

THE Board of Trade Journal.

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[No. 899

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. 510.

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."	
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Antimony Ore and Regulus from Chungking	19th Feb., 1914	495
Trunk and Bag Lining - United States Enquiry	" " "	446
Cast-Iron Studs—New Zealand Contract Offering	" " "	440
Lithographic Paper for Maps—Egyptian Contract offering ...	5th " "	321
Foreign Hosiery and Overalls sold in South Africa: {		
Samples forwarded by H.M. Trade Commissioner ... }	29th Jan., "	263
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Turpentine Oil (Unrefined) and Soft Gum from Smyrna ...	15th " "	159
Leather Belting—Austrian enquiry	18th Dec., 1913	619
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"Kieselguhr" from Chile	" " "	530
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OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE. UNITED KINGDOM.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: WAR OFFICE AND ROYAL MINT.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade is notified by the War Office that sealed tenders will be received by the Officers Commanding the under-mentioned districts, as follows:—(1) Up to noon on 25th February for the supply of live oxen,

**Live Oxen ;
Meat ; Bread
and Flour.**

Openings for British Trade.

UNITED KINGDOM—continued.

fresh and frozen beef, and hospital meat, during three months from 1st April; (2) Up to noon on 27th February for the supply of bread and flour during six months from 1st April.

Aldershot Command	Aldershot.
Eastern Command, Dover District ...	Dover.
" " Colchester District	Colchester.
" " Chatham District..	Chatham.
" " Woolwich District	Woolwich.
Irish Command, Curragh District...	Curragh.
" " Dublin District ...	Dublin.
" " Cork District ...	Cork.
" " Belfast District ...	Belfast.
London District	Horse Guards, Whitehall, S. W.
Northern Command	York.
Scottish Command	Edinburgh.
Southern Command, Bulford District	Bulford.
" " Portsmouth Dis-	
trict... ..	Portsmouth.
" " Devonport Dis-	
trict... ..	Devonport.
Western Command	Chester.
Guernsey and Alderney District ...	Guernsey.
Jersey District	Jersey.

Forms of tender and conditions of contract may be obtained on application at the above-named Head-Quarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, or in person between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Secretary of State for War is prepared to receive tenders for the supply of such quantities of coal as may be demanded for the Ordnance Factories at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield Lock, and the Royal Gunpowder Factory, Waltham Abbey, during twelve months from 1st April, 1914. Tenders are to be delivered at the War Office, Whitehall, S.W., by noon on 25th February.

Forms of tender, showing the approximate quantities and the descriptions required, may be obtained on personal application or by letter addressed to the War Office, as above.

The Master of the Mint (Royal Mint, London, E.C.) is prepared to receive tenders, up to noon on 23rd February, for the supply of 200 tons of copper in ingots. The ingots must weigh between 14 and 18 lbs. each, and be guaranteed to contain not less than 99·8 per cent. of copper, and not more than 0·005 per cent. of lead, 0·005 per cent. of tellurium and selenium taken together, 0·001 per cent. of bismuth, 0·001 per cent. of tin, 0·001 per cent. of antimony, 0·01 per cent. of iron, and 0·02 per cent. of arsenic.

Delivery will be required in eight lots of about 25 tons each, the first lot on 16th or 17th March, the second lot during the following week, and the remaining six lots early in April.

Openings for British Trade.

CANADA.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for Canada (Mr. C. Hamilton Wickes) reports that a pork packing plant is shortly to be established in New Brunswick, and machinery will probably be required.

The address to which communications should be sent may be obtained by United Kingdom manufacturers of packing plant at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C.I.B. 3,646.)

The following commercial enquiries have been received at the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., whence further information may be obtained:— (C.I.B. 3,962.)

Commercial Enquiries.

CANADIAN ENQUIRIES.

A Toronto company is desirous of purchasing supplies of **aluminium powder**, and would be glad to receive quotations from United Kingdom manufacturers. One of the directors is now in London.

A firm of wholesale importers and manufacturers' agents in Winnipeg, proposing also to open an office in Montreal, would be glad to hear from United Kingdom manufacturers of **building specialities** and of **linoleum**, seeking Canadian agents. References exchanged.

A manufacturers' agent and commission merchant in Montreal specialising in grocers' and confectioners' supplies wishes to get into touch with United Kingdom **rice** and **barley** millers seeking a Canadian connection.

A firm of manufacturers' agents in Toronto asks to be placed in communication with United Kingdom manufacturers of **foodstuffs** suitable for the Canadian market.

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

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Imperial Trade Correspondent at St. John's (Mr. H. W. Le Messurier) has forwarded a copy of the Fifth Annual Report of the Newfoundland Board of Trade (*i.e.* Chamber of Commerce) from which it appears that, in view of the great increase in the use of motor boats in the fishing industry (see p. 243 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 31st July, 1913), the Council of the Board has passed a resolution, which has been forwarded to the Newfoundland Government, recommending the advisability of allowing duty-free importation to all material imported from abroad for use in the construction of marine motor engines. (C.I.B. 3,223.)

*Openings for British Trade.***AUSTRALIA.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade is notified that tenders will be received by the Chairman of the Supply and Tender Board, Adelaide, South Australia, up to 3 p.m. on 22nd April, for the supply of the following:—286 *best mild steel boiler plates*; 130 *best mild steel plates for flanging*; 20 *best mild steel jirebox back plates*; 83 *best mild steel smoke-box tube plates*; 900 *bars of best rolled copper*; 30 *copper wrapping plates*; 80 *copper tube plates*; 30 *copper back plates*; 750 *bars of black mild steel*; 105 *bars of best mild steel angles*; 42 *bars of best mild steel tees*; 3,685 *mild steel sheets*; 10 *safety valve springs*; 10 *steam pressure gauges*; 6,200 *solid drawn copper tubes*; 280 *solid drawn best copper pipes*; 60 *bright weldless steel tubes*; 1,009 *engine and tender tyres*; 54 *springy mattresses*; 18 *best straight bogie axles*; 25 *mild steel plates*.

Copies of the specifications and forms of tender, together with drawings varying in price from 1s. to 2s. each, may be *obtained** from the Supply and Tender Board Office, Adelaide. Copies of the specifications and drawings may be *seen* at the office of the South Australian Inspecting Engineer in London, Mr. S. A. Strickland, 85, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for Australia (Mr. G. T. Milne) reports that tenders are invited by the Victorian Department of Public Works for the supply of propelling machinery, boilers, auxiliary machinery and all accessories for a single-screw tug. Sealed tenders, *accompanied by a preliminary deposit of £100*, will be received, up to noon on 24th February*, at the Public Works Department, Melbourne.

A copy of the specification, together with blue prints, may be *seen* by United Kingdom manufacturers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.
(C.I.B. 3,697.)

H.M. Trade Commissioner also reports that tenders will be received at the office of the Deputy Postmaster General, Melbourne, as follows:—

Pliers; Common Battery Switchboards. (1) Up to 3 p.m. on 31st March,* for the supply and delivery of 130 *pliers* (Schedule No. 1,003). *See Note † on next page.*

(2) Up to 3 p.m. on 21st April, for the supply and delivery of 123 *common battery switchboards* (Schedule No. 1,005). *See Note † on next page.*

For copies of the specification, conditions and form of tender in regard to (1), application should be made to the office of the Deputy

* 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.*

Postmaster-General, Melbourne; and as regards (2) 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 in each case.

Copies of the specifications, forms of tender, &c. for both of the foregoing contracts, may be *seen* by United Kingdom manufacturers of pliers and switchboards, respectively, at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

(C.I.B. 3,698.)

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 2 p.m. on 8th April, for the supply and delivery of 35 *magneto* and 20 *common battery switchboards* (Schedule No. 315). See *Note † below.*

Copies of the specification, conditions and form of tender, *when received*, may be *obtained* from 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.

A copy of the specification and form of tender, &c. may be *seen* by United Kingdom makers of switchboards, at the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above.

(C.I.B. 3,686.)

The "Commonwealth Gazette" of 10th January notifies that tenders will be received at the office of the Deputy Postmaster-General, Sydney, N.S.W., up to 2.30 p.m. on 29th April, for the supply and delivery at the Post Office, Newcastle, N.S.W., of electrically-controlled clocks (Schedule No. 361). See *Note † below.*

Copies of the specification, conditions and form of tender, *when received*, may be *obtained* from the Office of the High Commissioner in London, as above, where also preliminary deposits may be paid.

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.

With reference to the paragraph on pp. 665-6 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 24th December, 1913, relative to standard specifications for certain electrical supplies that may be required from time to time by the Australian Commonwealth Postmaster-General's Department, it should be noted that the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade has now received, from the office of the High Commissioner in London for the Commonwealth of Australia, a copy of a similar standard specification (No. 460b) for *paper-insulated, lead-covered, multiple twin cable*, for which also supplies

**Standard
Specification
for Cable
for Postmaster-
General's
Department.**

Openings for British Trade.

AUSTRALIA—continued.

may from time to time be required by the Postmaster-General's Department. This specification may be seen by United Kingdom manufacturers of electrical supplies at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C.I.B. 3,395.)

The Board of Trade are in receipt of copies of the following Acts passed by the South Australian Parliament:—

Railway Material.

No. 1,129.—Authorising the South Australian Railways Commissioner to construct a 5 ft. 3 inch gauge railway from Riverton to Spalding (see p. 329 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 14th November, 1912). This line will have a length of 51½ miles.

No. 1,137.—Authorising the South Australian Railways Commissioner to construct a 3 ft. 6 inch gauge line from the existing railway terminus at Booleroo Centre to Wilmington.

No. 1,139.—Authorising the South Australian Railways Commissioner to construct a railway of 5 ft. 3 inch gauge between Salisbury and a point at or near Long Plains.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for Australia reports that a firm in Sydney, N.S.W., is desirous of securing the sole agency, for either New South Wales or the Commonwealth of a United Kingdom firm for groceries. See Note †. (C.I.B. 3,691.)

H.M. Trade Commissioner also reports that another Sydney firm, manufacturing patent fertilisers, wishes to receive "straight-out" quotations from United Kingdom shippers for shiploads of superphosphates. See Note †. (C.I.B. 3,691.)

H.M. Trade Commissioner has further forwarded the names and addresses of four Sydney firms who wish to receive catalogues from United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters of the following articles:—*Furniture; fancy goods; toys; enamelware and domestic hardware; provisions and groceries; watches and clocks; jewellery; silver and plated goods; seeds, &c.* See Note †. (C.I.B. 3,692.)

Note†.—The names of the enquirers may be obtained by United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters of the goods mentioned on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above. Any further communications regarding the enquiries should be addressed to H.M. Trade Commissioner for Australia, 81, Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

NEW ZEALAND.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for New Zealand (Mr. W. G. Wickham) reports that tenders are invited by the Wellington Harbour Board for the supply and delivery of 265 tons of hoop steel and 3 tons of cast iron studs for wool-pressing purposes. Tenders, marked "Tender for Hoop Steel and Studs Contract, 1914," and accompanied by a deposit of £250,

Openings for British Trade.

NEW ZEALAND—continued.

either in cash or by a cheque on a local (Wellington) bank, should be addressed to the Harbour Board, Wellington, N.Z., from whom forms of tender can be obtained* and at whose office specifications can be seen. The probable final date for the receipt of tenders is given as 25th March.* *Local representation is necessary.*

A copy of the specification and form of tender, together with a sample stud, may be seen by iron and steel manufacturers in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C.I.B. 3,496.)

Harbour Improvements. See notice on p. 491.

H.M. Trade Commissioner also reports that a firm of general indent merchants and manufacturers' agents in Auckland wishes to represent United Kingdom refiners of salt and of saltpetre, and also United Kingdom manufacturers of desiccated coconut.

The name and address of the firm may be obtained by United Kingdom salt and saltpetre refiners and desiccated coconut manufacturers on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above. Any further communications should be addressed to H.M. Trade Commissioner, P.O. Box 369, Wellington, New Zealand.

(C.I.B. 3,501.)

SOUTH AFRICA.

The London Agents for the Durban Corporation notify that they are prepared to receive tenders, up to 11th March, for the supply and delivery f.o.b. of twelve miles of steel girder tram rails of British Standard Section No. 2, 95 lbs. per yard, together with fishplates, bolts and nuts, and tie bars, and also 3,000 copper rail bonds and 275 cross bends.

Sealed tenders should be sent to the Agents for the Corporation. Messrs. Webster, Steel and Company, 5, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C., from whom copies of the specifications may be obtained on deposit of two guineas, which will be returned on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender.

(C.I.B. 4,027.)

H.M. Trade Commissioner for South Africa (Sir R. Sothorn Holland) reports having received enquiries for the names and addresses of United Kingdom manufacturers who are able to execute special orders for (1) miniature replicas of statuary groups in china or coloured earthenware, and (2) Christmas and New Year cards.

All communications in connection with these enquiries should be sent direct to H.M. Trade Commissioner for South Africa, P.O. Box 1346, Cape Town, who is also prepared to receive catalogues for filing at his office for purposes of reference.

(C.I.B. 3,329.)

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

Openings for British Trade.

MAURITIUS.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, acting on behalf of the Government of Mauritius, invite tenders for the supply of 21,000 tons of Welsh steam coal delivered into lighters at Port Louis, Mauritius. Tenders, in sealed envelopes, will be received by the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W., up to noon on 2nd April.

Forms of tender and conditions of contract may be obtained at the Crown Agents' Office.

RUSSIAN FAR EAST.

Articles in demand. See article on pp. 455-7.

NORWAY.

H.M. Consul at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray) reports the following calls for tenders* by the Norwegian State Railways Authorities:—

(1). For the supply of *Decauville material, tip-trucks, wheels, axles, &c.*, for the Dovre section of the State Railways. Sealed tenders in Norwegian currency, marked "Transportmateriel" and accompanied by drawings, will be received, up to 2 p.m. on 2nd March, at "Overingeniørens kontor, Norges Statsbaner,"

Stören, Norway, where further particulars may be seen. *See Note†.*
(C.I.B. 3,678.)

(2). For the supply of *copper and brass* for the Drammen section of the State Railways. Sealed tenders, marked "Anbud paa kobber og messing," will be received, up to noon on 9th March, at "Distriktefens kontor, Norges Statsbaner," Drammen, where further particulars may be seen. *See Note†.*

(C.I.B. 3,941.)

(3). For the supply of 31,460 barrels of *Portland cement*. Sealed tenders, marked "Anbud paa 31,460 tdr. Portland cement," will be received, up to 3 p.m. on 27th February, at "Hovedstyrets kontor for Baneanliggender, Norges Statsbaner," Christiania. Further particulars may be seen at "Brokontoret, 8-9, Jernbanetorvet," Christiania. *See Note†.* H.M. Consul adds that there are Norwegian Portland cement works near Christiania, and that cement imported into Norway is dutiable at 30 öre per 100 kilogs. (about 3s. 4½d. per ton), less 6 per cent. tare for barrels.

(C.I.B. 3,942.)

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

A copy of each of the notices inviting tenders (in Norwegian) may be seen by United Kingdom manufacturers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

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

Openings for British Trade.

NORWAY—continued.

H.M. Consul also reports that a company is in course of formation in Christiania to take over and work a concession for an electric tramway about $5\frac{1}{2}$ kiloms. (nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles) long in the outskirts of Christiania and in connection with the existing tramway system. The estimated cost of the line is 850,000 kr. (about £47,200), including 200,000 kr. (about £11,000) for rolling stock.

The name and address of the present holders of the concession may be obtained by United Kingdom makers of electric tramway equipment on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C.I.B. 3,557.)

H.M. Consul further reports announcements in the local press, which may afford opportunities for United Kingdom manufacturers, as follow :—

The Norwegian Government has approved the resolution passed by the County Councils of three districts in the Stavanger Prefecture guaranteeing a loan of 330,000 kr. (about £18,300) for municipal electric works. See Note †.

A company has recently been formed with a capital of 50,000 kr. (about £2,800) to work a mill for the crushing of ores. See Note †.

Note †.—The names and addresses to which communications with regard to either of the foregoing notices should be addressed may be obtained by United Kingdom manufacturers desirous of supplying plant, &c. on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C.I.B. 3,940.)

Dry Dock Construction. See notice on p. 492.

GERMANY.

The British Vice-Consul at Breslau (Mr. H. Humbert) reports that a merchant in that town wishes to secure the agency of United Kingdom exporters of pickled herrings.

The name and address of the enquirer may be obtained by United Kingdom exporters of pickled herrings 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 Vice-Consulate, Breslau.

(C.I.B. 3,779.)

Openings for British Trade.

NETHERLANDS.

H.M. Consul-General at Rotterdam (Mr. E. G. B. Maxse, C.M.G.) reports that the Municipality of Rotterdam has placed a loan in Holland of 12,000,000 gulden (£1,000,000) to be spent on construction of new *harbour works* on the right bank of the New Waterway at Rotterdam, building of new *schools, gasworks, workhouse and lunatic asylum*, extension of *electric cable and telephone systems*, and extension of *waterworks*. (C.I.B. 3,383.)

H.M. Vice-Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Tom) reports that tenders will be received, up to 3rd March, by the Colonial Office at The Hague for the supply and delivery of *metal superstructures*, with accessories for one bridge for main traffic (Contract 617); *metal superstructures*, with accessories, for two bridges for ordinary traffic (Contract Lit. V. 19); *springs* (Contract 618); *screwbolts, with nuts* (Contract 619).

Specifications relating to the above contracts may be purchased from "Mart. Nijhoff, Lange Voorhout 9," The Hague, at a cost of 2½ gulden (4s. 2d) for Contract 617, 3 gulden (5s.) for Contract 618, 1 gulden (1s. 8d.) for Contract 619, and 4½ gulden (7s. 6d.) for Contract Lit. V. 19. (C.I.B. 3,612.)

BELGIUM.

H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Sir E. C. Hertslet) reports that tenders will be received, up to 6th April, by the Municipal Authorities of that city for the supply and mounting of a steam engine with pressure pumps for the North Hydraulic Station at Antwerp.

Tenders must be sent in sealed envelopes, by registered post, to the Burgomaster, Hôtel-de-Ville, Antwerp, and *must be accompanied by a deposit of 5,000 frs.* (£200).

The *cahier des charges* may be obtained, price 50 centimes (5d) each, at the Hôtel-de-Ville, Antwerp. A copy (in French) may be seen by United Kingdom manufacturers and contractors at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C.I.B. 3,488.)

BELGIAN CONGO.

Articles in Demand. See article on pp. 457-61.

PORTUGAL.

The "Diario do Governo" of 11th February contains a decree authorising the construction of a further extension about 17½ miles long of the line from Evora to Ponte do Sor. The estimated cost is put at 382,510 escudos (about £72,500).

*Openings for British Trade.***GREECE.**

Railway Material and Rolling Stock. See notice on p. 492.

GREECE (CRETE).

With reference to the notice on p. 122 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th October, 1913, relative to a call for tenders by the Cretan Government for the supply of five steam road rollers weighing 12 metric tons each, H.M. Vice-Consul at Canea (Mr. E. C. D. Rawlins) reports that the Governor-General has annulled this call for tenders and substituted another under the same conditions, excepting that the price of the rollers is not to exceed 15,048 frs. (about £602) each, which is the price that has been quoted by a German firm. Sealed tenders, in two envelopes, the inner marked "Offre pour la fourniture de cinq rouleaux compresseurs à vapeur," and the outer addressed to the "Administration Générale de l'île de Crète," Canea, will be received there up to 5 p.m. on 16th March. *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 the island, and by a certificate that the tenderer has satisfactorily executed a similar contract. The rollers will be admitted into Crete free of customs duty. No special form of tender is prescribed.*

Further particulars of the steam rollers required, and the conditions of tender (in French), may be *seen* by United Kingdom manufacturers of steam rollers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C.I.B. 3,182:20,799/13.)

MOROCCO.

H.M. Consul-General at Tangier (Mr. H. E. White, C.M.G.) reports that the "Commission Générale des Adjudications et des Marchés" intends to contract, by private arrangement after competition, for the supply of 1,500 tons of briquettes required by the "Contrôle de la Dette." Applications from firms desirous of tendering will be received, up to 1st April, by "M. le Président de la Commission Générale des Adjudications," Dar-En-Niaba, Tangier, *who will in due course invite approved applicants to tender.*

A copy of the general regulations regarding Moroccan contracts (in French) may be *seen* by United Kingdom contractors at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C.I.B. 3,936.)

H.M. Consul-General has also forwarded an extract from the "Bulletin Officiel" of 16th January, in which it is stated that it should be possible to develop the sale of agricultural machinery in Morocco, and advising manufacturers to open showrooms at such places as Casa-

Agricultural Machinery.

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

blanca. The machinery imported includes disc ploughs and single furrow ploughs, also harrows, harvesters, binders, threshers, &c. Europeans have been the chief purchasers up to the present, but there is every possibility of the natives adopting improved methods in the future, and it has been noticed that they have taken an interest in the trials of European machines. (C.I.B. 3,380.)

Railway Material. See notice on p. 492.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

H.M. Consul-General at New York (Sir C. W. Bennett, C.I.E.)

Trunk and Bag Lining ; Shade Cloth.

reports that a company in that city manufacturing cotton goods, wishes to get into touch with United Kingdom exporters of trunk and bag lining and shade cloth.

The name and address of the company may be *obtained* by United Kingdom exporters of the above-mentioned articles on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where also a sample of the lining required may be *seen*. Any further communications regarding the enquiry should be addressed to the British Consulate-General, New York. (C.I.B. 2,926.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (ALASKA).

Hydro-Electric Plant. See notice on p. 503.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Santo Domingo reports that a firm in that

Moving Picture Films.

town controlling four or five small picture-theatres in the Republic wishes to get into touch with a United Kingdom firm of film producers with a

view to hiring films.

The name and address of the enquirer may be obtained by United Kingdom film producers 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 Legation, Santo Domingo. (C.I.B. 3,479.)

ARGENTINA.

H.M. Minister at Buenos Aires reports that by Law No. 8,889 of

Loan Authorised for Sanitation Works.

18th July, 1913, the Sanitation Works Department of the Federal Capital was converted into the Sanitation Works Department of the Nation and is now responsible for the construction, &c. of all

the water and drainage works throughout the Republic. By a Law passed on 3rd January, the Department was authorised to raise a debenture loan up to 80,000,000 pesos gold (£16,071,000), on the security of its property, for the construction of sanitation works.

(C.I.B. 3,606.)

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 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 1913, 1,048 separate circulars were issued (to the number of 170,895 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.

EXHIBITIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Notification has been received of a Shipping, Engineering and Machinery Exhibition to be held at Olympia, London, from 25th September to 17th October, 1914. The Exhibition, which will be under the same management as the International Engineering and Machinery Exhibition held at Olympia in October, 1912, will comprise sections devoted to

**Shipping,
Engineering, and
Machinery
Exhibition in
London, 1914.**

*Exhibitions.***UNITED KINGDOM**—*continued.*

Naval Engineering, Naval Architecture, Marine Engineering, Shipping Exhibits, Fishery Exhibits, General Marine Exhibits, and General Engineering.

It is understood that the Netherlands Government has appointed a Royal Commission to organise, for inclusion in this Exhibition, a collective exhibit of Dutch Shipping (Naval and Mercantile Marine), Shipbuilding and Engineering Industries.

Further particulars, plans and application forms may be *obtained* from the Organising Managers, Shipping, Engineering and Machinery Exhibition, 104, High Holborn, London, W.C. (Ex. 810.)

BELGIUM.

H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Sir Cecil Hertslet) has forwarded particulars of an International Exhibition of Pastry, Confectionery and Chocolates, and the materials and plant employed in their manufacture, to be held in the Salle de la Grande Harmonie, rue de la Madeleine, Brussels, from 16th to 25th May, 1914. The Exhibition will be organised by the "Union des Patrons Pâtisseries de Belgique," from whom full particulars, forms of application, &c. can be *obtained* at 38 rue des Pierres, Brussels.

A copy of the plan, regulations and classification (in French) may be *seen* by United Kingdom firms at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (Ex. 638.)

SAMPLES OF HOSIERY AND OVERALLS FROM SOUTH AFRICA.**Exhibition at the Board of Trade.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade recently received from H.M. Trade Commissioner for South Africa (Sir R. Sothorn Holland) certain samples of hosiery and overalls manufactured in the United States, for which there is a considerable demand in South Africa, particularly amongst natives and mine labourers. These samples, which have been exhibited at the Chambers of Commerce in Manchester, Leeds, Glasgow, Leicester and Nottingham, have now been returned to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch, at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., and may be inspected there by United Kingdom manufacturers who may not already have seen them.

Details as to the cost of the goods in the United States, of the freight to South Africa, and of the railage to and the wholesale price in Buluwayo (Rhodesia) where the samples were obtained, are given on the following page:—

Samples of Hosiery and Overalls from South Africa.

Description of Article.	Home Cost in the United States. Per doz.	Sea Freight.	Railage.	Wholesale Selling Price at Buluwayo. Per doz.
Fleecy undervest	13s. 11d.	} 30s. per ton	15s. 1d. per 100 lbs.	} 27s. 6d.
Shirt	8.50 dols.			
Overalls (dungaree)	9.00 dols.			

The Customs duty on these goods of American origin is 15 per cent. *ad valorem*; the duty on similar goods of United Kingdom origin would be 12 per cent. *ad valorem*. (C.I.B. 1,581.)

UNITED KINGDOM TRADE WITH NEW ZEALAND.

Visit of H.M. Trade Commissioner.

In accordance with the practice that has been established for H.M. Trade Commissioners in the several Dominions to visit this country officially from time to time, so that manufacturers may have the opportunity of consulting them on any matters connected with their business or of obtaining information as to the possibilities of extending their trade, it has now been arranged that H.M. Trade Commissioner for New Zealand (Mr. W. G. Wickham) shall come to this country in the course of the next few weeks.

Mr. Wickham will attend first at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade in order to meet representatives of those firms who may be able to see him in London, and afterwards he will visit such trade and industrial centres in the provinces as it may appear most advantageous to visit in view of applications that may be received from firms in or near those centres and from Chambers of Commerce.

He is expected to arrive about the middle of March, but in order that appointments may be satisfactorily arranged, firms who may desire to see him are requested to make their applications as soon as possible. Such applications should be addressed to the Director, Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

One of the principal duties of His Majesty's Trade Commissioners is to report to the Board of Trade promptly, and if possible in advance, any opportunities which may arise in the Dominions in the form of contracts open to tender, or in any other way for the development of British trade. The Commissioners also report to the Board periodically on the nature and extent of foreign competition and other matters of commercial interest, including changes in Customs duties and regulations, financial and trade conditions, changes in regard to means of transport, and legislation affecting trade and commerce; and they furnish periodically lists of probable buyers of European goods in the Dominions. A good deal of the information so furnished is published by the Commercial Intelligence Branch in the "Board of Trade Journal," some is communicated to Chambers of Commerce likely to be specially interested and to those United Kingdom firms whose names are inscribed in the Special Register of the Commercial Intelligence Branch (see notice on p. 447), and some

United Kingdom Trade with New Zealand.

—e.g., lists of names of traders at particular places, detailed Customs regulations affecting particular matters, and similar information of limited interest—is filed at the Intelligence Branch for the information of persons interested who apply, either personally or by letter.

The Trade Commissioners also reply to all enquiries which may be addressed to them by British merchants and manufacturers, but it is generally desirable that enquiries should be made first of the Commercial Intelligence Branch, which is often in possession of the information sought and is thus in a position to save the enquirer much delay.

TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

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

	Imports (<i>see NOTE</i>).			Exports (Domestic) (<i>see NOTE</i>).		
	ELEVEN MONTHS ended NOVEMBER.			ELEVEN MONTHS ended NOVEMBER.		
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1911.	1912.	1913.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia*	99,022,000	98,985,000	118,945,000	144,529,000	135,426,000	135,727,000
Germany	431,364,000	480,788,000	479,863,000	360,617,000	394,280,000	448,514,000
Belgium†	151,957,000	164,951,000	165,206,000	122,972,000	136,249,000	128,595,000
France	290,551,000	297,970,000	307,300,000	219,086,000	242,988,000	250,360,000
Spain	36,167,000	37,427,000	46,577,000	34,242,000	37,227,000	38,684,000
Italy‡	122,955,000	132,653,000	130,733,000	79,416,000	86,221,000	89,955,000
Austria-Hungary ...	119,020,000	135,313,000	127,719,000	91,758,000	103,087,000	105,732,000
Egypt§	25,574,000	23,899,000	25,707,000	24,700,000	29,149,000	27,269,000
United States	289,934,000	346,662,000	355,173,000	382,446,000	440,698,000	462,566,000
Brazil	47,702,000	56,843,000	62,190,000	59,263,000	68,968,000	57,940,000
Japan¶	48,450,000	58,351,000	68,312,000	41,200,000	48,190,000	58,049,000
British India	87,198,000	97,429,000	115,292,000	134,372,000	148,305,000	148,234,000
Canada	94,395,000	120,136,000	126,222,000	51,092,000	62,350,000	78,196,000
British S. Africa ...	35,166,000	36,945,000	39,884,000	18,041,000	20,380,000	24,753,000
United Kingdom ...	521,407,000	568,279,000	598,005,000	415,711,000	445,975,000	482,134,000

* European, Russo-Finnish, and Black Sea Frontiers. † Value of principal articles only.

‡ Including silver bullion. § Including bullion. ¶ Exclusive of trade with Taiwan (Formosa) and Chosen (Corea).

A comparison of the total figures for the twelve months ended 31st December is possible for four countries, as follows, *viz.* :—

	Imports (<i>see NOTE</i>).			Exports (Domestic) (<i>see NOTE</i>).		
	TWELVE MONTHS ended DECEMBER.			TWELVE MONTHS ended DECEMBER.		
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1911.	1912.	1913.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany	477,213,000	525,660,000	525,857,000	398,548,000	440,376,000	495,630,000
Belgium*	167,560,000	182,372,000	183,345,000	136,940,000	151,983,000	173,073,000
France	322,633,000	329,234,000	340,335,000	243,074,000	265,503,000	275,015,000
United Kingdom ...	577,398,000	632,903,000	659,378,000	454,119,000	487,223,000	525,461,000

* Value of principal articles only.

Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions.

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

	Imports (<i>see NOTE</i>).			Exports (Domestic) (<i>see NOTE</i>).		
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1911.	1912.	1913.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Switzerland (9 months) ...	51,115,000	54,883,000	<i>54,811,000</i>	36,447,000	39,709,000	40,207,000
Mexico (9 months) ...	14,655,000*	13,971,000*	14,655,000*	11,609,000	13,499,000	11,748,000
Argentina† (9 months) ...	<i>55,294,000</i>	<i>56,703,000</i>	<i>63,437,000</i>	32,196,000	72,992,000	79,325,000
Australia (10 months) ...	53,216,000	63,769,000	64,717,000	47,710,000	45,345,000	52,781,000

* Including bullion and specie.

† Including silver bullion.

The returns shown above are exclusive of bullion and specie, except where otherwise stated.

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

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

For detailed particulars regarding the trade of the several countries, reference should be made to the “Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions, including figures received up to 31st January, 1914,” to be obtained (price 4½d., post free, 6d.), 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. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies, the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of T. Fisher Unwin, London, W.C.

TRADE CONDITIONS IN CERTAIN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

GENERAL.

Servia.—The British Vice-Consul at Belgrade (Mr. C. L. Blakeney) reports that since the outbreak of the first Balkan war in October, 1912, and the declaration of the Moratorium, trade and commerce and business in general have been practically at a standstill. Now, however, that the Moratorium has been raised and things are gradually assuming their normal aspect, trade and commerce are resuming their former prosperous course, and the Vice-Consul considers this a highly favourable moment for United Kingdom commercial travellers to visit Servia on business. (C.I.B. 3,052.)

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COAL.

Germany (Ruhr District).—The "Frankfurter Zeitung" of 8th February states that there were no very great changes in the Ruhr coal market during January, and that the weakening tendency has remained. The keen and continuous cold weather has resulted in an increased demand for house coal, but, on the other hand, has disturbed sea-going traffic so much as to lead to an accumulation of stocks, which the Ruhr Coal Syndicate has sought to counteract by storing supplies. As far as the various classes of coal are concerned, the sales of anthracite considerably decreased during January, and likewise those of gas and gas flame coal of all sorts. In forge and slow-burning coal also the average daily sale for the month was smaller, although in some varieties of forge coal and anthracite many good orders were booked; in the other varieties, however, large supplies have had to be stored. The coke sales were somewhat better than during the previous month, as a result of the increased demand for coke for stoking purposes. The sales of furnace coke declined still further. With the exception of briquettes suitable to be burnt as house coal, for which there was a good demand in consequence of the frosty weather, the sales of briquettes were also depressed. There were no changes in the conditions in the tar and tar products market. (X. 5,012.)

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GLASS.

Belgium.—According to the "Frankfurter Zeitung" of 6th February, the Belgian Window Glass Works Syndicate is about to develop its organisation still further. It is reported that the sales of window glass abroad, which, as is well known, are of different qualities, are to be taken over by a group of glass works, in order that they may specialise in their products and thereby be able to effect retrenchments in the cost of production. Whether this project will come to pass is at present a matter of conjecture, but in any case there is no doubt that the Syndicate realises that important steps will have to be taken to bring about an improvement in the situation of the glass industry. Under the control of the Syndicate, selling-prices have been maintained at a comparatively remunerative level; but the great curtailment of production which the Syndicate has had to effect is exercising a considerable influence on the results of individual works. At present all the works are having to limit their

Trade Conditions in certain Foreign Countries.

output, and, with several completely closed, it is estimated that the production is over 25 per cent. less than usual. One bad result of this state of affairs is that, as result of continued idleness, workmen are seeking employment in other trades, and afterwards do not return to their former occupations. The consequence is that employers are experiencing grave difficulties in finding labour, as women are forbidden by law from working at night, and the employment of boys is also restricted. The total exports of Belgian window glass amounted to 205.5 million kilogs. in 1913, compared with 217.2 million kilogs. in 1912, showing a decrease of 11.7 million kilogs. The decrease was chiefly in exports to the United Kingdom with 47.2 million kilogs. (53.7 million kilogs. in 1912), and Japan with 20.8 million kilogs. (29.0 million kilogs. in 1912).

Kilog. = 2.2046 lbs.

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IRON AND STEEL.

Belgium.—The "Börsen Zeitung" (Berlin) of 10th February states that a firmer tone is again prevailing in the Belgian iron market, and particularly in that for bar-iron. Buyers seem to have come to the conclusion that there will be no further decline in prices, and therefore they have approached the works with a view to giving orders, which in many cases would extend to the end of the year. The works, however, are in no way willing to enter into engagements at present-day prices beyond the end of May. Nevertheless, in spite of the undoubted revival, sufficient orders have not been booked to satisfy the ironworks completely. The pig-iron production is proceeding as before, and 211,000 metric tons were produced during January, as against 207,810 metric tons for the corresponding period of last year. In the export trade of half-finished products, French competition is becoming keener, and exporters are naturally apprehensive. Trade in hoop-iron has become somewhat more attractive and prices have improved. The situation has slightly improved in steel castings also. Sales of coal, which have been hindered through the disturbances of railway traffic, are once more pursuing their usual course. Trade in industrial coal continues depressed, and in coke and coking coal is quieter. On the other hand, however, trade in house coal is exceptionally brisk.

Metric ton = 2,204.6 lbs.

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France.—According to "Stahl und Eisen" (Düsseldorf) of 5th February, there has been a deterioration in market conditions in most districts of France during the past month. The pig-iron industry suffered mostly from the decreased consumption at the works, so that the large smelting works are constantly increasing their stocks. Compared with the month of January, 1913, which showed a pig-iron production of 429,100 metric tons, there are now six fewer blast furnaces in use. At present consumers are purchasing only as much as is needed for immediate use, as they are waiting to see the result on the pig-iron market of the further reduction which has been made in the price of French coke. The situation in the

Trade Conditions in certain Foreign Countries.

half-finished product market is similar to that in the pig-iron market. Trade in finished iron has been difficult, and competition to secure orders has become keener. The low prices for commercial iron quoted at the beginning of the year have in general prevailed. As a result of several important orders given by the French railway companies, the situation in the construction sheds has lately improved. In consequence of the late unsuccessful negotiations for the reconstruction of the French Tube Syndicate, uncertainty has again been introduced into the tube market. To some extent, it is true, trade is fairly satisfactory, but prices are not very remunerative.

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Germany (Upper Silesia).—The "Börsen Zeitung" (Berlin) of 11th February states that during the latter half of January the Upper Silesian steel works were more busily employed, with the result that the pig-iron consumption has increased somewhat. The demand for Upper Silesian pig-iron from abroad has been very strong, particularly in Russian Poland. The Polish and South Russian works have always been good customers for Upper Silesian pig-iron, and it is stated that more consideration is at present being given to Russian needs, as the home market has shown a smaller demand. All the blast-furnaces are in operation, and though, in one or two cases, pig-iron stocks have accumulated, there is every prospect that they will be used up in the months to follow. Since the beginning of the year one of the difficulties encountered in foreign sales has been the important price reductions in all varieties of foundry pig-iron lately made by English producers, which has rendered necessary the regulation of prices. (X. 5,024.)

TEXTILES.

France.—The "Börsen Zeitung" (Berlin) of 10th February states that no sales of any great importance have taken place in French wool lately. Prices, however, have not only been firmer, but have shown a tendency to rise. The demand for tops has been better than formerly, and there has been more inclination to buy noils and waste of all qualities. Quotations for tops, noils and waste have also been quite firm. The wool-yarn trade remained unchanged. Although better orders for weaving and hosiery yarn of different qualities have been booked, trade is still fairly quiet. No revival in the woollen and half-woollen stuffs trade is reported. On the other hand, manufacturers of carpets and furniture stuffs have been doing better. In the cotton-weaving industry the revival has been maintained, but trade has been quieter in cotton yarns. Nevertheless, in neither cotton spinning nor cotton weaving has manufacturing been restricted, as a change for the better is universally expected. The raw silk market has again been firmer, and in consequence there has been a brisker demand for the raw product. Merchants have also proved more ready to consent to the higher quotations demanded by manufacturers of silk stuffs. Favourable reports are given of the linen industry. In the jute industry there was rather a weakening in demand and prices, yet the results are considered as very favourable. (X. 5,004.)

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Trade Conditions in certain Foreign Countries.

Germany.—The “*Börsen Zeitung*” (Berlin) of 13th February states that lately no sales of great importance have been effected in the German wool markets. Consumers have been showing a certain amount of reserve in buying, which is attributed to quietness in the wool-weaving industry and to the high prices of raw material. Business in tops, noils and waste has also been quieter, but in all cases prices for the raw material have remained firm. No change is notified in the yarn industry. Increased activity in the worsted yarn spinning mills has not yet been experienced. Consumers of woollen yarn have been limiting their purchases to the supply of their own needs. The situation in the wool and half-wool weaving industry is quiet. Regular business is being conducted in furniture-stuffs and carpets. Consumers of cotton yarns seem to have made their purchases beforehand, as trade has been distinctly quieter lately. Reports of the cotton-weaving industry have been somewhat more re-assuring, although now, as before, manufacturers are complaining of unsatisfactory selling prices. The recent rise in price of raw silk has had little or no effect on trade in silk fabrics. Manufacturers of velvets seem to be fairly busily employed. Trade in flax has been brisker and the foreign demand for linen goods has been good. The jute yarn and jute goods industry has been quiet, and prices are unaltered.

(X. 5,049.)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRADE IN THE RUSSIAN FAR EAST.

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

General.—The trade of the United Kingdom with Vladivostok has always been insignificant, and in 1912 it was, as far as can be judged, rather more so than usual. Its actual volume cannot be ascertained, as by far the greater part of it comes through Hamburg and Antwerp and is, accordingly, classified by the customs as of German origin. The known imports from the United Kingdom have not reached such importance as to be placed under a separate heading by themselves, and are included in the returns as imports from other countries. Even upon the most favourable calculation they make a disappointing show. The most unsatisfactory feature of the position is that it is impossible to see how, under present conditions, any material improvement can take place. United Kingdom firms have no footing in Vladivostok and, in face of the businesses which have been built up by old concerns which have grown with the country, would start at a disadvantage in establishing themselves. It is only by working on some principle of combination of different producing interests that any serious result could be achieved; otherwise, the initial expenditure and the cost of organisation would be prohibitive.

The country is a new one, and it has no manufactures. It is, therefore, dependent upon outside sources for satisfying all the needs of a population which is not large at present, but which is rapidly increasing in numbers and purchasing power. These needs can be

Opportunities for Trade in the Russian Far East.

supplied by European Russia or by foreign countries. European Russia has not been particularly successful in developing its trade; there is, indeed, a protective tariff in force, but it is not the complete tariff of the European frontier of Russia, and, in spite of it, the imports from foreign countries continue to increase. On the surface there appears to be no real reason why United Kingdom manufacturers, who are now on exactly the same footing as regards freight as those of Continental nations, should cut so poor a figure.

Openings for Trade.—*Galvanised iron*, corrugated and flat, remains, as it always has been, the staple import of United Kingdom manufacture. In addition to galvanised iron a considerable quantity of *black sheet roofing iron*, some 30 *portable engines*, a few *boat motors* and some casual *machinery* were imported from the United Kingdom. United Kingdom *flooring tiles* are sold to some extent in Vladivostok, *salt* is brought from the United Kingdom occasionally, there is a fairly steady sale of *hosiery*, *boots and shoes*, *cloths* and *ready-made clothes*, and a small demand for United Kingdom *stationery*, *picture postcards*, and *drawing and writing materials*.

The trade in all these goods is capable of development, and to them might be added *sanitary ware* and *toilet accessories*, for which, with the improving living conditions, there should be a fair opening. *Central heating apparatus* is more and more used, but in this article it would be hard to compete with the Germans. *Carpets and rugs*, *curtains* and *furnishing materials* from the United Kingdom should be able to compete on account of their recognised quality, though the demand would not be large. It should be possible, also, to sell *cutlery and glass* and *china tableware* of a good second quality.

Jewellery shops are very poorly equipped, and have very little in the way of silver goods for presents and ornamental purposes. Such things as *silver table decorations*, *vases*, *cigarette cases* and *stationery accessories* might well find an opening. It should be possible to introduce *watches* and *clocks* of United Kingdom manufacture. It must be remembered that all such goods must be stamped by the Government assay office, that silver goods must contain 84 zolotniks per funt (87½ per cent.) of pure metal and gold articles 56 zolotniks per funt (58⅓ per cent.).

Hardware, tools and locks of United Kingdom manufacture, in view of their high quality, should be able to compete to some extent with the German articles. They are at present almost unknown.

Machinery of all kinds is imported, Germany being the country of origin of probably 80 per cent. of it. *Agricultural machinery* is the branch which shows the greatest capacity of development. The labour policy now being followed, which is directed to the fostering of agriculture by means of Russian instead of Chinese labour, is creating a rapidly growing demand for such machinery. *Oil tractors* have quite recently been introduced for ploughing, and are attracting very great interest, and their use is certain to spread. United Kingdom firms making a perfected type of *oil or steam tractor* might profitably follow up this matter. *Boat motors*, *motor cars* and *lorries* are also in demand to an extent which is worthy of attention. *Saw mill machinery*, *oil mills* and *flour mills* are in request. The first is at present entirely

Opportunities for Trade in the Russian Far East.

supplied by Germany; the other two by Russia or Germany. A good British type, if well introduced, should find a fair sale.

Some 5,000 tons of foreign cement are stated to have been imported in 1912, all from Germany. For Government building contracts none but Russian cement can be employed; this results in an occasional shortage in the local supply for the purposes of private building, which permits foreign cement to be brought in in spite of the high duty.

Language.—In correspondence with local firms the Russian language should, whenever possible, be employed; German is fairly widely known, but English is very little used. Of the small number of travellers representing British firms who find their way to Vladivostok hardly any have a knowledge of the language of the country; the consequence is that they are obliged to rely upon indifferent interpreters, and are thus very heavily handicapped.

Quotations.—A reproach which is continually levelled at United Kingdom firms is that they obstinately refuse to give c.i.f. prices. With the good direct communications which now unite Vladivostok with Europe there would seem to be no reason why this should be the case. The great distance by sea makes freight to these parts a most important item, and buyers, in demanding a c.i.f. price, make a perfectly reasonable request.

Packing.—The attention of United Kingdom firms is again called to the absolute necessity of very careful packing, especially of machinery. The long voyage, often with two transshipments, and the changes of temperature on the way are very liable to produce breakage and deterioration. Great care should be taken that no parts are missing when goods are shipped, and that ample spare parts are sent. It is very difficult to supply omissions locally.

While on the subject of machinery, manufacturers are reminded that the Russian workman uses it hardly, and that skilled mechanics are exceedingly rare; moreover, fuel—mainly Japanese coal—is of poor quality. Simplicity of mechanism and solidity of construction are of prime importance for the Russian Far East.

Credit.—It is, after all, in the matter of credit that United Kingdom firms are at a disadvantage in comparison with foreign concerns. In a country where cash purchases are a rarity and sales against promissory notes on long terms are universal, the position of the would-be seller who demands payment in full of all his money before the buyer has even seen what he has bought is a discouraging one. Without in any way advising firms at home to try and compete with local concerns in extending terms of credit which it is out of the question for them to give, H.M. Consul believes that more liberality might be accorded than is the case at present when purchasers are in a position to have payment for goods guaranteed by local banks.

GOODS SALEABLE IN THE BELGIAN CONGO.

The following information is from the report by H.M. Vice-Consul at Leopoldville (Mr. J. E. Bell) on the trade of the Congo in 1912, which will shortly be issued:—

The total value of the import trade of the Belgian Congo for 1912

Goods Saleable in the Belgian Congo.

was 54,232,878 frs. (£2,169,315), an increase of £5,600,000 frs. (£224,000) over the previous year. Of this total Belgium supplied 66 per cent., the United Kingdom 10 per cent. and Germany 8 per cent. The imports from Germany show a considerable increase, the percentage for 1911 being 5, whilst the percentage of imports from the United Kingdom for the same year was 12. The local customs statistics, however, do not always show the true country of origin, and it might be questioned if they are a reliable index of the movement of the trade. It would seem that the nationality of the ship which brings the goods is sometimes taken as indicating the country of origin. Thus salt, which up till recently came in large quantities from Cape Verde in German ships, was put down as of German origin, and goods shipped from Hamburg are not infrequently of British origin. From enquiries made it would seem that there is nothing to account for the increase in German imports, but the detailed customs statistics are not yet available.

The percentage of imports from the British Empire has increased from 15·8 per cent. in 1911 to 17 per cent. in 1912.

The total value of the exports for 1912 amounted to 59,926,399 frs. (£2,397,056), an increase of 5,873,973 frs. (£234,959) over 1911. The exportation of ivory remains stationary, but the exports of gum copal continue to increase rapidly. Between 1910 and 1912 the value of gum copal exported increased nearly five times, and has now reached the considerable sum of 6,384,861 frs. (£255,394) per annum.

The exports of copper—which only commenced in 1911—amounted to 2,462 metric tons in 1912, and it is estimated that in 1913 they will reach 10,000 metric tons. The exports of gold continue to increase, and 31,057 ozs., valued at £132,880, were exported in 1912.

Notes on the retail trade in the Congo.—The chief retail traders in the Congo are the Portuguese, who deal principally with the natives and have stores up-country in places where no other white men would think of commencing business. One Dutch, one British, one German and one French firm have also stores at various points in the Congo. Money has taken the place of barter throughout the Lower Congo.

For **Europeans** the principal articles retailed are as follows:—

Tinned goods.—Better quality French and Belgian goods are most in request. The European as a rule attaches more importance to quality than to price.

Jams.—Belgian, United Kingdom and French are most in demand.

Biscuits.—Belgian biscuits are not much sold, and objections are frequently made as to the manner in which they are packed. United Kingdom biscuits are generally preferred, though the products of two French firms are sold in considerable quantities.

Sauces.—These are of French and United Kingdom origin.

Butter.—Fresh butter put up by a French firm is sold for 3 frs. (2s. 5d.) per tin. Danish butter in round flat boxes is much sold. Butter put up by United Kingdom firms is also sold, but meets with a much smaller demand.

Tinned milk.—Here the Swiss product holds the field.

Wines.—French wines are preferred. Table wines of Portuguese

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and Algerian origin sell very well. Champagne sells best when of good quality.

The principal articles sold to **natives** are as follows:—

Cotton fabrics.—Fabrics of medium quality are most sought after. The colours preferred are red and black. The lengths most asked for are 7 yards at Boma and 8 yards at Leopoldville. The breadths vary from 24 to 38 inches. These fabrics arrive in bales of 100 lengths wrapped in waterproof paper and jute cloth, compressed by hydraulic power and fastened with thin iron bands. Each package contains assorted widths.

Loin cloths.—In general the sale of these articles is diminishing. The contact of the native with the European has had the effect of making him imitate the latter in the matter of dress. Loin cloths most in favour are:—

(1) *Russian loin cloth.*—Red with white designs representing crosses, points or lines. These loin cloths, measuring 50 by 70 inches, are sold for 2 frs. (1s. 7d.) each, and arrive in packages of 150 pairs.

(2) *Kasai loin cloth.*—White with red or yellow borders. These loin cloths are sold from 2 frs. to 2 frs. 50 cents. (1s. 7d. to 2s.) per pair, according to quality; the size is 6 by 3 feet.

(3) *Loin cloth with red border.*—The border is doubled and stitched; the size is 6 by 3 feet.

Handkerchiefs.—Amongst other fabrics may be mentioned red handkerchiefs retailed at 50 cents. (5d.) each; Italian silk handkerchiefs, which are sold at 2 frs. (1s. 7d.) each. These articles are sold principally to the women, who convert them into bonnets. The size most desired is 50 centimetres (19 $\frac{3}{4}$ ins.) square.

Blue and white striped prints go in considerable quantities into the interior (district of Kwango) and to the Portuguese frontier. Caravans arriving at Matadi with loads of rubber from Maquella do Zombo return with loads of "stripes."

Indigo blue drill of the best quality, in lengths measuring 6 yards by 32 inches, is much sold at the retail price of 6 frs. (4s. 10d.) per length.

Red scarlet baize with leaf designs in black has a certain vogue; it is sold at 7 frs. (5s. 7d.) per length of 8 yards by 36 inches, and 10 frs. (8s.) per length of 10 yards by 36 inches.

Cotton covers.—White covers with red borders are much in demand by the natives, and are retailed at 2 frs. to 2 frs. 50 cents (1s. 7d. to 2s.) each; they are principally of Belgian and Dutch manufacture. A red cover which is retailed at 2 frs. (1s. 7d.) each is less in demand.

Ready-made and second-hand clothing.—The Congo native is very fond of an old waistcoat, but the retail price at Matadi should not exceed 1 fr. (10d.) each; these garments therefore must be bought in Europe at 4d. to 5d. each. Second-hand suits are sold at Matadi at 5 frs. (4s.) each. Cheap ready-made European trousers are sold at Matadi at 5 frs. (4s.) per pair, the purchase price in Europe being 3 frs. (2s. 5d.) per pair. Suits can be made locally by Senegalese tailors at the price of 3 frs. (2s. 5d.) for a pair of trousers and 4 frs. (3s. 2d.) for a coat. The workmanship, however, leaves

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very much room for improvement, and the material entrusted by Europeans to such tailors is usually cheap drill; it is seldom that a tolerable fit can be secured.

Slippers.—These are principally of German origin, and are sold to the natives at 2 frs. (1s. 7d.) per pair; they are bought at 7 marks 80 pf. (7s. 8d.) per dozen.

Straw hats.—These articles are much in demand, but must be of cheap quality, costing not more than 2 frs. 50 cents (2s.) each to the native.

Sardines.—These are principally of Portuguese origin; they are sold at 50 cents (5d.) per box. The native is very fond of sardines and prefers a box which is furnished with a tin opener. Small boxes costing 2½d. are also sold. Purchases in Europe are made through United Kingdom firms.

Milk.—Tins of condensed milk are bought by the native from time to time, and sell at 50 cents (5d.) per small tin. Sweetened milk is preferred.

Sugar comes mostly from Belgium. It is sold at 50 cents (5d.) per packet of 500 grammes (1.1 lbs.).

Matches.—Several varieties are sold. The sale price is 4 frs. 50 cents (3s. 7d.) per gross retail and 3 frs. (2s. 5d.) per gross wholesale.

Candles come from Belgium, the Netherlands, France and the United Kingdom; the retail price is 50 cents (5d.) per packet of five.

Soap is imported in 1 cwt. cases. The blue mottled soap of Marseilles has the greatest sale. The usual retail price is 50 cents (5d.) per 1 lb. bar.

Starch is of Belgian or Dutch origin, and is retailed at 50 cents (5d.) per box containing 1 lb.

Enamelled ware.—The native does not buy much enamelled ware; the ordinary basin with a blue wire rim is, however, sold in considerable quantities.

Crockery is generally of Dutch origin. Patterned plates are worth at Matadi 4 frs. (3s. 2d.) per dozen and are sold at 50 cents (5d.) each. White plates of inferior quality are retailed at 50 cents (5d.) for two.

Machetes are usually of German origin. They cost the trader 24 cents (2½d.) each and are retailed for 50 cents (5d.) each.

Perfumes and perfumed soaps are almost exclusively of German origin.

Flour.—Austro-Hungarian flour is imported in small barrels weighing 20 to 50 kilograms. (44 to 110 lbs.).

Trumpery ware.—Other articles of trade, such as padlocks, scissors, pocket-knives, mirrors, cheap imitation pearls, &c. are usually of German origin.

All of the above retail prices are for the Lower Congo—Matadi, Boma and Banana—which can be reached by ocean steamers. The high freight rates demanded by the Matadi-Leopoldville Railway, which has a monopoly of the carrying trade, have the effect of adding anything from 30 to 50 per cent. and in some cases 100 per cent. on to

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these prices, according to the bulk and weight of the article. On the Upper Congo steamer freight at a high rate is also added on to the price for the unfortunate European and native alike, and naturally in these more remote parts traders demand a higher rate of profit. The percentage of loss to the trader on goods stolen and damaged is also much higher. Cases of beverages destined for remote parts frequently arrive empty after the lapse of eight or nine months from their departure from Europe.

Openings for British trade.—In the foregoing paragraphs a description of the principal articles retailed is given. A list of all the firms trading in the Congo with their European addresses has been forwarded to the Director of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. Communications relative to trade should, as a rule, be addressed to the European headquarters of these firms in preference to local branches. It should be mentioned, however, that German commercial travellers visit the Congo. When they arrive at a given point they engage a room at an hotel (if there is one) or at a local store, spread out their samples and showcases, and then go round and invite all the storekeepers to come and inspect them. A few British firms have travellers who visit the Congo: and Italian and French wine firms have representatives who make occasional visits. Manchester cotton goods are meeting with considerable competition from the Germans, especially in cheap prints. On the other hand it should be recorded that the class of trade which the Germans have captured is not a very desirable one. They are heavily involved with the Portuguese traders, many of whom are now in deep water owing to the rubber crisis.

SILK CONDITIONED AT EUROPEAN SILK CENTRES.

Amended Figures.

With reference to the notice on p. 330 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th February giving particulars of the silk conditioned at European silk centres in 1913, H.M. Consul at Milan (Mr. J. H. Towsey) has now forwarded an amended table as follows, the items in which alterations have been made being noted in thick type:—

Silk Centres.	Organzine.		Tram.		Raw.		Other.		Total.	
	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.
	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.
Milan	1,633,750	1,491,095	1,250,510	1,264,840	6,743,175	6,694,150	190,755	136,900	9,823,190	9,496,985
Lyons	1,175,752	1,009,161	1,209,492	1,062,319	5,600,996	6,040,025	203,651	223,975	8,189,891	8,335,480
St. Etienne	497,937	655,377	266,481	271,574	386,561	579,521	2,201	1,336	1,353,880	1,508,308
Zurich	627,598	577,728	526,862	469,224	327,989	365,584	—	—	1,482,449	1,412,536
Crefeld	279,083	274,226	177,467	112,617	139,846	172,420	20,625	11,169	557,021	570,432
Basle	406,070	446,142	212,365	227,450	175,713	144,522	1,839	1,406	795,987	819,520
Furri	272,584	231,720	8,267	9,766	253,499	276,729	5,221	3,312	570,171	521,527
Elberfeld...	331,269	265,557	180,554	133,077	252,240	214,486	15,477	13,069	782,570	626,189

Kilog. = 2·2046 lbs.

(C.I.B. 3,577.)

FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN IN 1913.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade has received the following particulars, from a reliable source, relative to the foreign trade of Japan in 1913:—

The value of the foreign trade of Japan for the year 1913 shows a considerable increase over that for the preceding year, the imports amounting to £74,400,000 and the exports to £64,300,000, making a total of £138,700,000, as compared with imports £63,200,000 and exports £53,800,000 (total £117,000,000) in 1912.

Although from a statistical point of view the trade has shown a steady increase and the position would seem to be good, it is, nevertheless, true that 1913 was, on the whole, a bad year for business men, and many of the foreign firms had a trying time. It was hoped that there would be a revival of trade when the country had recovered from the depression which followed after the late Emperor's death, but the boom has been postponed, and now the hopes of the optimists are centred on the coronation, which, they think, will bring a return of confidence, while others hope that if the Government can float a foreign loan a period of cheap money may improve matters to some extent.

There was a falling-off in the trade in materials required for the execution of public works, and business in general was dull. According to figures prepared by the Hypothec Bank, the total amount of capital issues in 1913 was only £50,000,000, or £21,000,000 less than in 1912.

Silk, which is the staple product of Japan, had a good year. In the summer, prices rose very high, as, in spite of the fact that the crop was large, the demand was very good not only from Europe but also from America. There was a decline later on in the year, brought about by a persistent hammering of the market, but most of the farmers must have made money from their cocoons, and many of the reelers probably did well also. Japan is now the largest silk producer in the world, and Yokohama is the most important silk market. In silk piece-goods (*habutae*) there has also been a revival, which has given the manufacturers some confidence after repeated bad years.

The imports of **rice** during the year were very heavy—(about £5,000,000)—mostly from Saigon and Rangoon, while in addition to these some £800,000 worth was imported from Corea.

There was a big advance in importations of **wheat** from America and Australia. Farmers had decreased the acreage under wheat in favour of barley, with the result that the flour companies had to supplement their needs from abroad. The consumption of flour in Japan is increasing gradually.

The item which contributed the most towards the swelling of Japan's import figures was **raw cotton**. Last year the value for the first time exceeded £22,000,000, or over one-quarter of the value of Japan's total imports. To this amount India was by far the largest contributor. The development in the cotton spinning business was as large as in previous years; there were many new mills started and many extensions, and nearly £500,000 worth of **spinning machinery** was imported in the course of the year. Apart from the increasing home demand, the chief outlet for the products of these

Foreign Trade of Japan in 1913.

mills is China, and it is becoming a great question whether the extension has not been too rapid. In **cotton piece-goods** as well as in **yarns** there was a big advance in shipments to China of 50 and 40 per cent. respectively, and the Japanese Authorities hope that the new arrangement, whereby goods going into Manchuria over the Corean and Antung-Mukden Railways get an advantage of one-third of the duty (see p. 128 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th October, 1913, and p. 755 of the issue of 25th September, 1913), will still further increase this trade.

One of the most interesting features of the year's trading was the exportation of **coal**. The exports were very large, far greater than in other years, and various foreign markets, such as India, the Pacific Coast of the United States, and Vancouver, have been entered by Japanese coal. Meanwhile the increase in local shipping and in Japanese industrial concerns caused a growth in the demand for coal which was in excess of the supply. The result was that it went up considerably in price, thereby handicapping those factories which are large consumers. Great efforts are being made to increase the output of coal in the Hokkaido. It is not thought that there are very great opportunities for further developing the Kiushiu coal seams, but the Hokkaido is still comparatively unknown. Unfortunately the disastrous accident at the Yubari Mine, one of the largest in the island, threw work back a great deal.

The situation with regard to **sugar** has proved rather remarkable. As was the case in the preceding year, typhoons caused serious damage to the Formosan crop, so that the Japanese refineries had to supplement their wants from Java. Large amounts of raw sugar, to the value of £3,500,000, were imported, while on the other hand over £1,500,000 worth of refined sugar was exported to China, where the Japanese refineries are competing with the Hong Kong companies.

Trade with China was also good in other articles, especially since quiet has been restored. Exports to China increased by nearly 50 per cent., as compared with 1912, and in cotton yarns and tissues, copper and cuttle fish there was a striking development.

With regard to the distribution of trade amongst countries it is satisfactory to note that the British Empire is still well at the head of the list, enjoying about one-third of the total trade, imports and exports, while America comes second, and China third. The position of the British Empire is chiefly due to the large amount of raw cotton sent by India to Japan, but as far as the United Kingdom alone is concerned Japan purchased more goods in 1913 than ever before. There was some falling-off in **cotton textiles**, but in **woollens** there was a recovery, and the figures for **fertilisers**, **machinery** and **paper** were quite good. Although the returns for **metals** would make it appear that a large business had been done, it was probably most of it of an unprofitable nature, and there was a good deal of trouble between metal importers and dealers. Germany has done fairly well, having sold to Japan increased quantities of **machinery**, **woollen yarns**

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and dyes. The United States have bought more from Japan, but but sold less to her. On the whole, the year was not a bad one for United Kingdom interests in Japan, but it must be remembered that the tendency towards direct trade is growing, and a part of the United Kingdom transit or entrepôt business is being diverted into other channels. (C.I.B. 2,668.)

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

RUSSIA.

With reference to the notice at pages 445-448 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 20th February, 1913, respecting a Bill regarding drawbacks on articles of Russian manufacture, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Bill in question was passed by the Duma on the 3rd February, with some slight modification recommended by the Finance Committee.

The Bill has still to be passed by the Upper Chamber.

(C. 1,292.)

ITALY.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that at a recent meeting of the Council of Ministers it was decided to present to the Legislature a proposal that the statistical tax should in future be applied generally to all goods passing through the Italian Customs.

[*Note.*—This tax is at present levied (at the rate of 10 centesimi per unit of measurement) only on certain specified goods when imported and entering into consumption in Italy.]

(C. 1,339.)

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

With reference to recent notices in the "Board of Trade Journal" respecting the restrictions on the importation of animals from Ireland into Great Britain, the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have issued an Order, dated the 13th February ["Animals (landing from Ireland) Amendment Order of 1914 (No. 2)"] prohibiting, as from the date of the Order, the landing at any port or place in Great Britain of cattle, sheep, goats or swine shipped from Ireland. (C. 1,480.)

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA.

With reference to the Notice which appeared on p. 247 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 1st May, 1913, respecting the value of foreign currencies for Customs purposes in Canada under Customs Memo. No. 1718 B, the Board of Trade have now received from H.M. Trade Commissioner in Canada copy of a further Customs Memo. (No. 1764 B), dated 24th December, 1913, notifying that an Order-in-Council of the 20th December last has been issued under the provisions of section 59 of the Customs Act declaring the equivalent value of foreign coins in Canadian currency for Customs purposes in the Dominion, with effect from the 1st November, 1913.

The equivalent exchange values given in the Memo. are, for the most part, the same as those previously adopted,—the principal changes effected being in connection with the silver "peso" current in the Central American States and the silver "tael" and "dollar" in China.

The equivalents given in the present Memorandum for the principal Countries are as follows:—

Countries.	Monetary Unit.	Value in Canadian Currency.
		Dols.
Argentine Republic	Peso (gold)	0·9647
Austria-Hungary	Crown	0·203
Belgium	Franc	0·193
Denmark	Crown	0·268
France	Franc	0·193
German Empire	Mark	0·238
Guatemala	} Peso (silver)	0·435
Honduras		
Nicaragua		
Salvador... ..		
India (British)	Rupee	0·3244½
Italy	Lira	0·193
Japan	Yen	0·498
Netherlands	Florin	0·402
Panama	Balboa	1·000
Russia	Rouble	0·515
Straits Settlements	Dollar	0·5677
Venezuela	Bolivar	0·193
	Tael	0·651 (a)
	Dollar :	
	Yuan	0·519
China	Hongkong }	0·469
	British }	
	Mexican	0·473

(a) For Shanghai. The rate of exchange of the tael varies for the several Chinese ports. [3219.]

With reference to the Notice which appeared on pp. 235-6 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 3rd February, 1910, respecting the importation of live stock into Canada under regulations established by an Order-in-Council of 30th November, 1909, the Board of Trade are now in receipt of copy of a further Order-in-Council, dated 10th January, 1914,

Amended Regulations respecting Importation of Swine from the United States.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

which amends the regulations previously issued respecting the importation of swine from the United States into Canada.

The present Order-in-Council provides that, in addition to the regulations previously in force in regard to swine imported from the United States, the importer will also be required to produce an affidavit to the effect that the swine he proposes to import have not been immunized to hog cholera by the simultaneous injection of hog cholera virus and serum.

(C. 1,364.)

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

With reference to the Notice which appeared on p. 348 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 5th February last notifying the contemplation of the taking of evidence relative to Tariff investigation by the Inter-State Commission, the Board of Trade have now been informed by H.M. Trade Commissioner in Australia that the Commission commenced to take evidence on the 12th January last—the first subject of enquiry being the application for further tariff assistance for the boot and shoe industry.

H.M. Trade Commissioner states that no shorthand report of the evidence given is being taken, except by the press.

Firms interested in the matter are, consequently, notified that detailed reports of evidence given in connection with the boot and shoe industry appear in the Melbourne "Age" for the 13th and 14th January last, which may be consulted by British traders on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

(3,699.)

With reference to various Notices which have appeared in recent issues of the "Board of Trade Journal" relative to applications received by the Inter-State Commission for tariff investigation, the Board of Trade have now been informed by H.M. Trade Commissioner in Australia that the following further list of applications received by the Commission have been issued:—

Tariff No.	Articles.	Present Rate of Duty.	
		Under the General Tariff.	Under the United Kingdom Preferential Tariff.
APPLICATIONS FOR FURTHER TARIFF ASSISTANCE.			
8	Perfumed spirits and bay rum <i>per gall.</i>	25s.	25s.
9	Spirituous preparations: essences, tinctures, infusions, &c., &c....	According to strength.	spirituous

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—continued.

Tariff No.	Article.	Present Rate of Duty.	
		Under the General Tariff.	Under the United Kingdom Preferential Tariff.
APPLICATIONS FOR FURTHER TARIFF ASSISTANCE—contd.			
45 (A)	Melicated confectionery	3d. per lb.	2½d. per lb.
106 (A)	Apparel—ladies' (or alternatively for the abolition of the duty on materials used)	40 % ad val.	35 % ad val.
106 (A)	Costumes, mantles, &c.	40 % "	35 % "
106 (A)	Small fancy leatherware	Various	rates.
352 (A)			
387 (A)			
119 (A)	Fur apparel and other articles made from fur	35 % ad val.	30 % ad val.
121	Hats, ladies', children's, men's, hand or machine sewn, trimmed or untrimmed; also woven hoods, blocked With a fixed minimum on some lines of	35 % "	30 % "
(D & E)		7s. per doz.	6s. per doz.
141 (A)	Articles of tin plate or other sheet metal (e.g., gas and electric street lamps, assembled or unassembled)	25 % ad val.	15 % ad val.
141 (A)	Lamps, motor car, of all descriptions	25 % "	15 % "
148	Milk and cream supply cans (assembled or unassembled)	25 % "	25 % "
156 (A)	Horseshoe nails	8s. per cwt.	7s. 6d. per cwt.
158-9	Weighting machines to weigh 3 cwt. and over:		
	Automatic	Free	Free
	Other kinds	20 % ad val.	20 % ad val.
160 (C)	Engines—petrol	20 % "	20 % "
170 (A)	Fuel stoves and ranges; gas stoves; register grates and interiors; cast iron furnace pans: camp ovens	30 % "	25 % "
170 (A)	Japanned and stove-coated metal-ware	30 % "	25 % "
170 (A)	Articles made from tin plate or other sheet metals	30 % ad val.	25 % ad val.
170 (A)	Acetylene gas generators	30 % "	25 % "
172	High pressure brass water work and gun metal steam work	30 % "	25 % "
178 (B)	Gas meters (except unassembled parts)	20 % "	15 % "
181	Cast iron pipes and fittings... ..	40s. per ton	35s. per ton
236	Paints and colours—		
(A)	Ground in liquid in packages containing over 14 lb... ..	4s. per cwt.	4s. per cwt.
(B)	Ground in liquid in packages containing 14 lb. and under; paints and colours prepared for use and tattoo oil... ..	6s. "	6s. "
		or	or
		20 % ad val., whichever rate returns the higher duty.	15 % ad val. whichever rate returns the higher duty.
(C)	Ships' antifouling composition	4s. 6d. per cwt.	4s. per cwt.
(E)	Patent dryers and the like, and putty	2s. "	1s. 6d. "
(H)	Kalsomine, water paints and distempers in powder form... ..	4s. "	4s. "
240 (A)	Plaster of paris, and all preparations manufactured from gypsum	1s. "	9d. "

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Present Rate of Duty.	
		Under the General Tariff.	Under the United Kingdom Preferential Tariff.
APPLICATIONS FOR FURTHER TARIFF ASSISTANCE— <i>cont'd.</i>			
262	Printers' roller composition... ..	35 % <i>ad val.</i>	35 % <i>ad val.</i>
292 (A)	Medicines, pharmaceutical preparations, medicinal extracts, essences, juices, &c....	15 % "	15 % "
295 (A)	Perfumery, perfumed ammonia, toilet preparations, skin foods, refined lanoline, refined glycerine and petroleum jelly, in packages containing less than 3 cwt. ...	30 % "	25 % "
303	Timbers, New Zealand	according to size	
326	Statues—modelled	25 % <i>ad val.</i>	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
326	Footballs, punching ball, cricket pads, golf bags, gun covers, and all canvas, leather and fibre sporting goods	25 % "	20 % "
352 (A)	See under Tariff No. 106 (A)	—	—
356 (A)	Advertising matter	6d. <i>per lb.</i> or 35 % <i>ad val.</i>	6d. <i>per lb.</i> or 35 % <i>ad val.</i>
		whichever rate returns the higher duty.	whichever rate returns the higher duty.
356 (C)	Australian directories	6d. <i>per lb.</i>	6d. <i>per lb.</i>
357	Manufactured stationery and manufac-		
(A and B)	tures of paper	30 % <i>ad val.</i>	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
358	Inks—Printing and stencilling, n.e.i. ...	6½d. <i>per lb.</i> or 30 % <i>ad val.</i>	6d. <i>per lb.</i> or 25 % <i>ad val.</i>
		whichever rate returns the higher duty.	whichever rate returns the higher duty.
395	Inks—News printing	30 % <i>ad val.</i>	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
380 (D)	Bodies for motor cars, taxi cabs and lorries—		
	Single-seated bodies	£17 <i>each.</i>	£15 <i>each.</i>
	Double-seated bodies	£24 10s. "	£21 "
	Bodies with fixed or movable canopy tops, <i>c.g.</i> , landaulette, Limousine, taxi-cab and similar type, and n.e.i.	£42 "	£36 "
384	Pianofortes and piano-players—		
(A)	Grand	£14 <i>each</i> or 35 % <i>ad val.</i>	£12 <i>each</i> or 30 % <i>ad val.</i>
		whichever rate returns the higher duty.	whichever rate returns the higher duty.
(B)	Upright	£7 <i>each</i> or 35 % <i>ad val.</i>	£6 <i>each</i> or 30 % <i>ad val.</i>
		whichever rate returns the higher duty.	whichever rate returns the higher duty.
387 (A)	Travelling bags, baskets boxes, cases and trunks, purses, cash boxes, deed boxes and despatch boxes	30 % <i>ad val.</i>	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
387 (A)	See also under Tariff No. 106 (A)	—	—

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—continued.

Tariff No.	Article.	Present Rate of Duty.	
		Under the General Tariff.	Under the United Kingdom Preferential Tariff.
APPLICATIONS FOR REDUCTION OF PRESENT DUTIES OR OPPOSING SUGGESTED NEW DUTIES.			
1	Beer and stout— In bottle In bulk	1s. 6d. per gal. 1s. „	1s. 6d. per gal. 1s. „
3	Spirits— When not exceeding the strength of proof When exceeding the strength of proof	14s. „ 14s. per proof gal.	14s. „ 14s. per proof gal.
17	Coffee and Chicory— Raw Roasted or prepared, &c.	3d. per lb. 6d. „	3d. per lb. 6d. „
54 (A)	Currants	3d. „	3d. „
(B)	Raisins	3d. „	3d. „
55	Apples	2s. per cental.	2s. per cental.
65 (A)	Bran, Pollard and Sharp's	1s. per cental	1s. per cental
106 (A)	Apparel and attire	40 % ad val.	35 % ad val.
109	Feathers, undressed	15 % „	15 % ad val.
115	Carpets, floorcloth, carpeting and linoleum	15 % „	10 % ad val.
119 (B)	Dressed fur skins	15 % „	15 % ad val.
121 (A)	Hats, caps and bonnets of all descriptions	Various	rates.
to (E)			
123 (A)	Piece goods, woollen or containing wool ...	30 % ad val.	25 % ad val.
123	Footnote defining "piece goods" which reads :— "When material is defined by selvedge or by pattern for cutting up into separate articles, it is not to be considered piece goods, but as dutiable under the heading applying to the article into which it is designed to be made. Tasselled, whipped (with or without loops) or tapel curtain material when not defined for cutting up is to be considered piece-goods." Application is made to have this footnote altered so that patterned piece-goods will be classified as though they were plain.		
156 (B)	Wire nails	5s. 6d. per cwt.	5s. per cwt.
158-9	Weighing appliances—Automatic Otherwise	Free. 20 % ad val.	Free 20 % ad val.
160 (C)	Engines—Crude oil	20 % „	20 % „
161	Steam motor wagons (classified as traction engines)	25 % „	20 % ad val.
162 (C)	Machines used in the coach-building trade for wood or iron Vehicles parts, viz.: axles, springs, hickory spokes up to 2 inches, hickory rims, elm hubs, iron banded or otherwise, hickory shafts and poles, hickory or ash seats, iron clips and couplings, bolts and nuts over 4 inches by 3/8 inch and up to 1 1/2 inches by 1 inch	25 % „ Various	20 % „ rates.
170 (E)			
184			
303 (X)			
(Z) (D D)			
314-319			
350 (A)			
380 (B)	Malleable iron castings, rubber used for tyres, seat screws		

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—continued.

Tariff No.	Articles.	Present Rate of Duty.	
		Under the General Tariff.	Under the United Kingdom Preferential Tariff.
APPLICATIONS FOR REDUCTION OF PRESENT DUTIES OR OPPOSING SUGGESTED NEW DUTIES—continued.			
177 (A) or (B)	Generators for direct coupling to steam engines— Up to the capacity of 200 h.p. Over the capacity of 200 h.p.	25 % <i>ad val.</i> 17½ % "	20 % <i>ad val.</i> 12½ % "
178 (C)	Telephones, telephone switchboards and appliances (opposition to British Preference)	Free	Free
(D)	Electric metallic filament lamps and electric incandescence lamps	17½ % <i>ad val.</i>	10 % <i>ad val.</i>
184	See under Tariff No. 170 (E).*		
207	Platinum sheet	Free	Free
226	Platinum wire and gold wire	Free	Free
Unspecified	Platinum solder and gold solder	Free	Free
234 (G)	Rapeseed oil denatured	6d. per gal.	6d. per gal.
(M)	Kromoline (used in tanning trade)	6d. "	6d. "
240 (A)	Portland cement of British manufacture	—	9d. per cwt.
261 (A)	Glue, the product of bones	2d. per lb.	1½d. per lb.
284 (B)	Arsenate of lead in retailing packages	15 % <i>ad val.</i>	10 % <i>ad val.</i>
295 (A)	Glycerine refined; lanoline-anhydrous (refined)	30 % "	25 % "
299 (A)	Dental spittons and operating chairs	35 % "	30 % "
303	Timber, Oregon	According to size	According to size
303 (D)	Wooden cases in shooks (undressed)	1s. per 100 sup. ft.	4s. per 100 sup. ft.
(T)	Timber cut into shape, dressed or partly dressed, for making cases	5s. per 100 sup. ft.	5s. per 100 sup. ft.
(X) (Z) } (DD) }	See under Tariff No. 170 (E).*		
306 (A)	Plant pots, wooden	35 % <i>ad val.</i>	30 % <i>ad val.</i>
314-319	See under Tariff No. 170 (E).*		
336	Artificial teeth with gold pins	30 % "	25 % "
338	Gold sheet	Free	Free
345	Boots, shoes and slippers	35 % <i>ad val.</i>	30 % <i>ad val.</i>
Various	All dutiable "minor articles" used in the manufacture of boots and shoes	Various	rates
350 (A)	See under Tariff No. 170 (E).*		
353 (B)	Leathers used in the manufacture of boots— Patent	2d. per sq. ft.	2d. per sq. ft.
	Calf, other than patent and enamelled	15 % <i>ad val.</i>	15 % <i>ad val.</i>
	N. E. I.	20 % "	20 % "
356 (A)	Printed matter and advertisements (Whichever rate returns the higher duty.)	6d. per lb. or 35 % <i>ad val.</i>	6d. per lb. or 35 % <i>ad val.</i>
I (i)	Grease-proof paper	5s. per cwt.	4s. 6d. per cwt.
(K)	Strawboard, and strawboards, unlined for lining purposes	1s. 6d. "	1s. 6d. "
(M)	Paper-boards, n.e.i., lined or unlined	20 % <i>ad val.</i>	15 % <i>ad val.</i>

* Tariff No. 170 (E) refers to "malleable iron castings, n.e.s.," 1½d. per lb. under both Tariffs. See also previous page.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—continued.

Tariff No.	Articles.	Present Rate of Duty.	
		Under the General Tariff.	Under the United Kingdom Preferential Tariff.
APPLICATIONS FOR REDUCTION OF PRESENT DUTIES OR OPPOSING SUGGESTED NEW DUTIES—continued.			
356 <i>etd.</i>			
(M)	Grey-board and Manilla-board	5 % <i>ad val.</i>	Free
(N)	Grey-board, wood-pulp boards and leather-boards unlined for lining purposes	5 % "	Free
357(A)	Corrugated paper-board	30 % "	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
380(B)	See under Tariff No. 170 (E).*		
392(B)	Vessels (steamships, &c., of 500 tons gross register and under)... ..	30 % "	25 % "
395(A)	Brushes, painting, household and toilet	30 % "	25 % "
402	Fancy cottons, threads, &c.	Free	Free

APPLICATION FOR IMPOSITION OF DUTIES ON ARTICLES NOW EXEMPT.

152 (A)	Potato diggers	Free	Free
226. 229 (c)	Wire, iron and steel, and other	Free	Free
356 (N)	Embossed, grained or printed fibre-board sheets	5 % <i>ad val.</i>	Free
Un-specified.	Infusorial or diatomaceous earth, and articles manufactured from same, such as lagging, roofing, and boiler composition...	Free	Free

APPLICATIONS FOR EXTENSION OF THE TARIFF PREFERENCE CONCEDED TO UNITED KINGDOM.

160 (C)	Engines, superheated steam, semi-stationary, and engines, crude oil	20 % <i>ad val.</i>	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
176 (D)	Rotary percussive rock drills	5 % "	Free
179 (A)	Electrical cable and wire (covered)	5 % "	Free
229 (c)	Wire, iron and steel	Free	Free

APPLICATIONS FOR IMPOSITION OF EXPORT DUTIES.

Tin Ore Concentrates and Unrefined Metal.

MISCELLANEOUS.

158-9	Applications in opposition to the suggestion to restrict the importation of calculating or computing scales worked by springs.
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* See * note on previous page.

(3,699.)

The "Commonwealth Gazette" for the 24th December last contains a Proclamation, dated 19th December, 1913, which repeats a Proclamation which was published in the "Gazette" of the 22nd January, 1910, and at the same time, prohibits, under the provisions of the Quarantine Act, 1908-12, the importation into Australia of all forms of prickly, spiny or spine-less or any species of Cactacæ, except

Importation of Cactacæ Prohibited, except under certain Conditions.

(a) The permission of the Minister shall have been obtained in respect of each consignment four clear months prior to the despatch of such plants or portion of plants from any oversea port.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—*continued.*

(b) Every such consignment shall have been isolated and grown in quarantine at a quarantine station for a period of not less than two years, and for such longer period as the Minister may deem necessary.

(c) The quantity of cactaceæ in any one consignment is less than 100 plants or portions of plants.

[*Note.*—The importation of prickly or spiny species of the above-mentioned plant was absolutely prohibited under the previous Proclamation of 1910.]

(C. 1,435.)

The "Commonwealth Gazette" for the 3rd January last contains a Substitute Notice (No. 104), dated 22nd December, 1913, directing that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 139 of the Customs Act 1901-10, "Crenut" shall be charged with the duty leviable on cocoa butter on importation into the Commonwealth, as follows:—

Crenut—

Under the British Preferential Tariff	...	1½d.	per lb.
,, General Tariff	...	1¾d.	,,

(C. 1,363.)

The Board of Trade are in receipt, from H.M. Trade Commissioner in Australia, of copy of Orders (Nos. 1,695-6), dated 24th December, 1913, relative to the exportation of goods under drawback from the Commonwealth of Australia.

**Exportation
of Goods
under drawback.**

It is prescribed in Order No. 1,695 that where goods (such as maize or other grain, bran, rolled oats, &c.), the origin of which is not easily determinable by inspection, are landed and duty-paid by a shipping company with a view to subsequent use as ship's stores, the goods should, prior to delivery, be sealed with a view to ensuring their identity on being exported under drawback.

The same action may be taken, if importers desire, with regard to any such goods likely to be exported within a reasonable time after importation.

Under the Order No. 1,696 it is stated that in cases where the examination of goods entered for drawback discloses that the goods are damaged or unfit for consumption, they are to be detained for such further action as the Department of Trade and Customs may consider necessary.

(C. 1,456.)

DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

The "New Zealand Gazette" for the 18th December last contains a Notice, dated 15th December, 1913, which has been issued by the Department of Trade and Customs and which notifies, for public information that, from the 1st January, 1914, it is necessary that the "Country of Origin" of goods should be shown on all prime and warehousing entries presented at Customs houses throughout the Dominion of New Zealand.

**Country of
Origin of Goods
to be shown on
Entry Forms.**

(C. 1,362.)

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

With reference to previous Notices which have appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal"* respecting certain regulations in regard to the requirements of the Regulation No. 103,† issued under the "Customs Management Act, 1913," the Board of Trade have now received from H.M. Trade Commissioner in South Africa certain further rulings which have been given by the Union Commissioner of Customs to the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce on this

matter.

The Commissioner states that, with reference to the production of invoices showing home consumption values, in all cases where such invoices are not presented, deposits will be taken sufficient to cover duty on a 25 per cent. increase of the prices invoiced to the importer, pending the production of invoices showing the required particulars.

It is further stated that, in cases of difference between the home and export selling prices, if the home selling value is greater than when for export, the seller must give the price he can obtain when selling for home consumption, which is required of him. Unless, therefore, the manufacturer does give the higher value he obtains in his home market, the importer renders himself liable to a penalty for incorrect declaration, and the possible forfeiture of his goods.

It is the intention of the Customs Department to check the accuracy of the declarations by actual enquiries in Europe.

With regard to the value of goods on which duty is payable being either that at the place of purchase or free on board, the Customs Department have issued a Regulation to the effect that when a purchase is made by an importer (which includes his agent) *bona fide* inland, the railage to the port of shipment, if shown separately, on an invoice or by a separate debit note, may be deducted for the purpose of arriving at the "true current value" as defined by Law. The onus of proving the true place of purchase and the correctness of the deductions will rest with the importer.

Ordinarily, the place where the invoice is made will be taken to be the place of purchase. (2,725.)

With reference to Notices which have appeared from time to time in various issues of the "Board of Trade Journal" regarding the regulations governing the importation of potatoes into the Union of South Africa, the Board of Trade have now been informed, through the High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa, that the Union Department of Agriculture is still experiencing difficulty in obtaining the prescribed certificates of potatoes consigned to the Union of South Africa, in accordance with the regulations.

* For the 9th October (p. 80), the 30th October (p. 242), and the 20th November, 1913 (pp. 406-7), and the 15th January, 1914 (pp. 142-3).

† For full text of this Regulation, see p. 695 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 18th September, 1913.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA—*continued.*

It is pointed out that, unless exporters comply with the regulations, serious delay is always likely to occur. Although the certificates required have been drawn up for the convenience of the public, the Union Department of Agriculture does not insist upon their being submitted in prescribed form, provided that the declaration made by the consignor clearly *identifies* the package and sets forth the *place of origin* of the potatoes.

For the information and guidance of exporters, the Union Government draw attention to the restrictions in force for 1913-14 season, with particular reference to the form of declaration and certificates required under clause 12 (2) of Government Notice No. 366 of 1912* as follows:—

REGULATIONS REGARDING DECLARATIONS AND CERTIFICATES REQUIRED.

“ No person shall introduce or cause to be introduced into the Union from oversea or from any territory in South Africa which is not a British possession or protectorate any consignment of potatoes, unless he produces and delivers up to an officer

(a) a statement on oath from the consignor declaring the country and particular place or places thereof in which the potatoes were grown and giving data clearly establishing the identity of the consignment; and

(b) a certificate from the Department of Agriculture of the declared country, or a certificate from some official institution of that country which the Minister has agreed to recognise in lieu of such department, certifying at a date not more than thirty days before the time of the despatch of the consignment that the disease known as black scab or warty disease (*Synchytrium endobioticum*, Percival) has not been known to exist, so far as it is aware, within five miles of the place or places in which the potatoes are declared to have been grown.

“ Provided that the certificate made necessary by (b) shall not be required in respect to any consignment from a country

(1) if the Government thereof has certified to the Minister that the said disease has not been known to exist in that country and if that Government has undertaken to inform the Minister of any outbreak, and if information recording an outbreak has not been received, or

(2) if the consignee produces from the Department of Agriculture or other aforesaid recognised institution of the declared country of origin a certificate dated within nine months of the day of arrival of the potatoes concerned to the effect that the specified disease has not been known to exist, so far as it is aware, in the shire, county, department, or other such territorial division comprising the place or places in which the potatoes are declared to have been grown; but if required by an officer the consignee shall deliver up an attested copy of the certificate herein provided for.

* Attention was called to this notice on p. 125 of the “ Board of Trade Journal ” for the 18th April, 1912.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA—continued.

"The Department shall not be responsible for any loss or expense that may be incurred through the detention of any consignment because of the absence of the necessary declaration or certificate."

The statement on oath required from the consignor may be made in the form shown in Annexe A herewith.

The certificate required from the Department of Agriculture of the country of origin, or from an institution recognized in lieu thereof, may be in the form shown either in Annexe B or Annexe BB. Care must be taken that it is not obtained from an unrecognized institution as from a local governing body or unauthorized Chamber of Commerce.

An official certificate cannot be accepted if the place named in it as the place of origin fails to correspond with the place named in the consignor's declaration; and consignors are cautioned that a certificate cannot be accepted if it is from an institution which the Union Government has not agreed to recognize for the issue of certificates. Such inconvenience to consignees has arisen in the past through certificates from local government bodies, police administrations, and chambers of commerce being sent by consignors in place of certificates from national departments of agriculture or institutions formally recognized in place of them.

INSPECTION AND TREATMENT OF CONSIGNMENTS.

All consignments will be inspected. If in any package any pathogenic bacterial disease, such as black leg or stem rot, caused by *Bacillus phytophthorus*, Appel, or the decay caused by *Bacillus solanacearum*, Smith, *Bacillus solanisaprus*, Harrison, or *Bacillus melanogenes*, Pethybridge, is found that package, and also all packages bearing the same marks in which 15 per cent. of the tubers are decayed, will be excluded from entry; while packages in which under 15 per cent. of decayed tubers are found will be passed, providing no trace of the bacterial disease is found in them. If black scab or warty disease, caused by *Synchytrium endobioticum*, Percival, is found in a package, every package bearing marks similar to that one will be excluded. Packages will not be excluded because of insect injuries, uninfectious scabs, oospora scab, rhizoctonia, phytophthora blight, fusarium decay, or non-pathogenic bacterial rots; and the Government will exercise its prerogative to reject infected packages on account of diseases other than black scab and pathogenic bacterial diseases only in case there is discovered a trouble which there may seem particular reason to fear.

All consignments will be fumigated with formaldehyd gas and, in general, without removing the potatoes from their containers. Should a box not be open for at least half an inch along the angles of opposite sides, portions of two or more sides will be broken away or rents otherwise provided to facilitate the diffusion of the gas; and should cork dust, lime, or other material be included as packing it will be removed and may not be replaced. It is earnestly recommended that well ventilated cases be used as containers and that packing be omitted.

Packing material such as lime, corkdust, wood-wool, and paper shall be removed from boxes and that ventilation, as by the removal of

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA—*continued.*

portions of the sides, shall be given if the containers as received are inadequately ventilated. A special fee of 2d. per case is levied if either of these services is necessary. The use of practically air-tight boxes for the shipment of potatoes appears to be very deleterious to the contents, and the use of packing material appears to be quite unnecessary. Nearly all of the boxes in which potatoes were imported in the past season were satisfactorily ventilated and contained no packing material, but some consignments arrived in boxes without any provision for ventilation or with only a few.

A consignment will not be released on any pledge that a missing document will be submitted later, but the release can be expedited by satisfactory cable messages through strictly official channels. A comprehensive certification by cable from an oversea Department of Agriculture to the Secretary for Agriculture (Landbou, Pretoria), would be honoured as the required official certificate, and an official certificate or a consignor's declaration would be honoured in advance of its receipt in South Africa if it were transmitted from London through the High Commissioner for the Union, and a cable dispatched through this official in which the consignment was identified, the place of origin named, and an intimation given that the document or documents being transmitted satisfied the requirements of the regulations. Care should be taken to have the name given to the place of origin in one document correspond with that given in the other; and a cabled message from which the name of the place of origin is omitted is likely to fail to connect a consignor's declaration with the official certificate intended for the same consignment.

No "phyloxera declaration" is required in connection with potatoes or other produce introduced into South Africa.

Any consignment of potatoes that enters the Union through Komatipoort will be inspected and fumigated at Pretoria or Johannesburg, no facilities being provided at Delagoa Bay or at the Portuguese border. As any extra carriage thus necessitated must be borne by the importer, the introduction of potatoes from oversea through Komatipoort is inadvisable.

ANNEXE A.

Declaration to accompany Potatoes exported to the Union of South Africa.

(Address).....

I, the undersigned,.....member of the firm of....., consignor of.....cases, each containing.....net weight of potatoes for.....purposes and marked..... to be shipped per steamer.....from.....to....., do hereby declare that the potatoes herein referred to were all grown at.....in the District of..... in.....

(Signed)

Declared at.....this.....day of.....191.... before me,

.....
(Name and title of officer administering oath.)

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA—continued.

ANNEXE B.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

It is recommended that the official certificate have this form :—

Official Certificate re Black Scab.

The undersigned, under authority of the Department of Agriculture of.....hereby certifies that the potato disease known as black scab and warty disease, and ascribed to the fungus Synchitrium endobioticum, Percival, has not, as far as is known to the Department of Agriculture, been known to exist within five miles of.....in the District of.....

(Signature).....
(Title)

Address.....
Date and official stamp or seal.....

ANNEXE BB.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

..... 1

Certificate to accompany potatoes exported to the Union of South Africa.

The undersigned, under authority of the Department of Agriculture (a), of 1, hereby certifies that the potato disease known by the name of Black Scab or Warty Disease, and ascribed to the fungus Synchitrium endobioticum, Percival, has not, so far as is known to the Department of Agriculture (b), been known to exist anywhere in district of 2

Signature
Title

Address
Date and official stamp or seal

References.—This form of certificate should be used if the local place or places of origin are not given in the consignor's declaration, and it may be used with respect to any consignment.

- (a) Or title of other official institution recognized by the Union Government in lieu of the Department of Agriculture.
(b) Or county, shire, departement, or other such territorial division.
1. Name of country.
2. Name of county, or other territorial division, in which potatoes are declared to have been grown.

(3.656.)

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

With reference to the Notice which appeared on p. 686 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 24th December last respecting the importation into the Cape of Good Hope of vegetables, &c. artificially "greened" with copper salts, the Board of Trade have now received, through H.M. Trade Commissioner in South Africa, copy of a further communication from the Administrator of the Cape "Sale of Food and Drugs and Seed Act, 1890," with particular reference to the amount

Importation of Vegetables artificially "greened" with Copper Salts.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GOLD COAST.

An extraordinary issue of the Gold Coast "Government Gazette" for the 19th January last contains a Notice, dated 19th January, 1914, notifying, for general information, that the Port of Saltpond has been declared in quarantine by all the French West Indian Colonial Governments. (C. 1,527.)

Port of Saltpond declared to be in Quarantine by French West Indian Colonial Governments.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

The "Federated Malay States Government Gazette" for the 16th January last contains copy of a Notification (No. 176) giving, under the Customs Duties Enactments, 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 February, 1914, until further notice.

The list of articles, which is of some 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. 1,457.)

SEYCHELLES.

The Board of Trade have received from the Seychelles Government copy of a Notice (No. 133 of 1913), dated 26th December last, which amends Item No. 21 of Schedule B of the Customs Tariff Revision Ordinance No. 3 of 1913* regarding the Customs duty leviable on machinery used in certain industries on importation into the Seychelles.

The effect of the amendment is to impose a duty of 3 per cent. *ad valorem* on machinery or apparatus (and the component parts thereof) when imported for the manufacture of *citrate of lime* and *guano* into the Colony of the Seychelles.

[*Note.*—The original Ordinance defines "machinery" to mean prime movers and component parts thereof, including boilers and component parts thereof, but it does not include machinery worked by manual or animal power.

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

A further Notice (No. 70 of 1913) has been received which amends Schedule E of the above-mentioned Ordinance No. 3 of 1913 by imposing export duties on the undermentioned articles exported from the Seychelles:—

Imposition of Export Duties on Fertilisers and Whale Oil.

* For which see pp. 412-5 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 22nd May, 1913.

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

Articles.		Rate of Export Duty.
Prepared fertiliser	... .. per ton or part of a ton	1 rupee
Whale oil	... .. per hectolitre or part of a hectolitre	1 "

Note.—A hectolitre 22 Imperial gallons. (C. 1,379.)

HONG KONG.

With reference to the Notice which appeared on p. 404 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 25th May, 1911, respecting the Liquors Consolidation Ordinance No. 9 of 1911, the Board of Trade have now received from their Trade Correspondent at Hong Kong copy of a Government Notice (No. 211 of 1913) laying down certain Regulations which have been issued under the above-mentioned Ordinance relative to the importation of wines and spirits into Hong Kong, with effect from 10th July last.

Under these Regulations it is prescribed that:

- 1 (a) Port shall be defined as the fermented expressed juice of the grape, the produce of the Alto Douro district in the North-east of Portugal and shipped from Oporto, and shall conform to the following specification:

It shall possess the flavour and aroma natural to port. It shall be free from added colouring matter and preservatives other than alcohol and shall contain not less than 12 per cent. of alcohol by weight.

- (b) Wine of a port character from other countries or districts may be sold as "port," provided that it complies with the above specification and the place of origin is clearly marked on the label. Such wine shall pay the same duty as "port."
- (c) All port from the Alto Douro district must be accompanied by a Certificate of Origin.
- 2 (a) Sherry shall be defined as the fermented expressed juice of the grape, the produce of Jerez (Xerez) de la Frontera, and shipped from Cadiz, and shall conform to the specification similar to that stated above for port wine.
- (b) Wine of a sherry character from other countries or districts may be sold as "sherry" provided that it complies with the above specification and the place of origin is clearly marked on the label. Such wine shall pay the same rate of duty as "sherry."
- (c) All sherry from Jerez (or Xerez) de la Frontera must be accompanied by a Certificate of Origin.

The Regulations further provide that Certificates of Origin for brandy, whisky, and rum must contain analytical particulars, so that the liquor so certified may be duly recognised.

[*Note.*—Certain regulations came into force on the 1st March, 1910, which defined, for the purposes of the Liquors Ordinance, brandy, whisky and rum.]

(C. 1,440.)

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

RUSSIA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Russian Ministries of Commerce and Finance have sanctioned the duty-free re-importation into Russia, subject to the observance of the

Regulations of the 26th July, 1912,* of:—

(1) Iron utensils of Russian manufacture, used for the exportation of compressed naphtha gas, and then returned to Russia empty;

(2) Boxes of Russian manufacture used for the exportation of mineral oil, and then returned to Russia empty. (C. 1,299.)

With reference to the notice at page 90 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 8th January, under the head of "Proposed Tariff Changes," respecting a measure imposing an export duty of 30 per cent. *ad valorem* on crude platinum exported from Russia, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the

Imposition of an Export Duty on Crude Platinum.

Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the measure in question was promulgated in the "Bulletin of Laws" dated the 7th/20th January. (C. 1,241.)

DENMARK (ICELAND).

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy of an Icelandic Law providing for certain modifications of the Law of the 22nd October, 1912,† which fixed the Customs duties payable on various goods imported into Iceland.

The amending Law, which came into operation on the 1st January last, provides for the levy of import duties on certain articles at the rates shown in the subjoined statement:—

[1 krone (100 öre) = 1s. 1½d.; kilog. = 2·2046 lbs.]

Articles.	Unit on which duty is levied.	Duty.
Soda, chalk, fireproof clay, carbide, gasoline, slate, and butter-salt	50 kilogs.	Kr. öre. 0 10
All kinds of material for fodder, sail cloth, ready-made sails, sail yarn, twine used for fishing nets, sack cloth, loose packing material, balls of wool, packing mats, tarpaulin (whether tarred, coloured or not), lubricating oil, builders' pasteboard, all kinds of rope, all kinds of fishing lines and fishing nets, cork, balls for fishing nets together with floats, tackle-blocks, nails, scythe-blades, sharpening stones, grindstones, steel crowbars, sledge-hammers, anvils, mowing machines, ploughs, harrows, shovels, spades, pitchforks, motors for boats, anchors and anchor chains, coccolite, iron joists for building construction, stoves, kitchen ranges, iron pipes, steel rails, fishplates for rails, bolts for rails, dog spikes, gypsum, shavings and sawdust, oilskins, linoleum and oilcloth	50 „	0 25

* See the notice at pp. 146-147 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 17th July, 1913.

† See the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 21st November, 1912 (p. 405), and the 8th May, 1913 (pp. 305-6).

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DENMARK (ICELAND)—continued.

Articles.	Unit on which duty is levied.	Duty.
†All kinds of textile goods, articles of clothing (including all kinds of footwear), thread, and all kinds of yarn, except sail yarn and thread for fishing nets	10 kilogs.	Kr. öre. 0 60
Boats	Cubic foot	0 03
All other dutiable goods (<i>i.e.</i> , other than those specially mentioned in the Tariff and those upon which a special duty is imposed)	10 kilogs.	0 20

Note.—This rate is also applicable to all goods provided for in the Law of the 22nd October, 1912, as amended by the present Law (except those coming under the heading marked † above) in cases where they are packed together with other goods or so packed that the nature of the goods cannot be determined unless the goods are unpacked.

Goods exempted from import duty.—Paper, artificial manures, earthenware pipes, moulding-sand, as also ships and boats which put into Iceland, are, in accordance with the present Law, to be exempt from Customs duty.

The duty on *postal packets* is increased from 15 to 30 öre each.

(C. 1,237.)

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the same channel, of copy of another Icelandic Law providing that paragraph 15 of Article 1 of the Customs Law of the 11th July, 1911, shall read as follows:—

Amendment of the Customs Law of July 11th, 1911.

Rate of duty.
Kr. öre.

All kinds of barley sugar and sweetmeats, as also other products, prepared with sweetening substances, which are used in the same manner as barley sugar and sweetmeats, including candied fruits Kilog.

0 80
(C. 1,237.)

BELGIUM.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy of a recent Circular of the Belgian Ministry of Finance laying down that so-called "Swedish knives" are included in the category of arms, the importation of which into Belgium is prohibited.

Prohibition of Importation of "Swedish Knives."

(C. 1,256.)

BELGIAN CONGO.

The "Moniteur Belge" for the 29th January contains a Royal Decree, dated the 14th January, providing for the admission of organic and chemical manures, free of Customs duty, into the Belgian Congo. The Decree is to come into force from the date of its promulgation in the "Bulletin Officiel" of the Colony.

[NOTE.—The Customs duty hitherto leviable on organic and chemical manures has been 10 per cent. *ad valorem*.]

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

FRENCH INDO-CHINA.

The "Journal Officiel de l'Indo-Chine Française" for the 18th December, 1913, contains a Decree of the Governor-General of French Indo-China, dated the 21st November, imposing a surtax at the rate of 0.40 piastre per litre of liquid* on absinthes and similar products containing thuyone in any proportion. This surtax (which is independent of the existing consumption tax of 3 francs per litre of pure alcohol) is to be levied on the products specified whether imported into or manufactured in Indo-China.

The same issue of the "Journal Officiel" also contains a further Decree of the same date imposing a "taxe de circulation" on playing cards, manufactured in or imported into Indo-China, at the following rates:—

	<i>Piastres.</i>
<i>Playing cards for the use of Asiatics—</i>	
Small pack of 32 cards or less	0.01 per pack.
Large pack of more than 32 cards	0.03 ,,
<i>Playing cards, French or foreign patterns—</i>	
Packs of 32 cards	0.05 ,,
Packs of 52 cards	0.10 ,,

A further Decree of the same date imposes consumption duties at the following rates on sporting powder, loaded sporting cartridges, and fireworks, whether imported into or manufactured in Indo-China:—

	<i>Piastres.</i>
Black powder	0.50 per kilog.
Pyroxyline powder	1.50 ,, ,,
Loaded cartridges (containing black powder)... ..	5.00 per 100 kilogs.
Loaded cartridges (containing pyroxyline powder) ..	7.50 ,, ,,
Fireworks	4.00 ,, ,,

[Note.—Piastre = 2 francs 45 centimes = 1s. 11½d.; litre = 0.22 gallon; kilogramme = 2.2046 lbs.]

GREECE.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the importation into Greece of hides from countries against which sanitary measures are enforced, or which are infected with epizootic diseases, has been authorised by Royal Decree.

[Note.—"Fresh hides, undressed, or salted by wet or dry process," were prohibited from importation into Greece by a Royal Order of July 1st, 1911.]

(C. 1,143.)

* This is the rate applicable to spirits imported in casks. If imported in bottles, each bottle is counted as one litre if its capacity is more than ½ litre, and as a half-litre if its capacity is ½ litre or less.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

TURKEY.

The Board of Trade are informed by H.M. Consul-General at Constantinople that the Central Custom House has issued a notice in which it is stated that, in order to ensure the regular discharge of Customs formalities and to facilitate business in the harbour of Constantinople, the "ardieh" dues (Customs warehouse dues) have, as from the 27th January/8th February, been doubled provisionally in the case of packages remaining more than eight days in the Customs warehouses.

The schedule of "ardieh" dues now leviable may be seen by British traders interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (3,564.)

VENEZUELA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that, in accordance with recent Venezuelan Decrees, the undermentioned articles when imported into the Republic are to be declared in the Consular invoice, and to pay duty, as shown below:—

[The rates of duty shown include the various surtaxes leviable.]

Articles.	Declaration for Consular Invoice.	Class of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Total Import Duty (including surtaxes).
Iron and brass furniture not comprised in Tariff No. 143.*	Muebles de hierro y latón no comprendidos en el No. 143 del Arancel.	III. (plus 50 %)	<i>Bolivares.</i> Kilog. (gross) 0.587
Typewriter ribbons ...	Cintas para máquinas de escribir.	V.	„ 1.957
Metallie tiles	Tejas metálicas	III.	„ 0.391
Glass sheets, white or coloured, not bevelled, with reliefs or with embedded wirework.	Vidrios planos, blancos o de colores, no biselados, con relieves o armados interiormente con mallas de alambre.	III. (plus 25 %)	„ 0.489

* Tariff No. 143 covers "Furniture of iron, even with knobs and small ornaments of copper."

Note.—It is important to preserve the exact (Spanish) wording shown above under the head of "Declaration for Consular Invoice." (C. 1,390.)

COSTA RICA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy and translation of a Circular of the Costa Rican Ministry of Finance and Commerce, dated the 12th January, and published in "La Gaceta" for the 14th January, respecting the tariff treatment to be accorded to water colour paints imported into the Republic. The Circular provides that only red and yellow earths, commonly known as ochres and usually imported in barrels, are to be included

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COSTA RICA—*continued.*

under Section 3 of the Tariff at the rate of 5 centavos per kilogramme, and that all other water colour paints are to be assessed for duty under Sections 5 or 118 at the rate of 20 centavos per kilogramme.

The same Circular also provides that painted iron spring clasps, used in the manufacture of leather gaiters, are to be classed under Section 19 of the Tariff and consequently to pay duty at the rate of 60 centavos per kilogramme.

Tariff Classification of certain Iron Spring Clasps.

[100 centavos = about 1s. 10½d.; kilogramme = 2.2046 lbs.] (C. 1,391.)

BRAZIL.

The following is a further portion of the statement (continued from page 411 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal") of the principal provisions of the Brazilian Budget Law for 1914 as regards the import and consumption duties, &c. leviable in Brazil:—

Budget Law for 1914.
Exemptions from Customs duty.—The provisions of the Budget Law for 1913, given at pp. 332-333 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 6th February, 1913, are continued in force, except that the duty-free admission of cattle for breeding purposes (under certain regulations) is not restricted by the present Law to those imported over the frontiers of the States of Rio Grande do Sul and Matto-Grosso.

Reduced Customs duties.—The provisions of the Budget Law for 1913, noted under this head at pp. 333-334 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 6th February, 1913, and at pp. 397-398 of the following week's issue, are maintained in force, but *millimetric metallic gauze destined for the protection of houses against mosquitoes* is added to the list of articles which are to be admitted on payment of a duty of 8 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Consumption duties.—The provisions of the Budget Law for 1913, noted under this head at p. 332 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 6th February, 1913, are maintained in force, except as regards *salt, perfumery and pharmaceutical specialities*.

The present Law provides that the consumption duty on *salt, refined or purified*, fixed by the Decree No. 5,890 of the 10th February, 1906, at 25 reis per 250 grammes or fraction thereof, shall be reduced by 50 per cent., and that the consumption duty on *perfumery and pharmaceutical specialities* is to be paid as follows:—

The value per dozen articles being—

	Reis.
5 milreis or less	20
More than 5 up to 10 milreis	40
" 15 " 25 " 	80
" 25 " 45 " 	100
" 45 " 60 " 	200
" 60 " 120 " 	500
" 120 milreis	1,000

Section 14 (a) of Article 1 of the Decree of the 10th February,

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRAZIL—continued.

1906, regulating the payment of consumption duties is to read as follows, the italicised words being an addition to the former text:—

Tissues of cotton, plain or twilled, not specially mentioned (grey, bleached, dyed, or printed, *in the piece or cut for the manufacture of bags [já reduzidos a saccos]*), classed in No. 473 of the Customs Tariff in force.

(C. 762.)

(To be continued.)

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy and translation of an Argentine Law, which, it is understood, was promulgated on the 9th January, imposing inland revenue duties on alcoholic beverages (except wines) manufactured in or imported into the Republic. The principal provisions of this Law are as follows:—

Ninety days after the promulgation of this Law, all beverages, whether or not the direct product of distillation, containing more than 10 per cent. of alcohol by volume, excluding wines, shall be classed as alcoholic beverages for the purposes of this Law and shall be subject, on withdrawal from fiscal or manufacturing warehouses, to an internal revenue duty (which is to be paid by means of affixing stamps to the receptacles) in accordance with the following schedule:—

[Litre (100 centilitres) = 0.22 gallon; 5 centavos (paper eurrency) may be taken as approximately equivalent to 1d.]

Classification.	Rate of internal revenue duty for each bottle of a capacity of—	
	Up to 50 centilitres.	From 51 centilitres up to 1 litre.
	Centavos (paper).	Centavos (paper).
Beverages containing in alcohol (by volume) —		
More than 10 degrees but less than 25 degrees	5	10
25 degrees or more but less than 40 degrees	10	20
From 40 degrees to 65 degrees	15	30
Over 65 degrees	50	100
Absinthe (<i>ajenjos</i>) and beverages containing absinthe	50	100

Receptacles of a capacity greater than 1 litre but not exceeding 10 litres, containing beverages of the kinds dutiable under this Law, are to pay the corresponding duty, according to the category to which the beverages belong, fractions less than 50 centilitres being counted as a half-litre. If the capacity of the receptacles is greater than 10 litres, fractions of a litre are to be counted as a whole litre in assessing the duty payable according to the category to which the beverage belongs.

The Executive is to issue Regulations to give effect to the present Law, especially as regards the procedure for ascertaining and registering the stocks of alcoholic beverages existing in the country on

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—*continued.*

the date when this Law comes into force, in order that such stocks may be subjected to the payment of the new tax. (C. 1,250.)

With reference to the notices which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 31st October, 1912 (pages 245-246), and the 21st November, 1912 (page 407),* respecting an Argentine Law (No. 8,930) providing for an internal tax on toilet requisites, medicinal specialities, mineral waters and veterinary specialities, imported into or manufactured in the

Republic, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy and translation of a revised measure on this subject which, it is understood, was promulgated on the 9th January. The new Law, by which the earlier Law (No. 8,930) is repealed, provides as follows:—

Ninety days after the promulgation of this Law, the under-mentioned products shall, on withdrawal from national factories or Customs warehouses, be subject to a special impost at the rates shown below:—

[*Note.*—100 kilogs. = 220.46 lbs.; litre = 0.22 gallon; 5 centavos (paper currency) = 1d. (approximately).]

	<i>Centavos</i> <i>(paper).</i>
1. Medicinal specialities (of any origin)—for each bottle, flask, tube, box, envelope, or other unit of retail sale	10
2. Mineral waters—	
Natural—per bottle	5
Artificial— „	10
<i>Note.</i> —Natural or artificial mineral waters which are sold to the public in demijohns or other large receptacles shall be subject to the tax at the rate of 10 centavos (paper) per litre.	
3. Veterinary specialities - for each receptacle or covering containing 100 kilogrammes or less... ..	5
4. Toilet articles or articles for hygienic use—for each unit of retail sale—	
Perfumed oils; cosmetics; soap powders; pomades for the beard, moustache, &c.; tooth pastes; tooth powders... ..	15
Face pomades; scented soaps; liquid dentifrices; hair washes; toilet waters; eau-de-cologne; toilet vinegars; brilliantines; scent papers; face powders; sachets	20
Colourings for toilet purposes (<i>coloretos</i>) [powders, pomades, pencils, &c.] ; bath salts	25
Scent extracts; hair dyes	50

The following articles are exempt from the taxes imposed by the present Law: toilet articles or articles for hygienic use and medicinal specialities of which the selling price per unit of retail sale is less than 41 centavos (paper currency); sheep dips (*sarratifugos*) and preparations for destroying sheep-tick (*garrapaticidas*), whatever be the retail price.

The taxes imposed by this Law are to be paid by the manufacturers, importers or wholesale dealers (*fraccionadores*), on the goods leaving the national factories or Customs warehouses, by means of stamps, which are to be affixed, under regulations to be laid down by the Executive, to each unit of retail sale. (C. 1,246.)

*Reference should also be made in this connection to the notices in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 27th March, 1913 (page 726), the 4th September, 1913 (page 534), and the 24th December, 1913 (page 696).

PROPOSED EXCISE CHANGES.

CEYLON.

The "Ceylon Government Gazette" for the 23rd January last contains the draft of a proposed Ordinance to amend the Ceylon Excise Ordinance No. 8 of 1912, which was referred to on p. 148 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 16th January, 1913.

**Proposed
Amendment of
Excise Ordinance
of 1912
respecting
definition of
Cocaine.**

The draft Ordinance defines "cocaine," for the purposes of the original Ordinance of 1912, to include "coca leaves, alkaloids of coca, and every other intoxicating drink or substance prepared from the coca plant (*Erythroxylum coca*), and all drugs, synthetic or other, having a like physiological effect to that of cocaine." (C. 1,460.)

EXCISE REGULATIONS.

BRITISH INDIA.

The "Gazette of India" for the 10th January last contains various Notifications (Nos. 101-7, c and i), dated 7th January, 1914, which have been issued by the Indian Government under the provisions of the "Excise Act, 1896," as amended by the "Excise Amendment Act, 1906," regarding the application of those Acts to "intoxicating drugs" in the Province of Delhi.

**Excise Act
respecting
Intoxicating
Drugs.
Application
to Province of
Delhi.**

NOTIFICATION No. 101.

Under this Notification the following drugs are declared to be included in the definition of "intoxicating drugs" for the purposes of the above-mentioned Acts:

- (1) Coca leaves, alkaloids of coca, every other intoxicating drink or substance prepared from the coca plant (*Erythroxylum coca*) and all drugs, synthetic or other, having a like physiological effect to that of cocaine.
- (2) All preparations and admixtures of any of the above.

NOTIFICATION No. 102.

This Notification permits certain persons to possess certain prescribed quantities of such drugs, and cancels a previous Notification No. 2886 of the 7th April, 1913.

NOTIFICATION No. 103.

Under this Notification certain rules are prescribed regarding the import into and transport within and through the Province of Delhi of the drugs included in the definition of "intoxicating drugs" as declared by the above-mentioned Notification No. 101 of 1914.

With regard to the importation of such drugs, by sea, into the Province of Delhi, it is provided that any person who may import those drugs shall do so only through Bombay or Karachi, and by means other than that of the post.

**Importation, &c.
of Intoxicating
Drugs into the
Province of Delhi.**

*Excise Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA—continued.**

In the case of imports by *land*, a person who may import such intoxicating drugs shall do so only by means other than that of the the post.

No person other than a licensed vendor of these drugs, or a Government officer acting as such in the course of his official duties, shall import the same, either by sea or land.

Any person importing the drugs shall first obtain from the Deputy-Commissioner a permit in prescribed form, authorising him to make the import—a separate permit being required for each importation.

NOTIFICATION NO. 104.

By this Notification, which supersedes Notification No. 2388 of the 7th April, 1913, the under-mentioned articles are exempted from the restrictions imposed upon the import, transport, possession, and sale of intoxicating drugs in the

Exemption of certain articles from restrictions of importation, sale, &c. of certain Intoxicating Drugs.

Province of Delhi:—

(a) Cocaine used in impure solution in ointments for local application and made nauseous to the taste, or the following *bona fide* proprietary medicated articles:—

1. Toothache drops.
2. Ear-drops.
3. Compound tablets or lozenges composed of
 - (a) Cocaine, chloride of potash and borax.
 - (b) Krameria and cocaine.
 - (c) Menthol, cocaine and red gum.
 - (d) Benzoin and cocaine.

Provided that they are stated by the makers to contain not more than one-sixteenth of a grain of cocaine, novocaine, eucaine, and beta eucaine lactate, or holocaine, in each lozenge or tablet.

(b) The undermentioned patent medicines which the Collector of Customs is authorised to admit under Notification No. 720-79 of the 4th February, 1911:—

- (1) Ambrecht's Tonic Coca Wine.
- (2) Bolivean Coca Wine.
- (3) Ixidama.
- (4) Mistura Hepatica Co.
- (5) Tucker's Asthma Cure.

The exemptions do not apply to the importation or transmission of the above-mentioned articles by means of the post.

NOTIFICATION NO. 105.

This Notification exempts certain medicinal preparations of *ganja* from the restrictions imposed upon the import, transport, possession and sale of intoxicating drugs.

The exemption is not applicable to the importation or transmission of the medicinal preparations by means of the post.

*Excise Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA—continued.**

NOTIFICATIONS NOS. 106-7.

Under these Notifications, which supersede Notifications Nos. 2889-90 of 7th April, 1913, certain rules are prescribed regulating the grant of permits and passes, or licenses, to persons desirous of importing, transporting, possessing or selling the intoxicating drugs referred to in the above-mentioned Notification No. 101 of 1914. (C. 1,361.)

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

The Board of Trade have received from H.M. Trade Commissioner in Australia copy of Statutory Rules (No. 317 of 1913) dated 10th December last laying down certain regulations to be observed under the Beer Excise Act, 1901-12, of the Commonwealth of Australia, with effect from the above-mentioned date.

**Beer Excise
Regulations.**

These Regulations may be consulted by British traders interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C. 1,455.)

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 38 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 1st January, 1914, respecting the imposition of an Excise duty on sugar in the Commonwealth under the Excise Tariff Act, No. 6 of 1913, the Board of Trade have now received copy of a Proclamation, dated 10th December last, bringing the above-mentioned Act into operation on the 11th December, 1913. (C. 1,250.)

A Proclamation has also been received bringing the Sugar-Bounty Act, No. 7 of 1913,* into operation on the same date. (C. 1,288.)

The Board of Trade have received from H.M. Trade Commissioner in Australia copy of a Notice, dated 22nd Dec., 1913, which cancels various Statutory Rules laying down Regulations relating to the sugar industry in Australia, which have been issued under the Commonwealth Sugar Excise and Bounty Acts. (C. 1,458.)

**Cancellation of
Sugar
Regulations.****UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.**

With reference to the Notice which appeared on p. 585 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 4th September, 1913, regarding the Excise regulations issued in accordance with the provisions of the Excise and Customs Tariff Amendment Act of 1913, under Notification No. 1131 of the 17th July last, the Board of Trade are now in receipt of a copy of a further Notification (No. 68), dated 13th January, 1914, which amends and supplements the regulations in force in the Union of South Africa under the above-mentioned Notification of 1913.

* For provisions of which, see p. 26 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 1st January, 1914.

*Excise Regulations.***UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA—continued.**

The present Notification prescribes, *inter alia*, additional regulations with regard to the rebate of duty allowed on spirits and beer exported from the Union, as well as the rebate of duty on beer consumed by the Military Forces in the Province of the Transvaal.

It is further prescribed that, under the Natal Excise Act, 1901, the sale of methylated spirits to an Indian or to a native by licensed methylated spirits dealers in the Province of Natal is prohibited.

(C. 1,352.)

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.**NEW ZEALAND.**

H.M. Trade Commissioner for New Zealand (Mr. W. G. Wickham) has forwarded a copy of the Report of the Special Commission appointed to enquire into the administration of the Westport Harbour Board. In addition to suggesting an amendment of the constitution of the Board, the Commission recommended, *inter alia*, the consideration of the following matters:— The extension of the western breakwater, the removal of the staiths and the extension of the crane wharf in their stead, and the drawing-up of a comprehensive dredging scheme.

The text of the Report may be seen by United Kingdom manufacturers and contractors at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

(C.I.B. 1,958.)

RUSSIA.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) of 7th February states, on the authority of the Belgian Legation at St. Petersburg, that the Committee for New Railways has approved of the proposed railway from Orenburg to Ufa, and expresses agreement also as to the desirability of constructing branch lines from Bielaia to Bougoulchane and from Déma to Nikolskoi.

A new line 1,675 versts long (about 1,110 miles) has been proposed, starting from the Alexandrov Gai Station, on the Riazan-Ural Railway, through Kounrad and Noviji Ourgenté to Tchardjoi on the Asiatic Railway. This line will be of great importance, as it will link up mining districts rich in iron ore.

It is announced that the branch line of the Amur Railway, which unites this line with Blagovestchensk (Siberia), will shortly be opened.

An interdepartmental commission is to be appointed by the Ministry of Ways and Communications which is to study, with the help of representatives of the Moscow Regency, the question of an underground or other electric metropolitan railway in Moscow, after the type of Berlin or Paris. Numerous applications for the concession, chiefly foreign, *i.e.*, non-Russian, have already been received.

Shipping and Transport.

NORWAY.

With reference to the notice on p. 309 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th May, 1913, relative to a proposed new dry dock at Christiania, H.M. Consul at that port (Mr. E. F. Gray) now reports, on the authority of the local press, that the Norwegian Department of Defence intends asking the Storting for authority to hand over without payment about 9,400 square metres of the site known as Tyveholmen to the Akers Yards for the construction of the new dock, which it is hoped to complete by the time the new Norwegian battleships now being built are ready for delivery.

A sketch of the proposed dock may be *seen* by firms in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C.I.B. 3,598.)

DENMARK (FAROE ISLANDS).

The Board of Trade have received through the Foreign Office a copy of the harbour regulations for the port of Fugle-fjord, Farøe Islands, which will come into force early in March.

These regulations may be *seen* by United Kingdom firms interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (H. 2,430.)

GREECE.

With reference to the notice on pp. 250-1 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 30th October, 1913, relative to the proposed linking up of the Greek and European railway systems, H.M. Minister at Athens reports that a contract has been made with a French company for the construction of a line, 95 kiloms. (about 59 miles) long, which will effect the desired connection. The new line will start from the present terminus of the Piræus-Larissa frontier railway at Papapouli and, after crossing the Salonica-Monastir railway at Platy, will join with the Salonica-Uscub line at Topchin. The cost of construction is put at 7,500,000 frs. (about £300,000), and an additional 2,500,000 frs. (£100,000) is required for rolling stock. On the completion of the connecting line, which is to be open for traffic within 18 months, the journey between Paris and Athens is estimated to take about 60 hours. (C. 1,327.)

MOROCCO.

H.M. Embassy at Paris has forwarded a copy of the Report of a Special Commission which was sent to Morocco by the Paris-Orleans Railway Company to study the commercial situation in that country.

**Proposed
Railway
Development.**

The Report states, *inter alia*, that, as at presen

Shipping and Transport.

MOROCCO—*continued.*

planned, the future railway system of Morocco, excluding military lines, will consist of four lines with a total length of 740 kiloms. (about 460 miles). In accordance with treaty obligations the first railway to be built must be the line from Tangier to Fez, *viâ* Meknès under joint French and Spanish control. The route for this line is already being surveyed (see p. 89 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th October, 1913). Of the exclusively French lines the first to be undertaken will be the railway from Mazagan to Meknès *viâ* Casablanca and Rabat, from which latter port a branch line will pass through Mediah to join the Tangier-Fez line at a point between Tangier and Meknès.

Following on the completion of the above lines, work will be commenced on the railway from Casablanca to Marrakesh *viâ* Ber-Rechid and Settat, and on the railway from Fez to the Algerian frontier *viâ* Taza and Oudjda.

All these lines will be of normal gauge so as to permit of connections being made with the Algerian railway system. (C. 816.)

MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

GOLD COAST.

The Gold Coast "Government Gazette" of 10th January states that the exports of gold from that colony in 1913 amounted to 422,562 ozs., valued at £1,625,878, as compared with 377,659 ozs., valued at £1,439,268 in 1912.

**Gold Exports,
1913.**

RUSSIA.

The "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin) of 7th February states that during the month of December the production of petroleum on the Apsheron Peninsula amounted to 35,000,000 pounds. The total production for the year amounted to 389,800,000 pounds, as compared with 419,000,000 pounds in 1912.

**Petroleum
Production of
Baku in 1913.**

1,000,000 pounds = 16,000 tons (about).

GERMANY.

According to the "Frankfurter Zeitung" of 11th February, the sales of the Pig Iron Syndicate have been declining very noticeably since last October. In November the percentage of the sales out of the original allotment amounted to 81·57, as compared with 92·75 in October and 93·00 in September, whilst in December and January the percentage decreased still further to 77·93 and 71·38 respectively. The cause of this sharp decline is attributed simply

**Decline in the
Pig Iron
Syndicate Sales.**

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

to a gradual falling-off in trade in manufactures of iron, and to the price-policy of the Syndicate not making due allowance for prevailing conditions. The poor sales in January, when considered with the still quite high production, furnish another proof that the stocks of pig iron must be accumulating quite considerably.

(X. 5,024.)

According to the "Börsen Zeitung" (Berlin) of 13th February, the sales of the German Steel Works Syndicate amounted to 455,191 metric tons in January, as against 457,472 metric tons in December, 1913, and 535,625 metric tons in January of last year. The total was made up of the following:—Half-finished products, 143,002 metric tons (162,734 metric tons in January, 1913); railway material, 211,390 metric tons (229,821 metric tons); shaped iron, 100,799 metric tons (143,070 metric tons). (X. 5,032.)

Metric ton = 2,204.6 lbs.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

H.M. Consul-General at Chicago (Mr. H. D. Nugent) reports that, according to the estimates of the United States Geological Survey published in the local press, the estimated production of petroleum in the United States in 1913 exceeded 240,000,000 barrels (of 42 United States gallons*), as compared with an actual production of 222,113,218 barrels in 1912. The output in California amounted to about 98,000,000 barrels, or over 10,000,000 barrels more than in 1912; the consumption also increased considerably, and so the net addition to stocks was very slight. There was a similar increase of production in Oklahoma, where stocks were increased by about 6 per cent. Increased outputs were noted in Texas and Louisiana, as well as in the Salt Creek field in Wyoming. The other States generally showed a decrease, especially in Illinois, where the production for 1913 is estimated at only 22,000,000 barrels, as compared with 28,601,308 barrels in the previous year.

(C. 1,233.)

SIAM.

H.M. Consul-General at Bangkok (Mr. T. H. Lyle) reports that it is stated in the local press that extensive applications have been made to the Siamese Department of Mines for concessions to work tin deposits in the Island of Koh Pa Ngan, near Koh Samui in the Bight of Bandon, off the coast of the Malay Peninsula. The first discovery of ruby tin in Siam has been made in the island, but the tin is said to be of a very coarse nature.

* United States gallon = .833 Imperial gallon, or 6 United States gallons = 5 Imperial gallons.

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

Six square miles have been applied for in three equal blocks by a combine of Siamese, Australian and Chinese syndicates. A mining engineer of wide experience, who is representing the interests of the two latter, has been in Bangkok for some time, and it appears likely that the concessions will be taken over by the Tongkah Harbour Dredging Company, an Australian concern. It is stated that a Mr. W. Peacock, of Melbourne, has been asked to take over the concessions, as his firm possesses the modern appliances necessary for the work to be done.

H.M. Consul-General adds that he has no means of verifying the above particulars. (C.I.B. 3,675.)

CHINA.

The Acting British Consul at Chungking (Mr. W. R. Brown) reports that the Chinese proprietors of a mine at Chung Ch'ang have raised some 10,000 tons of antimony ore and regulus during the last seven or eight years in the course of a search for gold, and they are desirous of disposing of this ore to United Kingdom firms. The ore is said to contain 90 per cent. of antimony, combined with 10 per cent. of sulphur, silver, coal, and lead, and can be transported to Chungking at an approximate cost of 60 taels (about £8) per ton if required for export.

A sample of the antimony ore and regulus may be seen by United Kingdom firms interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. Any further communications should be sent to the British Consulate, Chungking. (C.I.B. 27,298/13.)

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 14th February, 1914, were as follows:—

Corn Prices.

Wheat	...	...	...	...	31s. 0d.
Barley	...	...	...	...	26s. 7d.
Oats	...	...	...	...	18s. 11d.

For further particulars see p. 508.

A statement is published on p. 509 showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended 14th February, 1914, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1913.

**Imports of
Agricultural
Produce.**

Agricultural and Forest Products.

UNITED KINGDOM—continued.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended 12th February, 1914, was

Cotton Statistics. 167,921 (including 261 bales British West Indian, 39 bales British West African, 1,405 bales British East African, and 112 bales foreign East African), and the number imported during the seven weeks ended 12th February was 984,276 (including 814 bales British West Indian, 82 bales British West African, 2,128 bales British East African, and 227 bales foreign East African). The number of bales exported during the week ended 12th February was 8,600, and during the seven weeks, 60,625.

For further details see p. 508.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

According to a return published in the "Nigeria Gazette" of 15th January, the total exports of palm oil from Southern Nigeria in 1913 amounted to 1,661,781 cwts., as compared with 1,539,883 cwts. in 1912. The exports of palm kernels in 1913 amounted to 174,661 tons, as against 184,625 tons in the previous year.

GOLD COAST.

The Gold Coast "Government Gazette" of 10th January states that the exports of cocoa from that Colony in 1913 amounted to 113,007,823 lbs., valued at £2,489,208, as compared with 86,568,481 lbs., valued at £1,642,734 in 1912.

ITALY.

H.M. Consul-General at Naples (Mr. S. J. A. Churchill, M.V.O.) reports, under date 10th February, that the stock of olive oil in Galipoli at the end of last year was probably the smallest left for many years. It is composed almost entirely of better class and table oils, with a few lots of common and burning oils, and is, on the whole, quite satisfactory.

In Puglia and Lecce the appearance of the fly in July and August, coupled with unseasonable weather, ruined what promised in the early part of the season to be a very good crop. The results are therefore very disappointing, and in many localities the output of olives is estimated at only about an eighth of a normal crop. Much of the fruit was bought up and re-sold in the Province of Bari, the remainder going to supply the needs of Tuscany and the Riviera.

The outlook is slightly better as regards the Tyrrhenian coast districts, but in this case also a considerable proportion of fruit has been disposed of in Central and North Italy for exportation abroad.

(C I. B. 2,549.)

*Agricultural and Forest Products.***GREECE.**

The Acting British Consul-General at Salonica (Mr. J. Morgan) reports, under date 28th January, that the tobacco crop of the Salonica and Cavalla districts in 1913, was, on the whole, inferior in quantity but slightly superior in quality (although not up to the average) as compared with 1912. This season's Cavalla tobacco is light and mild, whereas that of 1912 was heavy and strong. The whole of the 1912 crop has long since been disposed of by the planters, and very little of it remains in stock either in Cavalla or Salonica. Prices have ruled some 40-50 per cent. higher than in 1912.

As regards the outlook for the current year, the Acting Consul-General remarks that the high prices paid in 1913 will encourage the planter to put more land under cultivation and a considerable increase is expected. Labour will be more abundant than in the past, on account of a large immigration of Greeks into the Cavalla, Drama, Serres and Salonica districts from the tobacco-growing regions of Xanthi and other parts of Thrace, unless this immigration is counterbalanced by an exodus of Moslems from the Cavalla and neighbouring districts, of which, however, there is at present no indication.

(C.I.B. 2,551.)

BULGARIA (NEW TERRITORIES).

H.M. Vice-Consul at Sofia (Mr. W. B. Heard) writes that the most valuable commercial acquisition in the new Bulgarian territories is the tobacco-growing region round Xanthi, which, granted a few years of peace, should produce a considerably greater quantity of leaf for export than was possible under the previous régime. The cultivation of tobacco has hitherto been almost exclusively in the hands of the Turks, and though of late years the industry has advanced with rapid strides, it is estimated that hardly more than 25 per cent. of the potential output of the land actually cultivated has yet been reached.

In West Thrace there are large tracts of waste land which show but small signs of previous cultivation, and once the Government plan of populating these rich lands with Macedonian refugees is realised, it is hoped that the sober and industrious Bulgarian element will soon convert this region into a vast tobacco field, growing some of the finest tobacco in the world. In the Xanthi district alone, out of 269,000 deunums (about 104,910 acres) only 25,000 deunums (about 9,750 acres) were used for tobacco growing, whilst but 46,000 deunums (about 17,940 acres) were under crops, the remainder being mostly waste land or forest.

The tobacco exported from Xanthi in 1911-12, which showed a slight falling-off as compared with the previous year, is stated to have amounted to 2,701 metric tons, of a total value of £756,280, exclusive of that grown in Gumuljina, Dedeagatch, &c.

As was to be expected, exporters have had to contend with certain

Agricultural and Forest Products.

BULGARIA (NEW TERRITORIES)—*continued.*

difficulties resulting from the institution of a new régime. The local experts and buyers of the companies are mostly Greek, and the hostility of the authorities to the Greek element has resulted in certain of these being banished or refused permission to travel in the districts. The companies on their part state their readiness to replace gradually their Greek agents by Bulgarians so far as is possible, though a few of the former, owing to their experience and technical knowledge, are almost indispensable. The Government departments concerned seem disposed to meet the views of the companies in a general way, and difficulties are to be expected more from over-zealous local officials than from headquarters. The Prefect of Xanthi, however, seems well-disposed to the agents of foreign companies in his district.

The Régie's concession expires in March, and it is unlikely that it will be renewed. It has just been announced, however, that the New Territories will be granted a special tobacco régime for a few years before the system in force in Old Bulgaria is introduced, with a view no doubt to lightening the burden of taxation until the industry has become more solidly established.

Apart from tobacco, the country produces cereals, cotton, opium, rice in small quantities, olives, vines and mulberries, the latter chiefly in the Dedeagatch and Soufli regions. (C. 1,146.)

TURKEY-IN-ASIA.

H.M. Vice-Consul at Smyrna (Mr. C. E. Heathcote Smith) reports that the **sultana** season of last year was commercially unfortunate, whilst the crop itself was abundant but of inferior quality. According to official figures, the shipments of sultanas abroad up to the end of 1913 amounted to 880,000 cantars, while the estimated stocks at Smyrna and up-country amounted to 150,000 cantars; these figures do not include the produce of the Vourla and Tcheshmé districts.

The year was a disastrous one for exporters of **figs**. The crop of "naturals" proved below normal, and the quality was very inferior owing to the heavy rains. Curing was consequently less successful than usual and shippers lost through the fermentation of their fruit.

The **tobacco** crop, although apparently a record one as regards quantity, was of poor quality. So far (January, 1914) 5,000,000 okes of the 1913 yield have been sold, and 400,000 okes of the 1912 crop still remain in stock. New buyers have appeared on the market and helped to sustain prices. Some merchants believe that the current year may see smaller plantings, both on account of the record crop of last year and because of the still continuing fear of the locust.

The complete failure of the **olive** crop in the winter of 1912-13 has been followed by a large yield this season in all parts of the Smyrna district. The quality is excellent, the colour good, and acidity low. (C. 802.)

Cantar = 125 lbs. ; Oke = 2·83 lbs.

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

The following statement shows the quantity and value of fish landed on the English and Welsh, Scottish, and Irish Coasts during the month of January, 1913 and 1914:—

	January, 1913.		January, 1914.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
England and Wales—	<i>Cwts.</i>	£	<i>Cwts.</i>	£
Fish, excluding shell fish	594,134	643,603	705,568	657,435
Shell fish	—	22,933	—	23,317
Total value	—	666,536	—	680,752
Scotland—				
Fish, excluding shell fish	425,675	208,008	584,763	228,910
Shell fish	—	4,770	—	5,309
Total value	—	212,778	—	234,219
Ireland—				
Fish, excluding shell fish	86,296	37,811	81,974	26,106
Shell fish	—	1,016	—	938
Total value	—	38,827	—	27,044

NOTE.—The above figures are subject to correction in the Annual Returns.

According to a report in the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" for February*, based on 5,869 statistical returns, *viz.*, 3,108 returns from trade unions (relating to 962,242 members), and 2,761 returns from employers (relating to 1,309,065 workpeople), employment in January was good on the whole, and showed no marked change compared with the previous month. The engineering and ship-building trades continued busy, and employment at coal mines was still very good. There was, however, a further falling-off in the textile industries, especially in cotton weaving. The seasonal decline in the building trades continued, and there was some slackening in the brick, pottery and glass trades.

In the trade unions, with a net membership of 962,242, making returns, 24,548 (or 2.6 per cent.) of their members were returned as unemployed at the end of January, 1914, compared with the same percentage at the end of December, 1913, and 2.2 per cent. at the end of January, 1913.

Wages in the iron and steel trades continued to fall; in other trades there was still some upward movement.

It was reported by the Labour Exchanges that there was a continuance of the demand for labour in the shipbuilding trades. A deficiency in the supply of women was reported in the linen trades, and some shortage was experienced in the clothing trades and in laundry work.

* For list of principal contents, see p. 504.

*Miscellaneous.***UNITED KINGDOM**—*continued.*

Compared with the high level of January, 1913, employment showed a falling-off. There was a marked decline in the pig iron, iron and steel, and tinplate trades, and the engineering and shipbuilding trades were not so fully employed. There was also a decline in the textile industries, which was particularly noticeable in cotton weaving, in the woollen and worsted trades generally, and in some branches of the lace trade.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Imperial Trade Correspondent at St. John's (Mr. H. W. Le Messurier) has forwarded a copy of the Fifth Annual Report of the Newfoundland Board of Trade (*i.e.* Chamber of Commerce) from which the following particulars regarding the Newfoundland fisheries are extracted:—

The total export of **codfish**, including Labrador shipments, for the six months ended 31st December, 1913, amounted to **Fisheries in 1913.** 928,413 quintals, as against 971,392 quintals in the corresponding period of 1912.

The **seal** fishery of the 1913 season was an average one, the catch amounting to 272,065 seals, as compared with 175,130 in 1912.

There was a serious decrease in the catch of **lobsters** during 1913 as compared with 1912, the catch for the two years representing 16,565 cases and 26,148 cases respectively. The short catch in the past season is attributed to some extent to very rough weather, entailing great loss of traps and gear. However, the lobster catch is steadily declining year by year, in spite of the increased inducement of higher prices.

The returns of the **salmon** fishery show a decrease of 1,590 cases packed during 1913, although there was an increase of 22 licences issued and 108 more nets used than in 1912.

In 1913 there was a still further decrease in the catch of **whales**, the number caught being 201, as against 294 in the previous season.

(C.I.B. 3,223.)

RUSSIA.

H.M. Commercial Attaché for Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) has forwarded the following preliminary figures of the trade of **Foreign Trade in 1913.** Russia by European frontiers in 1913, as published by the "Torgovo Promyshlennaya Gazeta" (St. Petersburg) of 28th January:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	Roubles.	Roubles.
By sea	498,853,000	896,680,000
Overland	622,811,000	328,131,000
By Black Sea (Caucasian Coast)	18,214,000	130,111,000
By Russo-Finnish frontiers	55,136,000	52,817,000
Total value in 1913	1,195,014,000	1,407,739,000
Total value in 1912	1,036,673,000	1,428,037,000

*Miscellaneous.***RUSSIA**—*continued.*

The total imports by Asiatic frontiers during the period 1st January—24th December, 1913, amounted to 159,244,000 roubles, and exports to 94,862,000 roubles, as compared with 134,266,000 roubles and 88,153,000 roubles, respectively, for the corresponding period of 1912.

(C. 1,293.)

Rouble = 2s. 1½d.

NETHERLANDS.

The Acting British Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. E. J. Labarre) recently reported that the Royal Assent had been given to the statutes of a society which has been formed in the Netherlands for the mutual protection of manufacturers and dealers in "proprietary articles." The association is at first limited to the chemical, pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries, but if it meets with success (it already has a membership of 35) it will no doubt rapidly open its membership to the other trades in proprietary articles.

Mr. Labarre writes:—All manufacturers, whether Dutch subjects or not, who place goods on the market ready for sale, furnished with a certain mark and intended for sale at a fixed price, are eligible for membership. Admission to membership must be approved by the managing committee by a majority of votes. The fee for membership is 60 gulden (£5) per annum, with an entrance fee of 100 gulden (£8 6s. 8d.) up to 30th April, 1914, after which it will be raised to 200 gulden (£16 13s. 4d.).

The Secretary of the Association is Dr. Ch. E. Jacobs, Barrister, Keizersgracht 578, Amsterdam, to whom all communications should be addressed.

Some further particulars of the society may be *seen* by makers of proprietary articles in the United Kingdom at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

(C.I.B. 273: 2,665.)

FRANCE.

With reference to the notice on p. 47 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st January last relative to resolutions passed at the Sardine Fishermen's Congress at Lorient, the British Vice-Consul at Nantes (Mr. A. Trillot) reports that important meetings have been held at Nantes by the Union of French Merchants of Preserved Sardines to discuss the question of the use of drag nets. Although these nets gave excellent results when tried under the control of the Marine Authorities, yet their use was only permitted at a few fishing stations in the Department of Finistère last season, which was a bad one. The merchants intend to ask the French Government to extend the use of drag nets to all the fishing stations, and also to prohibit the fishermen using the ground-nut flour they generally employ as cheap bait unless it has been treated so that it does not spoil the quality of the fish. If these requests are not granted the Union of Merchants will definitely close their factories.

(C. 911.)

*Miscellaneous.***FRANCE**—*continued.*

H.M. Vice-Consul at Paris (Mr. C. Graham) reports that the "Association Internationale du Froid" proposes to hold a conference either in London in August next, or in Paris in February, 1915. The object of the conference is to secure international agreement in matters regarding cold storage, and the following subjects, amongst others, will be discussed:—The inspection and marking of goods before refrigeration; packing of goods; hygienic conditions of cold storage depôts, &c.

It is also proposed to raise a fund of 100,000 frs. (£4,000) in order to provide for the completion of the equipment of the cryogenic laboratory at Leyden. (C.I.B. 3,517.)

MOROCCO.

H.M. Consul-General at Tangier (Mr. H. E. White, C.M.G.) has forwarded particulars of the trade of Morocco (by sea) during the first nine months of 1913, from which the following table has been compiled, the figures for the whole of 1912 being added for purposes of comparison, nine months' figures not being available:—

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1912.	1st Jan.—30th Sept., 1913.	1912.	1st Jan.—30th Sept., 1913.
	<i>Frs.</i>	<i>Frs.</i>	<i>Frs.</i>	<i>Frs.</i>
France*	49,952,862	64,583,033	15,540,193	8,245,988
United Kingdom and Gibraltar	50,725,251	29,696,612	15,617,304	4,248,400
Germany	13,209,496	13,372,696	17,838,952	6,063,121
Other countries	20,421,655	26,090,223	17,057,907	4,342,466
Total value	134,309,264	133,742,564	66,054,356	22,899,975

* Including sea-trade of Algeria.

25 francs = £1.

H.M. Consul-General adds that it will be seen that, whilst owing to the very bad harvest, there was a large falling-off in exports, nevertheless the value of goods imported during the first nine months of the year from France and Germany exceeds that of those imported during the whole of the preceding year, the advance being specially marked in the case of French goods, whilst the United Kingdom trade shows a decline.

This may be explained by the fact that bad harvests have reduced the natives to poverty, so that they are unable to buy cottons, tea, &c., which are luxuries, whilst on the other hand, it has caused an increased importation of food stuffs, flour, &c., which come principally from France. The very large increase in the European population

Miscellaneous.

MOROCCO—*continued.*

has caused a greater demand for goods required by them, and as most of the new comers are French they naturally obtain their goods from France. The importation of military stores and material has of course been maintained, and there has also been a considerable importation of material, machinery, &c. for port construction; the contractors being French, the material, &c. has come from France.

(C.I.B. 2,928.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (ALASKA).

The Report for the year ended 30th June, 1913, of the Governor of Alaska to the United States Secretary of the Interior states that there is a great deal of water power in Alaska that could be utilised, in conjunction with the other natural resources of the country, for the development of electro-chemical industries. Water power is already being developed at Speel River, about 35 miles south-east of Juneau, the purpose being the establishment of a large electro-chemical and industrial plant to manufacture carbides, sulphuric acid and other chemicals, pig iron from clinker iron, pulp from wood, and sulphur, &c. There is a practically unlimited supply of raw materials, including timber, lime, sulphur, &c., near at hand, and suitable fuel will be obtainable from the Alaska coal mines when opened, or from British Columbia.

(C. 988.)

JAPAN.

With reference to the notice on pp. 337-8 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th February relative to the manufacture of sheet glass in Japan, H.M. Commercial Attaché at Yokohama (Mr. E. F. Crowe, C.M.G.) reports that the branch factory which is being established by the Mitsu Bishi at Tobata is expected to commence operations in April, 1915, instead of June next, as originally stated. The article to be manufactured is window glass, and the American cylinder process is to be adopted, by special permission of the patentees.

(C.I.B. 3,310.)

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.*

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of January, 1914, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased* at a cost, in the present instance, of 11d. per copy (post free 1s. 2d.).

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 of 5s. 5d. (post free 5s. 11d.) for the first volume, 4s. 1d. (post free 4s. 7d.) for the second, and 3s. 1d. (post free 3s. 6d.) 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 contents of the February issue:—The Labour Market in January; Recent Conciliation and Arbitration Cases; Unemployment Insurance; Work of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges in 1913; Seamen's Pensions in Italy; Trade Unions in the United States; The South African Strike; Labour Statistics of the Commonwealth of Australia for Third Quarter of 1913.

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. 5,255. Trade of the Consular District of Bushire (Persia) during the year ended 20th March, 1913. Price 5d.

State of trade.	Imports of cotton and woollen goods.
Road transport.	Wheat and barley exports.
Banking and exchange.	Opium trade.
Shipping and freights.	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.

Government Publications.

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORT.

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

No. 789. Straits Settlements, 1912. Price 5½d.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Statistical Abstract for the British Empire in each year from 1898 to 1912. Tenth number. [Cd. 7,241.] Price 1s. 3d.

This publication, which has been compiled in the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade, contains statistics of the area, population, and trade of each portion of the British Empire, distinguishing trade with foreign countries and with other portions of the Empire, figures as to shipping, and statements as to the production and consumption of staple articles in the various countries of the Empire.

International Conference on Safety of Life at Sea. Text of the Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, signed at London on 20th January, 1914. With translation. [Cd. 7,246.] Price 1s. 6d.

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

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	... ..	56, Victoria Street, S.W.
Dominion of New Zealand	... ..	13, Victoria Street, S.W.
Union of South Africa	... ..	Trades Commissioner, 90, Cannon Street, E.C.

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

FOREIGN & COLONIAL PUBLICATIONS.

The following is a list of the more important Articles on trade subjects contained in the Foreign and Colonial Publications 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**
 Viticulture in Terskoi Province.
 "Pravitel'stvennei Vvestnik" (St. Petersburg), 7th Feb.
 Sugar Production in France, 1903-13.
 "Bulletin des Halles" (Paris), 5th Feb.
 Crop Results in the Philippines in 1912-13.
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 5th Feb.
 Timber Trade Development in Eastern Siberia.
 "Vvestnik Finansov" (St. Petersburg), 8th Feb.
 Sugar Industry in Cuba.
 "Moniteur Officiel" (Paris), 5th Feb.
 Live Stock in Russia.
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 5th Feb.
 Tea Cultivation in the Trans-Caucasus.
 "Pravitel'stvennei Vvestnik" (St. Petersburg), 3rd Feb.
 Tobacco Trade in Bremen.
 "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels), 7th Feb.
 Rubber Market in 1913.
 "Economiste Français" (Paris), 7th Feb.
 Rice Prospects in India.
 "Pioneer Mail" (Allahabad), 16th Jan.
 Timber Trade of the Crimea.
 "Vvestnik Finansov" (St. Petersburg), 1st Feb.
 Soya Bean Trade in 1913.
 "Indian Trade Journal" (Calcutta), 2nd Jan.
 Agricultural Production in Denmark in 1913.
 "Moniteur Officiel" (Paris), 5th Feb.
 Sugar Market in Russia.
 "Torgovo - Promyshlennaya Gazeta," 7th Feb.
- Machinery, Hardware and Engineering.**
 Hardware Industry in Upper Silesia.
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 10th Feb. (X. 5,036.)
 Grain Elevators in the Caucasus.
 "Torgovo - Promyshlennaya Gazeta" (St. Petersburg), 7th Feb.
 Metal Cutting Machines. (Concluding Article.)
 "Métallurgie" (Paris), 11th Feb.
 Steel Rolling: Power Requirements.
 "Iron Age" (New York), 29th Jan.
 Electrically Welding Metallic Wires.
 "Métallurgie" (Paris), 11th Feb.
 Experiments on Gas Producers.
 "Stahl und Eisen" (Düsseldorf), 5th Feb.
- Machinery, Hardware and Engineering—cont.**
 Vibration of Ring Rails (Spinning Machines).
 "Canadian Textile Journal" (Montreal), Jan.
 Steam from Waste Heat.
 "Iron Age" (New York), 29th Jan.
 Electric Generating Stations in Russia.
 "Torgovo - Promyshlennaya Gazeta" (St. Petersburg), 8th Feb.
- Metals, Mining and Minerals.**
 Shock Tests on Notched Bars and the Annealing of Steel Castings.
 "Stahl und Eisen" (Düsseldorf), 5th Feb.
 Iron Market in Upper Silesia.
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 5th Feb. (X. 5,029.)
 Coal Market in South Germany.
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 5th Feb. (X. 5,014.)
 Coal Trade of Nova Scotia in 1913.
 "Journal of Commerce" (Montreal), 24th Jan.
 Natural Soda Deposits of Africa.
 "South African Engineering" (Cape Town) 31st Jan.
 Coal Trade in Japan in 1913.
 "Moniteur Officiel" (Paris), 5th Feb.
 Iron and Steel Industry in Luxemburg.
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 4th Feb. (X. 5,072.)
 Mineral Production in New South Wales in 1913.
 "Australian Mining Standard" (Sydney), 8th Jan.
 Chemicals used in the Cyanide Process.
 "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York), 31st Jan.
 Coke Market in Upper Silesia.
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 5th Feb. (X. 5,013.)
 Iron Industry in Italy.
 "Stahl und Eisen" (Düsseldorf), 5th Feb.
 Mining Industry in the German Colonies.
 "Deutscher Reichsanzeiger" (Berlin), 14th Feb.
 Mining in the Northern Territory (Australia).
 "Mining and Engineering Review" (Melbourne), 5th Jan.
 Coal Industry in the Ruhr District in 1913.
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 5th Feb. (X. 5,012.)
 Diamond Industry in German South-West Africa.
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 4th Feb.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS—continued.

Metals, Mining and Minerals—continued.

- Graphite Industry in Madagascar.
 "Dipêche Coloniale" (Paris), 8th Feb.
 Iron Market in Rhenish Westphalia.
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 8th Feb.
 (X. 5,028.)

Railways, Shipping and Transport.

- Derrick Boat for Handling Stones.
 "Engineering News" (New York),
 22nd Jan.
 Capital and Working Results of Moscow-Kiev Railway.
 "Vestnik Finansov" (St. Petersburg), 8th Feb.
 Proposed Railway Construction in France during 1914.
 "Journal des Transports" (Paris), 7th Feb.
 Water Communication in India.
 "Indian Engineering" (Calcutta), 10th Jan.

Textiles and Textile Materials.

- Domestic Wools: Their thorough Preparation.
 "Canadian Textile Journal" (Montreal), Jan.
 Woollen Market (General).
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 10th Feb.
 (X. 5,053.)
 Wool Supplies from the German Colonies.
 "Textil Zeitung" (Berlin), 10th Feb.
 Studies in the Dyeing of Wool.
 "Canadian Textile Journal" (Montreal), Jan.
 Silk Industry in Italy in 1913.
 "Handelsmuseum" (Vienna), 15th Jan.
 Weaving by Modern Methods.
 "Textil Zeitung" (Berlin), 10th Feb.
 Woollen Spinning: Blending and Preparatory Process.
 "Canadian Textile Journal" (Montreal), Jan.
 Textile Market in France.
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 3rd Feb.
 (X. 5,004.)

Textiles and Textile Materials—continued.

- Manufacture of Heavy Weight Cloths.
 "Canadian Textile Journal" (Montreal), Jan.
 Woollen Industry in Marseilles in 1912-13.
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 5th Feb.
Commercial, Financial and Economic.
 France: Trade in 1913.
 "Economiste Français" (Paris), 7th Feb.
 United States: Investments in Canada.
 "Monetary Times Annual" (Toronto), Jan.
 Russia: Development of Finance from 1908-12.
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 6th Feb.
 Switzerland: Economic Conditions in 1913.
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 5th Feb.
 Denmark: Economic Condition in 1913.
 "Le Danmark" (Copenhagen), Jan.
 Belgian Congo: Finances.
 "Dipêche Coloniale" (Paris), 8th Feb.

Miscellaneous.

- Chemical Industry in Germany.
 "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels), 7th Feb.
 Fur Trade of Leipzig in 1913.
 "Handelsmuseum" (Vienna), 22nd Jan.
 Sardine Trade of the Netherlands in 1913.
 "Börsen-Zeitung" (Berlin), 10th Feb.
 Leather Trade in Canton.
 "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), 3rd Feb.
 German Yeast Syndicate.
 "Frankfurter Zeitung," 12th Feb.
 Electrical Fittings Industry in Italy in 1913.
 "Handelsmuseum" (Vienna), 22nd Jan.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Canada—Commercial Review of 1913, and Export Trade of Montreal.

New South Wales—Immigration and Tourist Bureau: Trade Reports for 1912—Japan.

Victoria—Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways: Reports on Black Rocks and Beaumaris Railway and Cavendish to Toolondo Railway.

Western Australia—Post Office Directory, 1914.

Transvaal—United Transvaal Directory, 1914.

Egypt—Statistical Annual for 1913 (in French).

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 7 weeks ended 12th February, 1914 :—

	Week ended 12th Feb., 1914.	7 Weeks ended 12th Feb., 1914.	Week ended 12th Feb., 1914.	7 Weeks ended 12th Feb., 1914.
	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	125,362	747,762	5,650	31,157
Brazilian	16,254	75,673	—	1,802
East Indian	1,112	20,479	2,343	9,983
Egyptian	21,554	114,061	327	15,745
Miscellaneous	3,639*	26,301†	280	1,938
Total... ..	167,921	984,276	8,600	60,625

* Including 261 bales British West Indian, 39 bales British West African, 1,405 bales British East African, and 112 bales foreign East African.

† Including 814 bales British West Indian, 82 bales British West African, 2,128 bales British East African, and 227 bales foreign East African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors of Corn Returns in the week ended 14th February, 1914, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Week ended 14th February, 1914...	31	0	26	7	18	11
Corresponding Week in—						
1907	26	10	24	2	17	9
1908	32	6	26	5	17	11
1909	34	1	27	11	18	0
1910	33	0	24	6	18	0
1911	30	3	24	7	17	6
1912	34	4	32	10	21	7
1913	30	9	29	1	20	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 14th February, 1914, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 14th Feb., 1914.	Correspond- ing week in 1913.
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bnlls, cows, and calves	Number	29	15
Sheep and lambs	"	—	—
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	277	253
Fresh meat :—			
Beef (including refrigerated and frozen) ...	Owts.	190,830	161,541
Mutton " " " " " " " " " "	"	114,401	109,106
Pork " " " " " " " " " "	"	23,125	11,075
Meat, nnumerated, " fresh (including re- frigerated and frozen)	"	14,483	11,420
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Owts.	119,314	90,280
Beef	"	774	1,014
Hams	"	22,032	20,797
Pork	"	5,059	3,353
Meat, unenumerated, salted	"	3,374	1,657
Meat, preserved, otherwise than by salting (including tinned and canned)	"	10,580	5,359
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Owts.	83,181	79,001
Margarine	"	31,589	31,645
Cheese	"	21,430	23,103
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	554
" cream	"	131	253
" condensed	"	32,470	29,556
" preserved, other kinds	"	77	25
Eggs	Grt. Hndr.	170,726	262,943
Poultry	Value £	63,434	64,203
Game	"	7,523	4,523
Rabbits, dead (fresh and frozen)	Cwts.	3,150	4,341
Lard	"	40,586	34,365
Corn, grain, meal and flour :—			
Wheat	Owts.	1,474,400	1,236,200
Wheat-meal and flour	"	200,800	224,800
Barley	"	193,200	434,100
Oats	"	586,000	196,800
Peas	"	40,110	59,564
Beans	"	26,600	3,090
Maize or Indian corn	"	501,800	735,600
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Owts.	44,459	111,954
Apricots and peaches	"	412	—
Bananas	Bunches	87,902	65,475
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	731	438
Lemons	"	13,535	17,621
Oranges	"	182,391	283,609
Pears	"	1,843	556
Plums	"	470	—
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	1,385	744
Hay	Tons	467	2,268
Straw	"	24	33
Moss Litter	"	1,687	2,017
Hops	Cwts.	2,154	5,251
Locust beans	"	9,812	933
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	169,908	213,020
Potatoes	Cwts.	19,553	206,246
Tomatoes	"	29,843	24,094
Unenumerated	Value £	16,154	12,094
Vegetables, dried...	Cwts.	31,104	4,822
" preserved by canning	"	6,770	5,480

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. 447.

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 DOMINIONS.

Canada and Newfoundland...	H.M. Trade Commissioner, 3, Beaver Hall Square, Montreal. Telegraphic Address, "Britcom."
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."

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 :—

300. Workmen engaged in repairing steam boilers at collieries.

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 6th March, 1914.

Notice is further given that the Umpire proposes to give his decision on the above applications on or after 9th March, 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:—

1424. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in constructing underground conduits for telegraph and telephone wires and cables. (Application 293.)

1427. Workmen (other than carvers) engaged wholly or mainly in making or in erecting in churches, seating, reredoses, screens, fonts or pulpits of wood or stone, other than fonts or pulpits which are completed in the workshops, taken to the site in one piece, and not screwed, nailed or fixed in any way or scribed. (Application 290.)

This decision does not affect decision B 276 ("Board of Trade Journal" of the 4th July, 1912).

1428. Workmen (other than gardeners) employed in laying out a new burial ground, including construction of paths, erection of walls, &c.

1429. Workmen engaged in making up, *i.e.*, shaping, coreing, metalling and paving, for the first time, a privately-owned road previously partially formed.

1430. Workmen engaged in erecting fencing round reservoirs, filter-beds, or other works of construction in connection with the construction, reconstruction or alteration of such works. (Application 294.)

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

1425. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in erecting poles, and in fixing, laying, or jointing overhead or underground telegraph and telephone wires and cables. (Application 293.)

1426. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in fitting-up cast-iron fuse boxes such as are commonly used for ordinary domestic installations. (Application 296.)

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) 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.
