, to consider what measures may be necessary to satisfy immediate necessities, and enable the metallurgical industries to cope with the demand in future.

(C. 9,952.)

The "Börsen Zeitung" (Berlin) of 24th December states that, notwithstanding the financial depression which prevailed for a time on the St. Petersburg Stock Exchange, the economic development of Russia continues to make rapid strides. The iron and steel industries have never been in such a flourishing condition. The Prodameta Iron and Steel Syndicate has received this year something like 75 per cent. more orders than was the case in 1910, as will be seen from the following table showing the orders received from 1st January to 30th November for the years named:—

Material.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
Iron sheets	9,316,678	12,403,349	15,086,423	22,695,603
Girders and sleepers	10,950,290	13,987,748	16,471,687	13,517,555
Rims and axles	1,764,414	2,736,837	2,533,238	5,586,958
Bar and shape iron	44,756,253	47,088,513	46,741,472	52,814,501
Steel rails	16,958,399	21,830,470	25,097,814	46,063,324
Total January-November ...	83,746,034	98,046,917	105,930,634	140,677,941

1,000 pounds = 16 tons (about).

The prospects for 1914 are excellent. In fact the iron ore producers of South Russia anticipate an output of 418,625,000 pounds, or 49,000,000 pounds more than the record yield in 1912. Profits would be even greater than they are but for the enhanced price of coal.

RUSSIA (FINLAND).

With reference to the notice on p. 130 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 17th July, 1913, relative to the development of hydro-electric power sources in Finland, H.M. Consul at Helsingfors (Mr. V. Kestell-Cornish) reports that it is stated in the local press that the committee appointed by the Senate to investigate the water power of Vuoksen formulated a scheme under which 90,000 horse power could be obtained from the Imatra Falls, at a cost of about 22,000,000 marks (£880,000).

Before the committee could issue a memorandum on the subject, however, a Franco-Russian company, styled the "Société Sainte Pétersbourgeoise de Transmission Electrique de la force des chutes d'eau," applied to the Finnish Senate for permission to survey the territory along a line drawn from any part of Lake Saima (parish of Youteno) to the Kuurmanjoki river, near Jääski church, with a view

*Minerals, Metals and Machinery.***RUSSIA (FINLAND)**—*continued.*

to constructing a channel along this line, and concentrating all the rapids in the Upper Vuoksen into one place.

The Senate directed the above-mentioned committee to carry out the requisite survey. The result is not known, but it is reported that the channel would be 18-20 kilometres in length, and take a course almost straight down from the village of Karsturanta, at Lake Saima, to the village of Kuurmanpohja, where it would join the river Kuurma. The principal power station would be built at Kuurmanpohja, where the channel makes a fall of nearly 200 ft. This channel, which would be large enough for navigation, would take all the water which, at low level, at present goes through Imatra. In the Upper Vuoksen a basin would be constructed through which only non-utilisable water would be conducted down to Imatra, from which place the greater portion of the water would consequently be diverted. The waterfall at Kuurmanpohja would afford 300,000 horse power, and would to a very great extent provide electric power for St. Petersburg, Viborg, and the Finnish State Railways. It is estimated that the power station and the channel will cost about 100 million marks (£4,000,000).

It is not known whether the Government has decided to carry out its own projects, or if it will hand over the whole property to the Franco-Russian company. (26,529.)

GERMANY.

With reference to the notice on p. 518 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 27th February, 1912, relative to the amount of potash authorised by the German Potash Distributing Bureau to be sold during 1913, the "Deutscher Reichsanzeiger" of 27th December notifies that the Bureau has now decided to increase the amount for home consumption from 5,555,700 metric centners of pure potash to 6,065,300 metric centners, and the amount for export from 5,042,000 metric centners to 5,195,400 metric centners, making an ultimate total of 11,260,700 metric centners for the year. The allotment of the varieties is as follows:—

Varieties.	For Home Consumption.	For Export.
	100 kilogs. of pure potash (K ₂ O).	100 kilogs. of pure potash (K ₂ O).
Carnallite with 9 to 12 % K ₂ O	72,100	700
Crude potash salts with 12 to 15 % K ₂ O	3,232,000	1,350,200
Manure salts with 20 to 22 % K ₂ O	22,300	470,000
" " " 30 to 32 % K ₂ O	38,000	172,800
" " " 40 to 42 % K ₂ O including potash manure with 38 % K ₂ O	2,020,000	635,000
Chloride of potassium	662,000	1,841,000
Potassium sulphate	17,000	574,500
Potassium magnesium sulphate	1,900	151,200

Metric centner = 100 kilogs. = 220.46 lbs.

*Minerals, Metals and Machinery.***GERMAN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.**

H.M. Consul at Lüderitzbucht (Mr. E. H. W. Müller) reports that, according to the local press, promising copper-bearing ores have been discovered near Leeis, about 30 miles east of Windhuk. The outcrop has been followed up for a distance of two to three miles. Samples of the ore obtained, which were sent to the Mining Department, are said to have given satisfactory results, and a party is at work opening up the reef. (C. 9,854.)

FRANCE (MADAGASCAR).

H.M. Consul at Antananarivo (Mr. T. P. Porter) reports that during the month of October, 1913, the exports of graphite from Madagascar amounted to 697 metric tons, of which 325 tons were shipped from Tamatave, 310 tons from Vatomandry and 62 tons from Mananjary. (26,912.)

Metric ton = 2,204·6 lbs.

ITALY.

The "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin) of 11th December contains a report by the German Consul at Palermo on the motor car trade in Sicily, from which it appears that, during the last few years, there has been a marked decline in the trade. At present the total number of private motor cars in use in Palermo is about 300, whilst the number of commercial cars and motor lorries is considerably smaller. Of the 300 private cars, some 200 are of Italian manufacture, whilst the remaining 100 are from French workshops, with the exception of a few German and American cars. Although, concludes the report, the import duties on motor cars are high, they are not so prohibitive as to render foreign firms incapable of competing with Italian companies.

Kilog. = 2·2046 lbs.

AGRICULTURAL & FOREST PRODUCTS.**UNITED KINGDOM.**

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the Inspectors of Corn Returns in the week ended 27th December, 1913, were as follows:—

Corn Prices.

Wheat	...	...	...	...	31s. 0d.
Barley	...	...	...	...	25s. 10d.
Oats	...	...	...	...	18s. 4d.

For further particulars see p. 51.

Agricultural and Forest Products.

UNITED KINGDOM—*continued.*

A statement is published on p. 52 showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended 27th December, 1913, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1912.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended 25th December, 1913, was 122,854 (including 194 bales British West African), and the number imported during the fifty-two weeks ended 25th December was 4,426,311 (including 8,516 bales British West Indian, 17,000 bales British West African, 33,806 bales British East African, and 5,489 bales foreign East African). The number of bales exported during the week ended 25th December was 13,268, and during the fifty-two weeks, 469,847.

For further details see p. 51.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The Trades Commissioner in London for the Union of South Africa has forwarded the following particulars, which have been furnished by the Commercial Section of the Department of Customs and Excise, Pretoria, regarding the hemp industry in Natal:—

The hemp industry in Natal is still in its infancy, but it has passed the experimental stage, and is now proved to be a payable proposition with excellent prospects in the future provided it receives a fair share of encouragement. About 15 tons of hemp are exported monthly from Natal, and this output might be largely increased if more suitable machinery were introduced. The machinery at present in use by all aloë growers in Natal is of the hand-fed type.

There are several growers of aloës in Natal, and the present area under cultivation is about 1,000 acres. The plant cultivated is the *Furcroyea gigantea*, which takes a period of four years to mature, and thereafter yields an annual crop for the next 12 years. It is estimated that the average yield annually is about one ton of finished product per acre. This plant has been chosen after extensive experiments, as it is well suited to the soil and climatic conditions prevailing along the South Coast of Natal, where sugar and wattles have proved unsatisfactory.

The hemp exported up to the present time has been obtaining a very good price on the London market, and compares favourably with that of other countries. There is a large demand for this class of fibre.

An attempt has already been made in the district to manufacture ropes and cordage. Want of capital, however, prevents any great measure of expansion.

A firm has recently started the manufacture of cotton rope and tent lines in Johannesburg. They have, it is understood, also ordered machinery for the manufacture of Manilla ropes. All the raw materials for these are imported, but local fibres are shortly to be tested with a view to their utilisation in the products manufactured by the firm.

*Agricultural and Forest Products.***CEYLON.**

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

To	Sept., 1912.	Sept., 1913.	Jan.-Sept., 1912.	Jan.-Sept., 1913.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
United Kingdom	782,594	1,618,745	5,489,304	9,410,716
United States	526,838	470,327	3,012,350	4,655,094
Other countries	184,266	505,961	1,304,221	3,416,914
Total exports of rubber of domestic production ...	1,493,698	2,595,033	9,805,875	17,482,724

BRAZIL. PERU. BOLIVIA.

H.M. Consul at Pará (Mr. G. B. Michell) reports that the quantity of rubber exported from Pará, Manaos, Iquitos, and Itacoatiara during the months of November, 1912 and 1913, was as follows:—

—	Fine.	Medium.	Coarse.	Caucho.	Total.
November, 1912—	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.
To United States	548,695	87,727	289,899	228,325	1,154,646
To Europe	1,660,594	188,138	314,601	425,949	2,589,282
Total	2,209,289	275,865	604,500	654,274	3,743,928
November, 1913—					
To United States	491,007	91,455	370,577	101,631	1,054,670
To Europe	1,263,420	191,097	201,685	422,002	2,078,204
Total	1,754,427	282,552	572,262	523,633	3,132,874

Kilog. = 2.2046 lbs.

(27,255.)

MISCELLANEOUS.**RUSSIA (FINLAND).**

H.M. Consul at Helsingfors (Mr. V. Kestell-Cornish) reports that, according to the local press, the Municipality of Helsingfors recently agreed to a proposal that the trade in alcoholic beverages should be created a monopoly from 1st June, 1915. The "Helsingfors Utskänknings Aktiebolag" will undertake the sale of alcoholic beverages, both wholesale and retail. (26,404.)

Miscellaneous.

NORWAY.

H.M. Consul at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray) has forwarded a list of actions which have been brought against a company known as the A/S Holmenkolbanen by various people in Christiania on account of damage alleged to have been done to house property by the construction of an underground tramway.

H.M. Consul states that during the last year or so damage to house property has begun to show itself in certain parts of Christiania owing to subsidence of the soil, vibration, or other causes, and some 35 to 40 lawsuits are likely to arise out of the matter. It is believed that a certain amount of British capital is invested in house property mortgages in Christiania, and the owners of these mortgages might, therefore, find it to their advantage to communicate with their legal representatives at Christiania on the subject.

The list of actions above referred to may be *seen* by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (27,042.)

GERMANY.

The "Frankfurter Zeitung" of 28th December contains a review of the trade report for 1913, issued by the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce, of which the following is a synopsis:—

The commercial development of Hamburg during the last few years has not been maintained during 1913. This is due to the Balkan war, the unrest in Mexico, a commercial crisis in certain of the South American States and the new taxes (in Germany).

The sharp fall in the prices of South American native products, especially indiarubber, has greatly lessened the power of these States to pay for imports. Trade with the Far East, however, has improved.

Both export and import trade, especially in the latter half of the year, suffered from unfavourable harvests and the sharp fall in prices.

Many new ships have been laid down, especially high-speed ships of heavy tonnage, as a result of the high freights charged at times by the liners and tramps; but still the dockyards have not made satisfactory profits.

Shipping on the Upper Elbe has been unable to take full advantage of the improved navigation facilities.

BELGIAN CONGO.

H.M. Consul at Boma (Mr. W. J. Lamont) reports that in July last the Government of the Congo concluded an arrangement with the "Compagnie des Chemins de Fer du Congo Supérieur aux Grands Lacs Africains," withdrawing the concessions of land which were granted to the company. The arrangement has not yet received legislative approval,

but as soon as this is obtained the exploitation of the 4,000,000 hectares (about 15,440 square miles) held by the company since its inception in 1902 will end, and the territory will be placed under the same conditions of free trade as exist in the other parts of the Congo.

(C. 9,723.)

*Miscellaneous.***FRANCE.**

The British Consular Agent at Lorient and Hennebont (Mr. H. Joubert) reports that the following were amongst the principal resolutions passed at the Fishermen's Congress recently held at Lorient:—

**Sardine
Fishermen's
Congress at
Lorient.**

1. That sardines be sold by auction instead of by contract.
2. That the price of fish of 38-66 millimetres in size be raised by 2 frs. (about 1s. 7d.) per 1,000.
3. That the proposal to sell by weight be rejected absolutely, and the system of sale per 1,000 be maintained, this quantity, however, to be exact and not 1,050 as is the practice at some ports.
4. That the French Government be asked to prevent foreign fishing vessels poaching in French territorial waters.
5. That the "commissions mixtes" should retain the same functions in 1914 as in 1913, but that the Government should be asked to bring in a Bill transforming them into courts of arbitration, whose decisions would be applicable to all fishermen and canners, whether syndicated or not.
6. That as unpickled ground-nut meal for the preservation of fish is injurious the purveyors of ground-nut meal should be compelled to sell only the pickled variety, as dry as possible, powdered, and in sacks.

(C. 9,710.)

BRAZIL.

With reference to the notice on p. 292 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 31st July last relative to the adoption of legal time in Brazil based on Greenwich time, H.M. Legation at Rio de Janeiro reports the publication in the "Diario Oficial" of a decree stating that the change from the present local time to the new time based on Greenwich time was to be effected at midnight on 31st December as regards all official clocks, the National Observatory, and all time signal services. For the purpose of rail and steamship services the hours are to be reckoned from zero (midnight) to 23 (11 p.m.). The four time zones into which the country is to be divided, and the standard time in each zone in relation to Greenwich mean time, ranging from two hours later than Greenwich in the East of Brazil to five hours later in the West, are set forth in the previous notice above referred to.

It is also directed that in future all geographical longitudes shall be referred to the meridian of Greenwich instead of that of Rio de Janeiro.

A table showing the time corrections that were to be effected on 31st December in the capitals of the various States of the Republic may be seen by United Kingdom firms interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

(C. 9,699.)

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.*

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of November, 1913, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased* at a cost, in the present instance, of 1s. 5d. per copy, exclusive of postage.

Attention is further called to the fact that three volumes of the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1912 have been issued, and may be purchased* at a cost (exclusive of postage) of 5s. 5d. for the first volume, 4s. 1d. for the second, and 3s. 1d. for the third. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives in the first volume abstract tables for the years 1908-1912, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article consigned from and to each country, and in the second volume details as to Customs revenue, transshipments and articles in bond, with particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country and British Possession, and of the trade at each port of the United Kingdom. The third volume (supplement) contains a classification on the basis followed in Volumes I. and II. of the "Annual Statement" for 1908 and earlier years.

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

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"* is published (price 1d.) by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the December issue:—The Labour Market in November; Recent Conciliation and Arbitration Cases; Unemployment Insurance; Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom; Labour Disputes in Germany in 1912; Collective Agreements in Holland; State Labour Exchanges in the Argentine Republic; Trade Boards Act.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORT.

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

No. 5,241. Trade of the Consular District of Tangier (Morocco) in 1912. Price 3½d.

Telegraph stations.	Reports from Tetuan and
Steamship communication.	Larache.
	Map.

* Copies of Government publications may be purchased, either directly or through any bookseller, from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., 29, Bream's Buildings, Fetter Lane London, E.C.; and 54, St. Mary Street, Cardiff; or H.M. Stationery Office (Scottish Branch), 23, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or E. Ponsoby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies, the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of T. Fisher Unwin, London, W.C.

FOREIGN & COLONIAL PUBLICATIONS.

The following is a list of the more important Articles on trade subjects contained in the Foreign and Colonial Publications recently received and filed for reference at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, and which are open to inspection in the Reading Room of the Branch at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. :—

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS.

Agricultural, Dairy and Forest Products.

Wine Production in France and Algeria.
"Economiste" (Paris), 20th Dec.

Lavender Culture in Southern France.
"Daily Consular Reports" (Washington), 6th Dec.

Sheep Rearing in Algeria.
"Bulletin de l'Algérie" (Paris), 15th Dec.

Crop Prospects in Hungary in 1913.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 13th Dec.

Silk Worm Breeding and Cocoon Production in France in 1912.
"Textil Zeitung" (Berlin), 16th Dec.

Plum Crop in Servia in 1913.
"Bulletin des Halles" (Paris), 19th Dec.

Sugar Industry in Italy.
"Handelsmuseum" (Vienna), 18th Dec.

Barley Cultivation, &c. in Tunis.
"Bulletin des Halles" (Paris), 17th Dec.

Olive Crop in Tripoli.
"Daily Consular Reports" (Washington), 6th Dec.

Wine Production in Russia.
"Pravitelstvenni Vyestnik" (St. Petersburg), 6th Dec.

Tobacco Industry in Russia.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 11th Dec.

Machinery, Hardware and Engineering.

Electric Rail Grinding Machine.
"Engineering News" (New York), 11th Dec.

Machine for Moulding Casts.
"Métallurgie" (Paris), 17th Dec.

Status of large Power Gas Engines in Europe.
"Iron Age" (New York), 11th Dec.

Observations on Bridge Expansion.
"Engineering News" (New York), 11th Dec.

Purification of Gas by New Process.
"Stahl und Eisen" (Diüsseldorf), 18th Dec.

Metals, Mining and Minerals.

Salted Mines.
"Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York), 13th Dec.

Mining Industry in Germany in 1912.
"Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 18th Dec.

Corrosion of Pipe in Refrigerating Systems.
"Iron Age" (New York), 11th Dec.

Mining Industry in Charleroi District (Belgium).
"Berichte über Handel" (Berlin), 16th Dec.

Metals, Mining and Minerals—continued.

Sale of Upper Silesian Coal in the Balkans.
"Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 16th Dec.

Fuel and Ore Consumption in Making Pig Iron.
"Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York), 13th Dec.

Iron Industry in South Russia, Jan.-June, 1913.
"Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 11th Dec.

Mineral Industry in Belgium in 1912.
"Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels), 19th Dec.

Coal Bye-Products in Japan.
"Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 3rd Dec.

Gold and Silver Assay by Iron Nail Method.
"Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York), 13th Dec.

Petroleum Output in Terokoi Province (Russia).
"Pravitelstvenni Vyestnik" (St. Petersburg), 7th Dec.

Cement Syndicate of Rhenish Westphalia.
"Frankfurter Zeitung," 19th Dec.

Coke Market in Upper Silesia.
"Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 18th Dec.

Removing Sulphur from Molten Cast Iron.
"Iron Age" (New York), 11th Dec.

Railways, Shipping and Transport.

Railways in Turkey.
"Handelsmuseum" (Vienna), 18th Dec.

Railways in German Protectorates in 1913.
"Deutscher Reichsanzeiger" (Berlin), 18th Dec.

Railway Receipts in Germany during Nov. 1913.
"Frankfurter Zeitung," 20th Dec.

Railway Construction in German Territories in 1913.
"Deutsches Kolonialblatt" (Berlin), 15th Dec.

Baghdad Railway.
"Journal des Transports" (Paris), 13th Dec.

Shipping on the Rhine.
"Frankfurter Zeitung," 20th Dec.

Railways in Bosnia-Herzegovina.
"Journal des Transports" (Paris), 20th Dec.

Textiles and Textile Materials.

International Cotton Market.
"Revue Textile" (Paris), 30th Nov.

Silk Industry in Canton.
"Berichte über Handel" (Berlin), 12th Dec.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS—continued.

Textiles and Textile Materials—continued.

- Cloth and Serge Trade in Japan in 1912.
 "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels),
 20th Dec.
 New Artificial Silk Factory in Poland.
 "Torgovo - Promyshlennaya Gazeta"
 (St. Petersburg), 14th Dec.
 Numbering of Yarns.
 "Textil Zeitung" (Berlin), 16th Dec.
 Logwood Extracts used in Dyeing.
 "Revue Textile" (Paris), 30th Nov.
 Flax Cultivation in Russia.
 "Moniteur Officiel" (Paris), 18th Dec.

Commercial, Financial and Economic.

- Germany: Labour Market in November.
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 17th Dec.
 Germany: Potsdam Chamber of Commerce
 Report.
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 19th Dec.
 United States: Extension of Export Trade.
 "Iron Age" (New York), 11th Dec.
 Finland: Fifty Years' Progress.
 "Mercator" (Helsingfors), Nov.
 Germany: Trade and Industry of Cologne
 in 1912.
 "Belgian Consular Report," Vol. 164.
 Monaco: Trade and Commerce in 1912.
 "French Consular Report," 18th Dec.
 Russia: Municipal Budget of Moscow,
 1914.
 "Vyestnik Finansov" (St. Petersburg),
 14th Dec.
 Mexico: Export Trade in 1912-13.
 "Handelsmuseum" (Vienna), 18th Dec.
 Denmark: Trade in 1912.
 "Belgian Consular Report," Vol. 164.
 Russia: Trade and Commerce of Radom
 Government.
 "Pravitelstvenni Vyestnik" (St.
 Petersburg), 17th Dec.

Miscellaneous.

- Fertilisers: Uses in Dry Farming in
 Algeria.
 "Bulletin de l'Algérie" (Paris), 15th
 Dec.
 Kelp as a Source of Potash and as a
 Fertiliser.
 "Engineering News" (New York),
 11th Dec.
 Whalc Fishing in French Colonies.
 "Dépêche Coloniale" (Paris), 19th
 Dec.
 Earthenware Trade in Belgian Congo.
 "Moniteur Officiel" (Paris), 18th Dec.
 Fish Oil Trade in Japan.
 "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels),
 20th Dec.
 Warehousing of Inflammable Liquids.
 "Bulletin de la Société d'Encourage-
 ment pour l'Industrie Nationale"
 (Paris), Nov.
 Caustic Potash and Laundry Soap Trade
 in various Countries.
 "Daily Consular Reports" (Washington),
 5th Dec.
 Aigrette Industry of the World.
 "Dépêche Coloniale" (Paris), 18th Dec.
 Tartaric and Citric Acid Industry in
 France.
 "Economiste" (Paris), 20th Dec.
 Portable Houses, &c. trade in France.
 "Daily Consular Reports" (Washington),
 4th Dec.
 Portland Cement Industry in Upper Silesia.
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 20th Dec.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

British India—Report on the Maritime
 Trade of Bihar and Orissa, 1912-13.

Canada—
 Annual Report of Ontario Bureau of
 Industries for 1912.
 Annual Report of Ontario Agricultural
 and Experimental Union for 1912.

New South Wales—Statistical Register, 1912.
 Part I., Population and Vital Statistics;
 Part II., Shipping; Part III., Commerce.

Western Australia—Report on the Working
 of Government Railways for year ended
 30th June, 1913.

Victoria—Bulletin of Geological Survey:
 No. 31, Briquetting Powlett Slack Coal.

Uganda Protectorate—Handbook for 1913.

Russia—Agricultural Review, 1913. (In
 Russian.)

United States—

Report of the Secretary to the Treasury on
 Finances for the year ended 30th June,
 1913.

Census of Manufactures, 1909—Statistics
 relating to Soap; Ice; Petroleum
 Refining; Dyeing and Finishing of
 Textiles; Glass.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the week and 52 weeks ended 25th December, 1913 :—

	Week ended 25th Dec., 1913.	52 Weeks ended 25th Dec., 1913.	Week ended 25th Dec., 1913.	52 Weeks ended 25th Dec., 1913.
	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
	Bales.	Bals.	Bales.	Bales.
American	99,399	3,291,263	11,034	233,468
Brazilian	—	239,601	100	15,151
East Indian	2,459	126,863	600	53,609
Egyptian	13,461	539,615	1,290	156,039
Miscellaneous	7,535*	228,969†	244	11,580
Total... ..	122,854	4,426,311	13,268	469,847

* Including 194 bales British West African.

† Including 8,516 bales British West Indian, 17,000 bales British West African, 33,806 bales British East African, and 5,489 bales foreign East African.

NOTE.—These figures include cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond."

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 27th December, 1913, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

	Average Price.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Week ended 27th December, 1913	31 0	25 10	18 4
Corresponding Week in—			
1906	26 0	23 11	17 3
1907	35 1	26 9	18 4
1908	32 0	26 7	17 4
1909	33 3	25 1	17 4
1910	30 5	23 9	16 9
1911	33 0	33 4	20 7
1912	29 10	28 6	19 2

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

Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 27th December, 1913, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 27th Dec., 1913.	Correspond- ing week in 1912.
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number	1	100
Sheep and lambs	"	—	—
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	158	45
Fresh meat :—			
Beef (including refrigerated and frozen) ...	Owts.	136,363	150,700
Mutton " " " "	"	69,053	47,889
Pork " " " "	"	22,648	9,769
Meat, unenumerated, fresh (including re- frigerated and frozen)	"	8,841	11,841
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Owts.	88,940	67,993
Beef	"	715	845
Hams	"	11,218	7,928
Pork	"	3,578	1,988
Meat, unenumerated, salted	"	2,644	1,643
Meat, preserved, otherwise than by salting (including tinned and canned)	"	11,466	3,469
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Owts.	66,583	70,460
Margarine	"	19,357	17,636
Cheese	"	20,719	26,929
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	225
" cream	"	221	365
" condensed	"	19,258	16,284
" preserved, other kinds	"	1	4
Eggs	Grt. Hunder	356,344	404,349
Poultry	Value £	47,151	39,356
Game	"	2,053	794
Rabbits, dead (fresh and frozen)	Owts.	2,100	1,843
Lard	"	48,984	35,088
Corn, grain, meal and flour :—			
Wheat	Owts.	1,771,900	1,490,300
Wheat-meal and flour	"	289,900	255,700
Barley	"	150,900	738,600
Oats	"	331,900	262,000
Peas	"	63,280	65,733
Beans	"	25,650	48,950
Maize or Indian corn	"	350,900	933,600
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Owts.	65,298	46,633
Apricots and peaches	"	37	6
Bananas	Bunches	9,811	36,829
Cherries	Owts.	—	—
Currants	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	531	426
Lemons	"	6,273	9,076
Oranges	"	135,791	141,444
Pears	"	232	16
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	286	208
Hay	Tons	276	473
Straw	"	21	16
Moss Litter	"	1,844	2,934
Hops	Owts.	5,609	3,281
Locust beans	"	39,891	18,140
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	90,850	105,448
Potatoes	Owts.	14,205	155,914
Tomatoes	"	8,927	27,724
Unenumerated	Value £	7,423	8,275
Vegetables, dried... ..	Owts.	10,865	14,425
" preserved by canning	"	6,067	9,950

Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and classified in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters. On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz. : Commercial Statistics ; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations ; Lists of Firms Abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities ; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender ; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products ; Forms of Certificates of Origin ; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c.

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

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 3d., the annual rate, inclusive of postage within the United Kingdom, being 15s. 2d. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., 29, Bream's Buildings, Fetter Lane, E.C. ; and 54, St. Mary Street, Cardiff ; in Edinburgh to H.M. Stationery Office (Scottish Branch), 23, Forth Street ; in Dublin to Messrs. E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street ; or to the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies, the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of T. Fisher Unwin, London, W.C.

For particulars relating to the supply of confidential information to firms in the United Kingdom, see notice on p. 14.

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

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

Canada and Newfoundland...	H.M. Trade Commissioner, 3, Beaver Hall Square, Montreal. Telegraphic Address, "Briteom."
Commonwealth of Australia..	H.M. Trade Commissioner, Equitable Building, Melbourne. Telegraphic Address, "Combrit" ; and New Zealand Insurance Buildings, 81, Pitt Street, Sydney.
New Zealand... ..	H.M. Trade Commissioner, P.O. Box 369, Wellington. Telegraphic Address, "Advantage."
South Africa	H.M. Trade Commissioner, P.O. Box 1346. Cape Town. Telegraphic Address, "Austere."

(16,866.)

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

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

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

BRITISH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

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

Argentina ...	British Chamber of Commerce for the Argentine Republic, Calle Sarmiento 643, Buenos Aires.
Balkan States	<i>See</i> Turkey.
Belgium ...	British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium (Incorp.). 2, Rue de la Bourse, Brussels.
Egypt ...	British Chamber of Commerce of Egypt, 6, Rue de l'Ancienne Bourse, Alexandria, and Savoy Chambers, Cairo. (Agents in Suez and London.)
France ...	British Chamber of Commerce, Paris (Incorp.), 9, Rue des Pyramides, Paris. (Correspondents in all the principal towns of France. Commercial Representative in France of the Commonwealth of Australia.) British Chamber of Commerce for the French Riviera and Principality of Monaco, 4, Avenue Massena, Nice.
Italy ...	British Chamber of Commerce for Italy, 1, Via Innocenzo Frugoni, Genoa. <i>Branches</i> —18, Via Andegari, Milan. 12, Piazza Vittorio Emanuele p. p., Leghorn. (Delegates at Rome, Naples, &c.)
Persia ...	British Chamber of Commerce, Bushire. British Chamber of Commerce, Mohammerah.
Portugal ...	British Chamber of Commerce in Portugal, 4, Rua Victor Gordon, Lisbon.
Russia ...	Russo-British Chamber of Commerce, 4, Gorochovaia, St. Petersburg. <i>Branches</i> in Odessa and Warsaw. Agency in Kiev.
Spain ...	British Chamber of Commerce for Spain, 9, Plaza de Cataluña, Barcelona. <i>Branch</i> —15, Calle de San Agustin, Madrid. (Delegates at Cartagena, Valencia and Canary Islands.)
Tunis ...	British Chamber of Commerce, Rue d'Allemagne, 3, Tunis.
Turkey ...	British Chamber of Commerce of Turkey and the Balkan States, (Incorp.). 34-35, Tunnel Han, Galata, Constantinople. (Correspondents at Salonica, Beirut, Bucharest, Sofia, Belgrade, and Athens). British Chamber of Commerce at Smyrna, Local Honischer, 21, Smyrna.

N.B.—The majority of these Chambers issue periodically a Journal or other publication, for specimen copy of which application should be made to the respective Secretaries.

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

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT, 1911.

Part II.—Unemployment.

(Applications to the Umpire.)

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

293. Workmen engaged in erecting poles for, and fixing, or laying underground, telegraph and telephone wires.

Any representations with reference to any of the above applications may be made in writing to the Umpire by, or on behalf of, any workman or employer appearing to him to be interested, or on behalf of the Board of Trade, and forwarded to the Registrar, Office of the Umpire, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W., on or before 16th January, 1914.

Notice is further given that the Umpire proposes to give his decision on the above applications on or after 19th January, 1914.

EXTRACT FROM REGULATIONS.

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

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

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

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

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

Decisions by the Umpire.

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

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

1405. A smith employed by a railway company in the signal works, and engaged partly on signal work and partly in making platelayers' tools in the works.

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

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

