


THE
BOARD OF TRADE

JOURNAL
AND
COMMERCIAL GAZETTE

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Vol. CIX. (New Series.) No. 1336.]

JULY 6th, 1922.

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SPECIAL CONTENTS.

FLAX GROWING IN KENYA : CONDITIONS AND OUTLOOK.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES IN JUNE :
MOVEMENTS OF PRINCIPAL CURRENCIES.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY IN ONTARIO.

NEW CAPITAL ISSUES IN JUNE.

FINNISH TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS.

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REPORTS OF COMPANY MEETINGS.

ESTATES CONTROL, LIMITED.

INCREASED PROFITS.

The eighteenth annual general meeting of Estates Control, Limited, was held on 3rd July at the company's offices, 122-166, Old Street, E.C.

Sir George Lawson Johnston (the chairman) presided.

The Secretary (Mr. F. M. Barrington) read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, we have already had the pleasure of reporting to you increased profits and that the profit appropriation account shows a credit balance of £161,795 17s.

In the balance sheet you will notice that the first item on the credit side, "Investments," etc., indicates an increase on last year's figures of £190,292. By far the larger portion of the increase is due to the purchase of debentures in Bovril Estate Companies and short-term notes of Bovril, Limited. A portion of the increase is also attributable to an additional holding in Virol shares.

INCREASED RATES.

On a previous occasion I mentioned to you the large area of land in the southern hemisphere in which we are interested—nine million acres in all—and in contrast I now have to report to you a purchase of freehold land and buildings we have made in London since the present accounts were closed. It is an acre and a third in extent and is within two and a half miles of the Bank of England. Our intention for the present is to let the property to Bovril, Limited, as they desire to use one of the buildings as a garage for their motor vans. One cannot to-day buy or rent land in London without thinking seriously of the question of rates. A warehouse rented by Bovril, Limited, at a rack rent of £1,090 had to pay last year rates amounting to £1,409 16s. In 1913 the rates on this same property only amounted to £400 4s. 3d. When the Quinquennial Assessments are made I hope local authorities will not be so shortsighted as to press for an unfair assessment of energetic, and therefore prosperous, firms, who bring fresh employment into working-class areas.

I was startled by the increase in rates statistics recently given at the Southport Conference. It was there reported that in 1914 the people of England and Wales were paying seventy-one million pounds in local rates. To-day the total is one hundred and seventy-three million pounds per annum, or, say, £4 11s. 8d. per head of the population. In every business concern any increase in rate charges of this character must be carefully watched and especially any tendency to hand over to municipal authorities additional duties which involve further expense.

THE HOSPITALS.

The appeal for London hospitals is at present bringing home to many how close we have been to getting the hospitals as an additional charge on the rates. The efficient running of the London voluntary hospitals last year cost £2,864,000, whilst the income of the hospitals was £2,662,000. The deficit amounted to £202,000—less than ten per cent. of the total requirements—and yet one has heard ill-informed people talk somewhat lightly of the hospitals being taken over by the London County Council or the local boroughs. If these voluntary hospitals of London were thus taken over, it would not be the £202,000 that we should have to pay as ratepayers, but a very large proportion of the £2,864,000, and, in addition, an even larger sum in lieu of the voluntary services now given to such a great extent by the medical profession and a large body of voluntary workers associated with hospitals. (Hear, hear.)

Even from a mere business point of view, it is a great economy to pay up now the 10 per cent. required to balance accounts, rather than take the risk of having to pay several millions annually as a fixed charge.

The Hospitals of London Combined Appeal are making their effort now to provide funds to meet this deficit, and thus keep

the hospitals solvent until prices fall further and new sources of revenue can be tapped, thus enabling the hospitals of London to keep their expenditure within their income.

I would suggest that the question of a subscription to the hospitals should be treated as a business proposition, and be put on the agenda for consideration at the next board meeting of every company or firm that pays rates or taxes in London. (Hear, hear.)

You know the magnificent record of the voluntary hospitals of London and how they stand as a tangible and concrete bond of sympathy between rich and poor. Could it ever be the same again if these hospitals were taken over by the State, and were financed exclusively by forced contributions (rates or taxes) and controlled by permanent officials?

THE RECENT OFFER OF SHARES.

Last week we offered to the public 190,000 7½ per cent. ordinary shares of one pound each in Bovril, Limited, at 2s. premium. This was the full market price for the shares at the time we offered them, but we were inclined to believe that Bovril stood so high in public estimation, owing to the unique reputation and standing of its product and national appreciation of its anti-profiteering record, that the public would be likely to think even more highly of the shares than the market did. We had a single-column advertisement in a number of papers and it has been a feature of the applications that nearly two-thirds of them came in on newspaper forms. We had to close the lists promptly owing to over-subscription and are now preparing the lists for acceptance and regret. Our intention is to reduce large applications by at least 90 per cent. on any excess over 1,000 shares and to eliminate all applications under 25 shares. This will enable us to be more liberal with the applicants between 25 and 1,000 shares and also to the trade. You will probably appreciate that the reason for not accepting the smaller applications is that the postage and cheque stamps cost 7d. a year on the two dividends.

Bovril circles may, I think, be excused for feeling some gratification at the result, and at the fact that the lists of this issue of 7½ per cent. ordinary shares at a premium were closed a day earlier than an issue made at the same time with a British Government guarantee attached to it. (Hear, hear.)

I now move:—"That the report and accounts now submitted for the period ended 30th November, 1921, be and the same are hereby approved and adopted; that the payment of the dividend of 5½ per cent. on the preference shares and 8 per cent. on the preferred ordinary shares (less income tax), as mentioned in such accounts, be and the same is hereby confirmed; that a dividend of 40 per cent. (less income tax) on the ordinary shares be and the same is hereby declared."

Sir James Crichton-Browne, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., in seconding the resolution, said that he was sure the shareholders would regard the report as very satisfactory and the chairman's statement as lucid and encouraging.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

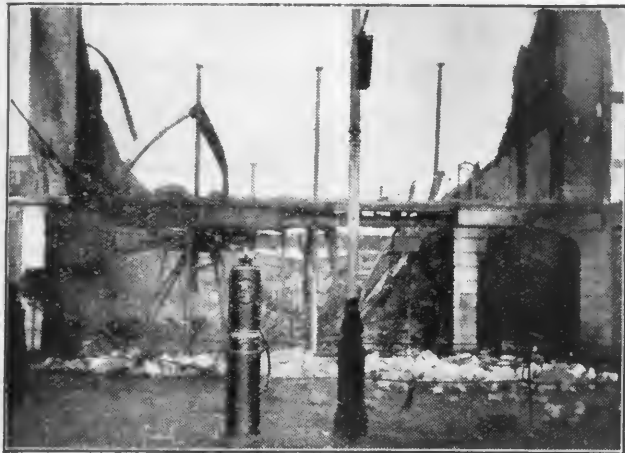
The retiring directors, Sir James Crichton-Browne and Mr. W. E. Lawson Johnston, were re-elected, and the auditors, Messrs. Jackson, Pixley, and Company, were re-appointed.

Mr. Peto Bennett, in proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors, and also to the management and staff, said that in the report it was stated that there had been a gratifying increase in the company's profits. The same remark applied to everything connected with the company. He was very pleased to support what the chairman had said with regard to the hospitals. From a financial point of view it would certainly be in the interests of the great companies of this great city that they should consider this matter, and, if their contribution took the form, for instance, of a percentage on profits, a very small figure in each case would suffice.

Sir Cornthwaite H. Rason seconded the vote, which was unanimously accorded, and the chairman having briefly acknowledged the compliment, the proceedings terminated.

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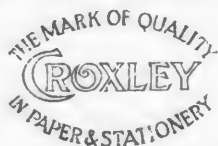
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CURRENT AND DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS	25,625,242
CASH IN HAND AND AT BANK OF ENGLAND	4,573,262
MONEY AT CALL AND SHORT NOTICE INVESTMENTS	6,258,500
ADVANCES, etc.	8,245,884
BALANCES WITH AND CHEQUES IN COURSE OF COLLECTION ON OTHER BANKS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM	6,744,917
	1,085,049

31st December, 1921.

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Rotterdam to Quebec and Montreal.			
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JULY 6TH, 1922.

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The Board of Trade.

COAL.

WEEKLY OUTPUT.

We give below a statement of the coal output at the mines of Great Britain for the four weeks ended 24th June. For the week ended at that date the output was 4,353,900 tons, as compared with 4,350,200 tons in the previous week. Last year the output from 4th April to 4th July was only 179,100 tons owing to the stoppage of work at the mines.

Districts.	3rd June.	10th June*	17th June	24th June.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Northumberland ...	265,600	195,100	274,500	216,100
Durham ...	634,500	481,800	638,000	600,700
Yorkshire ...	739,000	372,700	728,700	753,400
Lancashire, Cheshire, and North Wales...	364,600	228,250	354,600	375,400
Derby, Nottingham and Leicester ...	440,000	184,000	411,000	437,200
Stafford, Shropshire, Warwick, Worcester	276,600	99,600	268,500	277,500
South Wales and Mon- mouthshire...	1,016,500	468,000	942,100	960,500
Other English Districts	83,500	53,800	84,400	84,800
Scotland ...	620,600	598,600	648,400	643,300
Total ...	4,440,900	2,681,800	4,350,200	4,353,900

* Whitsun week.

FIFTY-TWO WEEKS SUMMARY.

The total production weekly of coal since 4th July, 1921, is given below:—

1921.	Tons.	1922.	Tons.
July 9th	2,352,700	January 7th	3,674,000
July 16th	3,935,200	January 14th	4,719,100
July 23rd	4,334,200	January 21st	4,560,500
July 30th	4,592,500	January 28th	4,738,700
August 6th	3,623,200	February 4th	4,803,100
August 13th	4,536,600	February 11th	4,912,500
August 20th	4,327,800	February 18th	5,000,800
August 27th	4,101,700	February 25th	5,046,600
September 3rd	4,141,900	March 4th	5,038,900
September 10th	3,939,800	March 11th	4,995,900
September 17th	4,161,700	March 18th	4,956,900
September 24th	4,273,100	March 25th	4,929,300
October 1st	4,118,200	April 1st	4,825,400
October 8th	4,287,900	April 8th	4,961,700
October 15th	4,237,200	April 15th	4,383,800
October 22nd	4,236,600	April 22nd	3,543,900
October 29th	4,210,200	April 29th	5,160,100
November 5th	4,182,400	May 6th	4,766,600
November 12th	4,372,500	May 13th	4,945,200
November 19th	4,646,300	May 20th	4,804,100
November 26th	4,673,600	May 27th	4,629,600
December 3rd	4,693,300	June 3rd	4,440,900
December 10th	4,855,100	June 10th	2,681,800
December 17th	5,030,700	June 17th	4,350,200
December 24th	4,965,400	June 24th	4,353,900
December 31st	3,049,000		

BRITISH CLAIMS AGAINST BULGARIA.

The Administrator of Bulgarian Property has, under the powers conferred upon him by Section I (iv) of the Treaty of Peace (Bulgaria) Orders, 1920-1922, and with the approval of the President of the Board of Trade, prescribed 30th September, 1922, as the final date by which proofs of debts by British nationals against Bulgarian nationals, and other claims by British nationals against the Bulgarian Government, must be made in order to rank for payment of the first dividend to be declared by him out of the Bulgarian assets within His Majesty's Dominions or Protectorates which are subject to the charge created by Section I (i) of those Orders.

British nationals who have claims against Bulgarian nationals or the Bulgarian Government under Part IX. (Economic Clauses) of the Treaty of Nemilly-sur-Seine, with the payment of which the Bulgarian assets above referred to are charged, and who have not yet lodged their claims upon the prescribed forms with the Department for the Administration of Bulgarian Property, Cornwall House,

THE BOARD OF TRADE—Continued.

Stamford Street, London, S.E. 1, should do so immediately, as any such claims lodged after 30th September, 1922, will only be permitted to rank against any surplus of the above-mentioned Bulgarian assets which may remain over after payment of the said first dividend.

The prescribed forms of proof of claim may be obtained on application to the Administrator of Bulgarian Property at Cornwall House, Stamford Street, London, S.E. 1.

DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE.

APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY TRADE CORRESPONDENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

With reference to the notice published in the "Journal" of 2nd March respecting the suspension of certain Imperial Trade Correspondent posts in the Dominions, the Department of Overseas Trade are able to announce that the following gentlemen who previously served as Imperial Trade Correspondents have kindly volunteered to continue their services in an honorary capacity:—

AUSTRALIA.

Mr. W. J. Weatherill, 32 and 33, Victory Chambers, Queen Street, Brisbane, Queensland.

Mr. E. Ross, 23, Old Wharf, Hobart, Tasmania. Trade enquiries addressed to these officers will accordingly be dealt with in the same manner as formerly.

INCOME TAX RATES IN BARBADOS.

The Supplement to the Barbados "Official Gazette" of 18th May, 1922, contains the text of an Act to settle the Rates of Income Tax for the year 1922 and to make provision with respect to certain other matters in connection with the levying of the said tax.

A copy of the Supplement referred to can be consulted by United Kingdom firms interested on application to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

TAX ON PROPERTY, ETC., IN BARBADOS.

The Supplement to the "Barbados Official Gazette" of 1st June, 1922, contains the text of an Act to impose for a limited period a Tax on Owners and Occupiers of Property and on Traders in the Island.

A copy of the Supplement referred to can be consulted by United Kingdom firms interested on application to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

NEW ZEALAND STORES CONTROL BOARD.

H.M. Trade Commissioner at Wellington has forwarded to the Department of Overseas Trade a copy of the Supplement to the New Zealand "Gazette," No. 36, dated 5th May, regarding the formation of a Stores Control Board, which has been established under the chairmanship of the Minister for Public Works with a view to the better control of purchases by the various State Departments.

United Kingdom firms interested may inspect the Supplement referred to on application to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

SOUTH AFRICAN HOSPITAL SUPPLIES.

Information has been transmitted from the Office of H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner at Johannesburg, in connection with the equipment of the

THE BOARD OF TRADE—Continued.

Transvaal Memorial Hospital for Children, now in course of construction at Johannesburg, indicating that it is probable that the requirements, particularly of a medical nature, will be fairly large. Details of these requirements are not, however, at present available, but as it is likely the building will be completed by the date fixed, namely, September of next year, the hospital authorities are expected to come to a decision in a short time.

United Kingdom firms who are interested in providing hospital equipment will probably consider it advisable to put themselves in touch with the Secretary of the Hospital, Mr. Hugo Evenett, 89, Glencairn Buildings, Joubert Street, Johannesburg.

GERMAN MOTORS, ETC., FOR EASTERN EUROPE.

The Commercial Secretary at Cologne reports that, according to the "Deutsche Bergwerks Zeitung," a community of interests contract is to be concluded between the Motorenwerke Mannheim A.G. vorm. Benz and the Danzig Werft in regard to motor building and marine engines by which the Danzig Werft will take up the manufacture of these machines. The Motorenwerke Mannheim A.G. vorm. Benz thus ensure for themselves a market in Poland and Russia as well as in the border States. It is further reported that the Motorenwerke Mannheim is to provide the Danzig Werft with licences as well as with officials and trained workers in order that the manufacture may be taken up to a wide extent. The Danzig Werft will provide the necessary working capital as well as the buildings and sites.

HUNGARIAN-BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Board of Trade have been asked to draw the attention of British commercial and industrial interests to the position of the Hungarian-British Chamber of Commerce at Buda-Pest.

It was formed at the end of 1920 under the Chairmanship of Count Albert Apponyi, P.C., M.P., by the direction of the Hungarian Government and under the auspices of H.M. Legation in Buda-Pest. Since that date it has taken an active part in the trade relations between Great Britain and Hungary.

The Chamber is prepared to advise its members on all matters connected with trade between the British Empire and Hungary, and will supply on demand particulars relating to Customs classification of goods, changes in Customs duties, and other commercial legislation affecting special trades. It is also prepared to undertake work in connection with applications for import licences where such licences are required. Status information is also supplied at a nominal charge.

The Chamber's premises are situated in the Parliament Buildings, Buda-Pest, and the Chamber desires to do everything in its power for the restoration of the commercial relations which existed between Hungary and Great Britain before the war. With this end in view it wishes to enlist the support and membership of as large a number as possible of British firms.

United Kingdom firms interested may consult a specimen Form of Application for admission to membership on enquiry at the Department of Overseas Trade (Room 23), 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

A supply of these Forms will shortly be available in the Department for the use of firms desiring to become members of the Chamber.

Special Articles.

FLAX GROWING IN KENYA.

CONDITIONS AND OUTLOOK.

A special meeting of the Empire Flax Growing Committee was held recently at the Board of Trade to receive a report on flax growing in Kenya from the Hon. Alexander Holm, Director of Agriculture of the Kenya Colony, and to bring Mr. Holm into touch with flax spinners and others interested in the subject in the United Kingdom. Sir Frank Warner, K.B.E., presided, and those present included the following gentlemen, in addition to members of the Empire Flax Committee:—Dr. Goulding, Imperial Institute; Mr. W. J. Dawson, President of the Kenya Flax Growers' Association; Colonel Franklin, H.M. Trade Commissioner in East Africa; Mr. A. and Mr. E. Wigglesworth, of Messrs. Wigglesworth and Company; Mr. E. Wilson, of Messrs. W. F. Malcolm and Company; Mr. F. J. Leitch, of Messrs. D. D. Leitch and Company; and Mr. W. C. Scott, of the Department of Overseas Trade.

MR. HOLM'S REPORT.

Mr. Holm stated that the flax industry of Kenya had had considerable difficulties to contend with. Considerable success had already been achieved, but it could not be said that the industry was already in its stride. Flax was first grown in Kenya at the Government Experimental Farm at Kabete in 1908. As a commercial proposition the first advance was made by Messrs. Wigglesworth and Company, and their first flax mill was erected about 1911. In 1918, which they might take as a period for the purposes of discussion, the area of flax sown in Kenya was estimated to be within 8,000 acres to 9,000 acres. During the last two years agricultural census returns had been compiled and from those returns it was seen that the total area sown between 1st July, 1919, and 30th June, 1920, was 33,349 acres. The total area actually sown, that is to say, on the land, at 30th June, 1920, was 24,423 acres. The last census returns showed that the total area harvested between 1st July, 1920, and 30th June, 1921, was 26,475 acres. It was very difficult, under the conditions in which flax was grown in Kenya, to divide up the year into what might be called seasonal conditions because there was a good deal of overlapping and, therefore, an analysis of the figures of areas, flax sown and harvested, might be rather involved and complicated; but he thought the Committee might take it that in round figures about 20,000 acres to 25,000 acres of flax had been harvested during each of the last two years in Kenya. The census returns further showed in respect of actual production for the year ending 30th June, 1921:—Flax 37,063 cwt., tow 49,554 cwt., linseed 42,000 cwt. It had been somewhat difficult to arrive at figures showing the average yield per acre. The total area harvested divided by the quantity of flax, tow, and linseed produced did not give accurate figures because it did not follow that the area harvested had been converted into flax or tow during the period covered by the census return. On present information it might be taken that the

SPECIAL ARTICLES—Continued.

average yield for the whole country, including poor yields due to unfavourable conditions, was not less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. per acre in the case of flax, 2 cwt. in the case of tow, and 2 cwt. per acre in the case of linseed. On many farms in several districts the yields were much higher. It would be noticed that there was a high proportion of tow to flax. He understood—though he was not himself an authority on flax and flax culture—that the reasons why there was this high proportion of tow to flax are these: First, there was the seasonal condition, there was the factor of drought in certain districts; then there was the effect of caterpillar attack; there was faulty retting, due in the one case to insufficient experience in the handling of the flax, and, on the other hand, to unfavourable weather conditions; there was faulty handling in the scutching process. If the flax in Kenya were handled by men possessing, say, the experience of the Irish or Belgian growers, he did not doubt but that the proportion of tow to flax would be reduced; he thought it but fair to say, on the other hand, that when one considered that the settlers of Kenya were handling a crop which was new to them—in many cases they had started farming for the first time—and again when one considered that the handling and scutching were carried out almost entirely by unskilled, raw, native labour, great credit was due to the settlers of the country for the success which they had already achieved.

PRICES AND GRADING.

The first severe check to flax growing in Kenya was in 1919 when a big importation of flax seed from this country was made, flax seed which, in many instances, gave practically no return at all, and in other cases only gave from 10 per cent. to 33 per cent. of crop. Had that importation of seed not failed the flax growers of Kenya would, in his opinion, have been in a much stronger position today to withstand the drop in market prices. They suffered not only a heavy financial loss direct in respect of the purchase of the seed itself, but they lost more than a year's work. There was no other seed available. Then it should be remembered that the expenditure on the erection of mills and the purchase of machinery was incurred at a time when costs were at their highest. When flax was selling at £300 or £400 a ton many farmers in Kenya were disposed to grow flax in districts which were not wholly favourable to the crop. Experience had shown that the districts most suited to flax in Kenya were those at the higher altitudes where the climate was coldest and where the rainfall was heaviest. There is no doubt whatever but that there remained awaiting development in Kenya extensive areas in districts highly suitable to the growing of flax, and he would express the view that, provided the market recovered and reasonably good prices were procurable, the area of flax grown in Kenya was likely to increase. Individual growers had experienced some difficulty in the handling of the crop itself. Several hundred acres of flax were grown on an individual holding and under one management, and it would be seen that inasmuch as the retting and the scutching and the sowing seasons coincided there was a great practical difficulty in carrying on all these different operations at the same time. The hope was that practical farm management would overcome some of these difficulties, and that instead of flax being grown by a comparatively small number of growers it would be spread among a larger number of growers each growing a much smaller area. It might be asked how did it happen that when the market revived and improved towards the end of 1921 that the growers of Kenya did not then market their flax? The explanation of that,

SPECIAL ARTICLES—Continued.

he thought, was this. In September or October, 1921, when that improvement took place, it was not possible to ret and scutch the flax because the seasonal conditions were unfavourable and when the suitable season for those operations arrived the market price had fallen. With respect to grading, he would like to refer to the formation of the Flax Association of Kenya. That happened in May, 1920, and he was glad that Mr. Dawson, President of that Association, was present that day. The Council of the Flax Association was of the greatest assistance to him in connection with the formation and introduction of a scheme of flax grading. After prolonged negotiations with the growers, with the shippers, with the merchants, with the spinners—in fact, with all interests concerned—a scheme was evolved which was acceptable to all parties and put into operation just about 12 months ago. They were probably acquainted with that scheme. Under the grade brands, flax was divided into water-retted and dew-retted flax, and there were five grades of warp and five grades of weft, in each case with a sixth grade called a "below-grade" standard. The scheme further provided for the flax so graded by officials of the Department of Agriculture to be branded with a registered mark "K" in red letters, and the bales carried in addition to the other grade marks the first three letters of the district, showing the source of origin of the flax. Flax did not lend itself to grading in the ordinary way, as, for example, grain did. Grain could be sold on a forward certificate and within a fraction its value per quarter was known. As he understood the position it was somewhat different in the case of flax. Nevertheless it seemed to them in Kenya, and all the advice and information they had received since persuaded them to that view, that if flax were well graded and systematically graded and branded as it was to be branded under this scheme, in course of time that grading would prove to be of the greatest value to the growers and spinners. The matter of branding by districts was very important. They had found in Kenya that it was quite impracticable to get the same type or the same character of flax within the same grade if that flax had been grown in different districts because the effect of climatic conditions, soil conditions, and other factors brought about a variation in the flax produced in the different districts. But there should, within comparatively narrow limits, be uniformity in the same grade of flax grown in the same district. They had hoped and believed that this system of flax grading which was laid down would prove to be of great value to both merchants and spinners. But he was very sorry indeed to say, in connection with this flax grading scheme, that information obtained during the last few weeks from Kenya, and from the press, indicated that the Government, in its desire to exercise economy, was, or was about, to do away with the posts of two flax officers and that had of necessity brought under review the system of grading which had previously been agreed upon. The proposal now made was, as he understood it, that there should be private licensed graders; that the Government brand should be discontinued and some other brand should be substituted. From his experience of grading agricultural products in another country, he was inclined to think that the proposals now made for the grading of flax in Kenya were in many respects very unsound.

QUALITY OF KENYA FLAX.

As far as they had been able to ascertain in Kenya there had been a considerable improvement in the quality of the flax, particularly in the flax produced from the 1921 crop, and he did not doubt but that

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there was very considerable room for improvement; as the years went on and with more knowledge and experience on the part of the growers, he thought they could considerably raise the standard of quality of Kenya grown flax. In that connection he would like to read an extract from a report made by Professor Bradbury, of the Technical College at Belfast. It was a recent report on samples of flax which were sent by his Department to Professor Bradbury for investigation and report. His report was dated 21st March, 1922, and he said:—

Generally the dew-retted flaxes were softer and better than the water-retted flaxes. The water-retted flaxes were all somewhat hard and poor. Evidently the water was hard. With softer water the flax would have been much improved.

Two or three years ago it appeared that quite satisfactory results were obtained from water-retted flax, but during the last two seasons the results had in many ways been far from satisfactory, so much so that the flax officers of his Department had been advising and doing their best to get water-retting done away with and to rely almost entirely upon dew-retting. Perhaps the explanation was this. That for a few seasons and up to about two years ago the rainfall in Kenya had been comparatively heavy and that the streams and the rivers were charged with what might be called "flood" water, but then, as the drier seasons set in the water possessed different characteristics which were unsuitable for the retting of the flax. Professor Bradbury further said:—

The samples sent are far superior to pre-war Russian flax. They are equal to medium Irish, and if the water-retting were better done the flax would compare favourably with most of the best Irish sorts.

With regard to the production and sale of linseed from flax grown in Kenya, the position was that unless the grower was able to get a fair return for the seed, he did not find it worth his while to put the flax straw through the extra handling and the cost necessitated thereby in order to recover the seed. From the information available it would appear that if the grower could get something like £10 a ton free on rail in Kenya stations for his linseed, he would be disposed to de-seed the straw and to market the linseed. There had been a recovery in the linseed trade during the last few months and he believed that during the last six or nine months there had been a fair quantity of linseed exported from Kenya and its quality had been very favourably commented upon on this side. With regard to the work which the Department of Agriculture had done, and was doing, in connection with the flax industry in Kenya—apart from the grading scheme—it had been carrying out important investigations in connection with "retting" in which the chemist and bacteriologist and the flax officers had been associated; it had made a considerable number of variety tests and different types of flax from different countries had been introduced and grown in Kenya. The Department had also introduced at different times improved strains of "line bred" flax.

COSTS OF PRODUCTION.

It might be accepted that the future of the industry almost wholly or chiefly depended upon the market values of flax and upon the cost of production. It would seem that with the comparatively low cost of land and the supply of cheap unskilled labour Kenya should be able to compete favourably with the Netherlands, or Belgium or Ireland in respect of landed costs. During the past year in particular the cost of producing flax in Kenya had fallen very considerably; this was due, in the first instance, to the very much lower cost of the seed, also to the reduction in shipping freights, and, to a smaller

SPECIAL ARTICLES—Continued.

extent, to the reduction in railway freights. It was very difficult to say what was the actual cost or the average cost of production of flax in Kenya because the industry was not yet in its stride, and before the costs of production could be put up for any particular agricultural product there had to be behind it experience over a long period of years. Then again, the costs varied considerably in different districts and under different systems of management, but the opinion had been expressed by two or three men who had grown flax for a number of years and on a considerable scale that a ton of flax and a ton of tow could be landed in Britain from Kenya at a cost of about £140, a ton of each. He had been told that the cost of production of flax in Belgium was put at £160 to £170 a ton. With regard to the cost of growing flax in Ireland for purposes of comparison, say, with Kenya, he was advised that the cost per statute acre of growing flax in Ireland had been worked out recently at £23 5s. an acre. So far as he had been able to ascertain the cost per acre of growing flax in Kenya and landing that flax in England was from £12 to £14 per acre. None of them knew the future position of flax growing in Russia, but it would appear on all the evidence that if it was a question of whether they could produce flax in Kenya in competition with Ireland, Belgium, or Holland, they would succeed. As far as could be seen at present he thought that Kenya could produce and land flax in England at a lower cost than either of those countries.

THE DISCUSSION.

The discussion chiefly turned upon the apparently low yield per acre of flax in Kenya, the high proportion of tow to flax, the retting difficulties, and the steps being taken by the Government of the Colony to modify the system of grading which had been agreed upon. Dr. Eyre attributed the unsatisfactory results of water retting to the excess of acidity due to the insufficient flow of water. Mr. Dawson agreed that when the flax had been put into the rivers direct—contrary to law—the retting had been quite satisfactory. The Belgian experts advised running water for retting, while the Irish experts insisted upon stagnant water. In the opinion of Dr. Eyre the large proportion of tow to flax was due to the rotting of the straw in water which was too acid for proper retting. Mr. Leitch pointed out that the results given by Mr. Holm—1½ cwt. of flax per acre—would not pay any country. He himself had had unfavourable experiences both in British East Africa and in Canada.

Mr. Garrett Campbell said that the progress made in Kenya in growing flax was very encouraging indeed, and he had no doubt that there was a future for flax growing before the country and a great future. But if that flax growing was to succeed as a commercial proposition they had got to find out what was the reason why the Kenya flax seemed to differ in many respects from any other flax that they know. The principal characteristic that struck him about it was that it was so frightfully mixed in quality; down to the smallest piece of flax that one could pull out of store one found a most extraordinary variety of quality. They could not help that in a new industry, but it was a point to which they should direct most particular attention as it seemed to him that the principal difference rose first of all through imperfection of cultivation and uneven sowing, with the consequence that they got a crop of mixed coarse and fine straw. If the coarse straw was retted and scutched with the fine straw the fine straw was entirely over-retted, and that might possibly account for the excessive quantity of tow. At least 50 per cent. of the flax was over-retted in order to ret sufficiently the other 50 per

SPECIAL ARTICLES—Continued.

cent. Further, he thought that the future of the industry must depend upon an improvement in yield. As several people had said, the yield at present was wretched, and they could not possibly grow flax under such conditions of yield. They should try to improve the yield and the quality. He had seen East African flax of a really good quality, and he had seen flax, of course, of a very poor quality indeed. He had never seen water-retted flax that was worth growing at all. In speaking of the value of the flax and the cost of production, of course, the present value of money must be taken into consideration and the present value of other products. He did not think they would average more than £100 a ton for export, and it was very probable they would have to come down in price to compete in the markets; but if they did that the only way to make it pay was to improve the yield and by turning out better qualities. Mr. Holm said that the best growers admitted what Mr. Garrett Campbell had said with regard to the irregularity in the quality of the flax. The flax officers of the Department of Agriculture had been doing their best to improve the cultural methods and a very considerable improvement had already taken place. With regard to the absence of uniformity in the flax, that was one reason why the system of flax grading was laid down and there was reason to believe that the flax so graded under the old scheme was very much more uniform than any flax which had hitherto been exported from the Colony.

Mr. Wigglesworth said that one very important point had been raised regarding retting. Water-retting was practically ruled out because the land had a very uncertain rainfall and very small rivers which dried up. So that one was down to dew-retting. The conditions in Africa for dew-retting are so different from those in any other part of the world that he would like to call attention to them. In Europe during the season of dew-retting flax, one had a night and day temperature which possibly fell from a maximum of 70 to a minimum of 40, and one had rains which possibly had a temperature from 50 to 60, hardly more, perhaps 65. But what had one in Kenya? There one had those huge monsoon rains coming over the Indian Ocean from India, enormously heavy, raining as much in one hour as in 24 hours in this country, and pouring floods of warm water on the flax because the temperature of the rains in Kenya was anything from 70 to 75 during certain seasons. There was a rapidity of retting so great that, in his opinion, the Irish experts have fallen down on it. They were accustomed to work under temperate climatic conditions and accustomed to say if the flax lay one day longer or even a week longer it did not much matter. It took about six or seven weeks to ret in Ireland, but he had known the flax dew-retted in Africa within six or seven days—an unheard of thing in Europe. The reason of the irregularity in the flax must be that the irregular retting is, first, the irregularity of the straw, and, secondly, that a very large proportion of the crop was over-retted. Unquestionably the climatic conditions, that warm rain and rapid retting, must be more closely watched. Possibly the retting continued during the drying process; that retting ought to be arrested. The flax should be brought in before it would be considered in Europe to be retted and ready for the scutching. Otherwise they would have to sell flax at about the price of Russian as against Continental, which was a difference of 34 per cent. less.

Dr. Eyre urged the drilling of seed instead of broadcast sowing as leading to more uniform straw and better cultivated crops. Mr. Dawson agreed as

SPECIAL ARTICLES—Continued.

to the advantages of drilling but pointed out that the machines were expensive.

Mr. Dawson, President of the Kenya Flax Growers' Association, agreed that the whole of their difficulties in growing flax could be overcome if they get someone to help them with some patent way of retting the flax. With reference to what has been said about the mixture. No grading had been done of the straw and he was afraid as long as they grew it on a big scale it would be almost impossible to do grading of the straw before retting took place. Questions had been asked with regard to the proportion of tow to the proportion of flax. There were many answers to that question. One was the attempt to make Belgian flax out of what was really, to start with, a very inferior flax. They were treating the flax in the Belgian way, they were pulling the tow out of it and trying to make a really well-finished article for the home market, the result being that they had a very large proportion of tow even scutching with Belgian blades though they ought to have had a proportion of about one to one. Then another answer to the question was the amount of scutching that had been done in the last two years during the dry weather. That, of course, has produced a tremendous lot of tow. One could not get really good flax until the plant had been grown well. The years covered by Mr. Holm's figures were very unfortunate years—drought—and they could not be taken as the average. The rainfall had been insufficient in most districts. At one time he himself grew what he at least called fairly good flax (probably their spinner friends would call it fairly bad flax) but it was the best he had ever grown in Kenya. He scutched it on light Irish blades, and the results sometimes ran to 1-6 and 1-7, that is six of flax to one of tow, which he believed in this country was considered quite good. That was good flax on the field to start with; that was the whole secret of it. He believed that Mr. Holm might in three years time bring quite different averages for Kenya. It was possible, and it had been done, to grow a ton of flax, plus its tow, to four acres of land. That was what parts of the country could do for a maximum so that really the average which had been put before them probably showed Kenya as being rather hopeless as a flax country. It was not altogether hopeless. Then his own average for two years ran out at one ton to seven acres of grown flax plus its tow. The proportion of tow varied, of course, from time to time, and was governed by the bad or good retting, or by the bad or good scutching, or bad or good workmen. With regard to seed production, there again most of the figures had covered unfortunate years in the same way as the flax figures. He had taken off, on the average, from 600 lb. to 800 lb. which more or less coincided with the Canadian yield of seed per acre. He knew that was done repeatedly on the Government experimental farm in Macdonald's time on small areas, and it was his experience on fairly large areas. He did not think anybody expected to produce Courtrai flax in East Africa, but if they could grow flax on a fairly large scale which came up to the quality of the best Russian flax, they would be very glad indeed, for the country and for the growers personally and, of course, for the good of the flax industry generally. If they could produce a flax that could be sold as equivalent to Russian flax they would be very glad indeed.

The grave financial difficulties of many of the settlers were considered by the meeting. It was contended on their behalf that they could not continue to cultivate flax without some assistance. In the absence of help from the ordinary banks it was suggested that there might be established a Government Land Bank, or something of that kind, which

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could lend money on mortgage. Mr. Holm said that not less than a million sterling would be needed to start such a bank. The Kenya Colony had been raising loans, principally for railways and a deep water pier, and it had not been possible to include a loan for a Land and Agricultural Bank. Until recently the Government had a first lien on all Crown land alienated to settlers, but in respect to soldier-settlers it had been decided to waive the purchase price of the holdings on certain conditions. That step had induced banks to advance more money than they had previously been willing to do, though there was still not enough available for the settlers to enable them to carry on. The Chairman thought that the Empire Flax Committee could urge upon the Government of Kenya the need for lending money to the settlers.

Mr. Wigglesworth proposed that a resolution should be passed by the meeting to the effect that: "This meeting expresses the strongest possible view against the abolition of the grading of flax, and passes a resolution to be sent to the authorities in Kenya urging that this retrograde step should be reversed and that the grading should be continued as before." He said that it was the first instance on record of a Government adopting a grading policy and then going back upon it. It was just as essential to grade flax as any other material, if not more so. Grading was vital to the industry in East Africa, and he hoped that the Empire Flax Committee would support their views. Mr. Dawson said that the proposed modification of the grading scheme was the greatest calamity which was overhanging the flax industry in East Africa. Anything that the spinners and other experts could do to get the Government of Kenya to rescind their latest decision to dispense with flax grading officers would be of great value to the growers. The Chairman put this vote to the meeting and it was unanimously carried.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES IN JUNE.

MOVEMENTS OF THE PRINCIPAL CURRENCIES.

The following particulars show the movements during June of the principal foreign exchange rates on London. The New York quotation is the weekly average of the daily cable rates, and the other quotations are the weekly averages of the daily closing rates; all particulars are taken from the "Financial Times":—

Place.	Par.	Week ending—				
		3rd June.	10th June.	17th June.	24th June.	1st July.
New York—						
4'866 dollars=£1 ...		4'460	4'501	4'471	4'415	4'413
Paris—						
25'2215 francs=£1 ...		48'886	49'446	50'83	51'592	52'655
Brussels—						
25'2215 francs=£1 ...		52'890	53'484	54'181	54'284	55'463
Italy—						
25'2215 lire=£1 ...		85'318	86'750	89'292	91'948	93'834
Madrid—						
25'2215 pes.=£1 ...		28'224	28'430	28'396	28'394	28'356
Holland—						
12'1071 gul.=£1 ...		11'463	11'514	11'492	11'486	11'490
Berlin—						
20'43 marks=£1 ...		1216'67	1298'80	1420'33	1455'83	1617'50
Christiania—						
18'159 kronor=£1 ...		24'828	25'521	25'953	26'628	26'976
Stockholm—						
18'159 kronor=£1 ...		17'202	17'256	17'263	17'245	17'164
Copenhagen—						
18'159 kronen=£1 ...		20'375	20'408	20'563	20'716	20'632
Switzerland—						
25'2215 francs=£1 ...		23'30	23'512	23'484	23'316	23'262
Buenos Aires—						
48'57d.=1 dollar ...		44'438	44'138	44'063	44'094	44'354

The movements of the leading rates of exchange, calculated in percentages of gold parity (relative

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value of foreign currency to that of the country where quotation is made) are shown below:—

	NEW YORK ON:			
	London.	Paris.	Rome.	Amsterdam.
1st June ...	91'67	47'32	27'11	96'03
8th June ...	92'43	47'21	26'85	97'02
15th June...	91'91	45'60	26'12	96'70
22nd June ...	90'80	44'36	24'93	95'86
29th June...	90'74	43'43	24'57	95'36
LONDON ON:				
	Rome.	Amsterdam.	Stockholm.	Switzerland.
2nd June...	29'54	105'51	105'76	108'39
9th June ...	28'95	105'14	105'15	107'37
16th June...	28'26	105'37	105'15	107'37
23rd June...	27'05	105'42	105'46	108'20
30th June...	26'80	105'56	105'89	108'48
PARIS ON:				
	London.	Amsterdam.	Stockholm.	Switzerland.
1st June ...	193'88	204'49	205'38	210'0
8th June ...	195'71	205'81	206'28	210'0
15th June...	200'76	211'45	210'96	215'5
22nd June ...	204'11	215'53	215'28	220'75
29th June ..	209'72	221'29	221'76	228'25
BERLIN ON:				
	London.	New York.	Paris.	Amsterdam.
1st June ...	7902'84	8932'28	3825'80	8307'21
8th June ...	6126'28	6630'66	3145'93	6438'11
15th June...	6824'52	7423'68	3405'49	7179'82
22nd June ...	7130'93	7835'31	3501'30	7416'69
29th June...	7902'84	8932'28	3825'80	8307'21

The rates moved in favour of sterling during the early part of June in each of the twelve centres for which particulars are given in the first table, and in five of those centres the favourable movement was continued to the end of the month. After reaching 4.50 dols. to the pound, the New York cable rate fell to 4.45 dols. at the close of the second week of June, to 4.40 dols. at the close of the third week, and was 4.42 dols. to the pound on the last day of June. Marks were quoted at 1,186 to the pound at the opening of the month and, falling rapidly in value in each week, were quoted at 1,660 to the pound on the last day. The weekly averages of the quotations show an appreciation of the pound by nearly 5 per cent. in Brussels and by 3 per cent. to 10 per cent. in Paris, Christiania, and Italy. The month's movement with regard to sterling was against local currency in Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Madrid, and Buenos Aires, although at the close of June quotations were less favourable to sterling than at other times of the same month. In Stockholm, where the movement was under 1 per cent., the quotations were lowest at the end of the month, and in Buenos Aires the value of the pound in the local currency was less at the beginning and the end of June than in the middle.

NOTICE.

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ADVERTISEMENTS.—All applications concerning the insertion of advertisements in the "Board of Trade Journal" should be addressed to the Advertisement Contractors: Fas Publications, Ltd., 24, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C. 2. (Tel. Nos. Central 8203-4 (two lines).)

Notes on Trade.

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

AUSTRALIAN TRADE IN MAY.

The Official Secretary in London to the Commonwealth of Australia states that the values of the goods imported to and exported from Australia during the month of May, 1922, were as follow:—

Imports.	Exports.	
£9,315,267	Australian Produce	£11,227,291
	Other Produce	357,570
	Total	£11,584,861

CALLS FOR TENDERS IN ARGENTINA.

In amplification of the notice appearing on page 351 of the "Journal" of 30th March last, dealing with a Ministerial Resolution regarding the procedure to be adopted in the notification of, and replies to, public calls for tenders, the Commercial Secretary at Buenos Aires now reports to the Department of Overseas Trade that the special boards, on which are announced the tenders open for competition, are installed in the Ministry, but that as the Decree of January has not yet been officially received by the Purchasing Office, the proposed register of firms is not yet compiled. Nevertheless, it is open to local agents of firms to apply for inscription in the register, and the procedure consists merely of an application addressed to Ingeniero Luis Miguens, Jefe Oficina de Compras de Maquinas y Materiales, Ministerio de Obras Publicas, Casa de Gobierno, the class of materials in which the applicant is interested being stated in each case.

In practice, such registration is not obligatory, and there is nothing which would preclude a firm not on the register from submitting a tender, and having it considered. The system is only a facility for providing early notification to firms inscribed. Moreover, the arrangement would not preclude any duly accredited agent from submitting a tender for a particular contract, although he might not already be on the register for the class of goods.

The special boards and register are only a form of local procedure of interest to local firms and agents.

PARCELS FOR CONSTANTINOPLE.

United Kingdom firms trading with Constantinople are notified that parcels will be accepted by the General Post Office for transmission to Constantinople by way of Marseilles. The parcels are dispatched every alternate Wednesday, 5th, 19th July, etc., and should reach Constantinople on the fourteenth day after dispatch. The rates of postage are 2s. 3d., 3s. 6d., and 4s. 3d. for parcels not exceeding 2 lb., 7 lb., and 11 lb.

Parcels from France and Italy are sent by sea; there is a service from Germany by way of Jugo-Slavia and Bulgaria, but as there is no German Post Office at Constantinople, parcels from Germany are liable to be delayed in the Turkish Customs.

LIQUIDATION OF ANGOLA BONDS.

H.M. Consul-General at Loanda has forwarded particulars of a Law passed by the Legislative Council of the Province of Angola and embodied in a Decree of the High Commissioner, providing for the liquidation of bonds issued by the Government of Angola prior to the fiscal year 1921-1922 and still unredeemed.

NOTES ON TRADE—Continued.

All bonds issued prior to the fiscal year 1921-1922 are to be exchanged for new bonds, which will bear interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum from 1st July, and are to be redeemed within five years.

The principal provisions of the new Decree are as follows:—

Article 1.—The Province of Angola shall issue bonds to be called Provincial Public Debt Bonds for the conversion of the expenditure bonds of the State in the hands of any firms or individuals and issued prior to the fiscal year 1921-1922.

The total issue, however, may not exceed the value of such bonds actually in circulation.

Article 2.—The bonds shall be of the nominal value of 1,000 milreis each, and shall be exempt from all taxes. They shall bear interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, and shall be completely redeemed, one-half by drawing and one-half by purchase on the market, within the maximum term of five years from the time of issue.

Article 4.—The Government guarantees to redeem at least 20 per cent. of the bonds every year, a sum being set aside annually for this purpose in the Budget.

Article 8.—Public expenditure bonds in the hands of firms and individuals and issued prior to 1912-1922 must be exchanged for the new bonds within six months of the publication of this Decree.

GOODS IN CUBAN BONDED WAREHOUSES.

With reference to the notice under the above heading in the "Journal" of 22nd June (page 695), the Board of Trade have now received through the Foreign Office a translation of the Presidential Decree, promulgated 31st May, which authorises the re-export or withdrawal up to 31st August next of goods stored in Cuban bonded warehouses.

The Decree authorises:—

1. The re-exportation to the port of origin of merchandise originally entered for consumption but thereafter entered for mercantile warehouses during the period of port congestion, on the application of the parties concerned, subject to the re-shipment being effected within thirty days of the grant of a permit to re-export. Applications for these permits must be made before 31st August next.

2. The extension until 31st August next of the period granted for the total or partial withdrawal for consumption, on payment of Customs duties, of goods which arrived before or during the above mentioned period of port congestion.

3. The entry by declaration, notwithstanding the time that has elapsed, of those goods which, having arrived before or during the period of port congestion, have not been declared for entry within the prescribed time, and are still in bonded or general warehouses on that account. The period allowed for the withdrawal for consumption or for the re-shipment of such goods (in accordance with the Customs Regulations) extends until 31st August next.

FISHING INDUSTRY OF JAPAN.

The fishing industry is one of the most promising in Japan. Its greater development will not only contribute to the solution of the country's food problem but to the strengthening of the nation's financial position, stated the Japanese Minister of Agriculture and Commerce at a recent conference of officials in charge of fishing and its allied industries. These industries are of great importance in Japan, said the Minister, and their promotion must be helped by all available means. Of late years they had achieved marked developments, but still stand behind other leading industries in this country.

Explaining the Government policy, the Minister said that the Government would push forward its plan of encouraging and urging self control of their own affairs.

Exhibitions and Fairs.

BRAZILIAN CENTENARY EXHIBITION.

BATTLE CRUISERS TO VISIT RIO.

The many British firms interested in the forthcoming Brazilian Centenary Exhibition, which is to be held at Rio de Janeiro from 7th September, 1922, to 31st March, 1923, will welcome the decision of the Cabinet to send the battle-cruisers "Hood" and "Repulse" to Rio de Janeiro during the period of the Exhibition.

The British Pavilion is now in an advanced stage of construction, more so, in fact, than that of any other participating nation, and the recent displays in London of the pavilion model, the mural paintings, and world map-model (see the "Journal" of 22nd and 29th June) have helped enormously to create interest in the success of the British Section, which is under the organisation of the Department of Overseas Trade.

COMMERCIAL FILM DISPLAY.

In addition to the display of goods, working models, illuminated coloured transparencies, and other exhibiting devices in the British Section of the Exhibition, the Department of Overseas Trade is arranging for the display of commercial films advertising British goods.

It is proposed to show these films about six times a week in the open air Centre Court or Patio of the British Pavilion, which is specially fitted up as an *al fresco* restaurant.

The inclusive charge for the display of a single film of average length, to be provided by the exhibitor, and suitably titled and sub-titled in Portuguese, will be £25.

It is hoped that interested firms already possessing suitable films, or having one under preparation, will communicate as soon as possible with the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

FOREIGN SAMPLES EXHIBITION AT STOURBRIDGE.

An Exhibition of Samples of Foreign Glassware will be held in the Music Rooms, Theatre Road, Stourbridge, on Tuesday and Wednesday next, 11th and 12th July.

The samples, of French, Belgian, German, Brazilian, Japanese, Czecho-Slovakian, and United States manufacture, represent the class of goods at present selling in Brazil and Australia. They include the following classes of glassware:—

Table Glassware (cut, engraved, moulded, and plain), Water Jugs, Bottles, Cheese Covers, Finger and Salad Bowls, Butter, Fruit, and Ice Dishes and Plates, Cut Glass Vases and Lighting Glassware.

Invitations are being forwarded by the Department of Overseas Trade to firms in the district interested, or can be obtained from the Secretary of the British Flint Glass Manufacturers' Association, 118, High Street, Stourbridge. An officer from the Department of Overseas Trade will be in attendance to interview manufacturers who may desire to discuss matters of interest relating to the samples.

FOREIGN SAMPLES EXHIBITION AT SHEFFIELD.

With the permission and collaboration of the Research Department of the University of Sheffield an Exhibition of Samples, particulars of which

EXHIBITIONS AND FAIRS—Continued.

were given in the "Journal" of 22nd June, was held in the Mappin Hall, University Buildings, Sheffield, on Tuesday and Wednesday, 27th and 28th June.

The exhibits were examined by the representatives of 140 firms, of whom about 50 or 60 were works managers or shop foremen, who were very keen in comparing prices of Sheffield and foreign manufactured goods and in noting new features in construction of certain of the styles for particular markets.

Many of the workmen took drawings of special designs for their own use or their firms' interest, and were very critical of the low standard of workmanship of certain of the German samples sold in the Canadian market. The prices quoted for these goods in Canada were also exceedingly high and appeared to indicate a good market for similar goods of United Kingdom manufacture in the Dominion.

Files of Swiss manufacture were highly praised as showing a high level of excellence, as also were some of the samples of American cutlery, which were said to be equal to anything turned out of Sheffield factories.

One firm borrowed most of the cutlery samples in order to reproduce designs for Canada, and numerous requests were made for assistance in obtaining agents abroad and generally extending overseas trade.

UTRECHT FAIR.

As most firms interested in trade with Holland are aware, the management of the Utrecht Fair came to a decision last spring to duplicate the Fair henceforward, holding it twice annually in the spring and in the autumn.

The last Utrecht Fair was held from 21st February to 3rd March, and the next will take place from 4th to 9th September. This is a welcome change, since the spring was not suitable to all the trades desiring representation. Moreover, following closely, as it did, the British Industries Fair and the Lyons and Brussels Fairs, it was difficult for many British firms who wished to exhibit to make suitable arrangements.

This is not the case with the autumn Fair, which is nearly a month in advance of the Lyons Autumn Fair, and clashes with no other European trade show likely to attract the British exhibitor.

Trade with Holland is in a healthy condition, there is no obstacle of exchange, and as the results of previous Fairs have proved, the bogey of German competition is more apparent than real.

Numerous firms exhibiting at last year's Fair, and again at the Fair this year, stated definitely that they were able to hold their own against German exhibits to a much greater degree than they ever anticipated, notwithstanding the artificial low prices caused by the exchange value of the mark.

The Fair this year has been shortened slightly, lasting only six days instead of ten; and the price of stalls has also been reduced, the price of an ordinary stall this autumn being 390 fl. instead of 500 fl.

On account of the depression in the spring and date difficulty previously mentioned, the number of British exhibitors at the last Fair was somewhat disappointing. It is to be hoped that this autumn a great many of those who were unable to exhibit at the last Fair will now do so and take advantage of the undoubted profitable business which awaits them in Holland.

Since the Fair was turned from a National into an International Trade Fair two years ago its interests have been represented in England by the

EXHIBITIONS AND FAIRS—Continued.

Exhibitions Section of the Federation of British Industries, from whom all information may be obtained and through whom all arrangements may be made for booking space.

MADRID AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

In a report on the Madrid Agricultural Show, organised by the "Asociación de Ganaderos del Reino" in May last, the Commercial Secretary to H.M. Embassy at Madrid states that though few classes of the livestock sections offered openings for British breeders, it is to be regretted that British manufacturers were not better represented in the machinery sections.

The Show created a favourable impression as a whole and was well attended. H.M. the King of Spain presenting the prizes to the successful exhibitors.

In addition to numerous livestock and dairying sections, there were sections for dairying machinery and milk products, the exhibits including casein and galalith fancy goods; colouring materials and rennets; churns, separators, and dairying appliances. The cheese-making machinery exhibited was primitive, and there should be an opening for British dairying machinery of all kinds, provided that an agent would travel the agricultural districts and demonstrate to farmers the advantages of modern methods.

The exhibits in the Agricultural Machinery and Appliances Section were also limited, British exhibitors being confined to a sheep-shearing machine, a display of insecticides, and an oil engine. American machinery and tractors were fairly numerous and prominently displayed.

It is intended to hold the Show again next year and British manufacturers would do well to bear it in mind.

TRADE EXHIBITION AT SAN SEBASTIAN.

The Department of Overseas Trade is informed that an International Trade Exhibition will be held at San Sebastian, North Spain, from 5th to 20th September.

The authorities propose to place a pavilion at the disposal of intending British exhibitors, and H.M. Consul is arranging for the attendance of a suitable representative on behalf of British firms unable personally to attend. Full particulars may be had on application to the British Consulate, San Sebastian.

FORTHCOMING FAIRS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

LONDON FAIR AND MARKET (Fancy Goods, Toys, Jewellery, and Hardware)—

Royal Agricultural Hall, July 3rd-14th. Apply to:—International Trade Exhibitions, Ltd., Broad Street House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW—
Cambridge, July 4th-8th.

WOMAN'S EXHIBITION—

Olympia, July 12th-29th. Organised by the "Daily Express," Blackfriars House, New Bridge Street, London, E.C. 4.

DEEP SEA FISHING EXHIBITION—

Royal Agricultural Hall, July 24th-August 5th. Organised by Universal Exhibitions, Ltd., 22-24, Great Portland Street, London, W. 1.

EXHIBITIONS AND FAIRS—Continued.

BAKERS', CONFECTIONERS' AND ALLIED TRADERS' EXHIBITION AND MARKET—

Royal Agricultural Hall, September 2nd-8th. Apply to:—Trades' Markets and Exhibitions, Ltd., 31, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. 4.

THE NATIONS' FOOD EXHIBITION—

Olympia, London, September 6th-26th. Apply to:—International Trade Exhibitions, Ltd., Broad Street House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

GROCCERS' AND ALLIED TRADERS' EXHIBITION AND MARKET—

Royal Agricultural Hall, September 16th-22nd. Apply to:—Trades' Markets and Exhibitions, Ltd., 31, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. 4.

GROCCERS', BAKERS' AND CONFECTIONERS' EXHIBITION—

Dundee, September 18th-30th. Apply to:—Drill Hall, Dundee.

TRADE EXHIBITION FOR LADIES' WEAR—

Holland Park Hall, W., September. Apply to:—International Trade Exhibitions, Ltd., Broad Street House, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.

LONDON MEDICAL EXHIBITION—

Central Hall, London, S.W. 1, October 2nd-6th.

INTERNATIONAL SHOE AND LEATHER FAIR—

Royal Agricultural Hall, October 2nd-6th. Organisers, "The Shoe and Leather Record," 23-28, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4.

TEXTILE MACHINERY AND ACCESSORIES EXHIBITION—

City Hall, Manchester, October 6th-20th. Organisers, "Textile Recorder," 121, Deansgate, Manchester.

SCOTTISH GROCCERS', BAKERS' AND CONFECTIONERS' EXHIBITION—

Edinburgh, October 11th-25th. Apply to:—Organising Secretary, Waverley Market, Edinburgh.

IMPERIAL FRUIT SHOW—

Crystal Palace, October 27th-November 4th. Organised by the "Daily Mail" (with the co-operation of the Ministry of Agriculture). Apply to:—130, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4.

BREWERS' AND ALLIED TRADERS' ANNUAL EXHIBITION AND MARKET—

Royal Agricultural Hall, October 28th-November 3rd. Organised by Messrs. Dale, Reynolds and Co., Ltd., 46, Cannon Street, London, E.C. 4.

INTERNATIONAL MOTOR SHOW—

Olympia, November 2nd-11th. Organised by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, Ltd., 83, Pall Mall, London, S.W. 1.

MARINE AND SMALL CRAFT EXHIBITION—

Royal Agricultural Hall, November 14th-24th.

EIGHTH MOTOR CYCLE AND CYCLE SHOW—

Olympia, November 25th-December 2nd. Organised by the British Cycle and Motor Cycle Manufacturers' and Traders' Union, Ltd., "The Towers," Warwick Road, Coventry.

OVERSEAS.

BRAZILIAN CENTENARY EXHIBITION—

RIO DE JANEIRO. SEPTEMBER 7TH-MARCH 31ST.
BRITISH SECTION. APPLY TO:—DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE, 35, OLD QUEEN STREET, LONDON, S.W. 1.

TOKIO INTERNATIONAL PEACE EXHIBITION—

Ueno Park; March 10th-July 31st. Apply to Messrs. Buckney and Co., 40, Westminster Palace Gardens, Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1.

FRENCH COLONIAL EXHIBITION—

Marseilles, April-November.

FLORENCE BOOK FAIR, INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC, LITHOGRAPHIC AND ADVERTISING EXHIBITION—

May-July.

LIEGE SEVENTH TECHNICAL ENGINEERING EXHIBITION—

June 11th-July 14th. Apply to:—Secretary, 16, Quai des Etats-Unis, à Liege.

AMSTERDAM EXHIBITION OF IDEAS AND INVENTIONS—

June 24th-July 23rd.

GOTHENBURG SWEDISH FAIR—

July 3rd-9th.

EXHIBITIONS AND FAIRS—Continued.

- CHICAGO "PAGEANT OF PROGRESS"—**
July 29th-August 14th.
- CHICAGO MERCHANDISE FAIR (INTERNATIONAL)—**
July 31st-August 12th.
- REICHENBERG SAMPLES FAIR—**
August 12th-20th. For particulars apply to the Department of Overseas Trade.
- LUXEMBURG FAIR—**
August 14th-22nd. Application forms for space may be obtained from the Department of Overseas Trade.
- CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION—**
TORONTO, AUGUST 26TH-SEPTEMBER 9TH.
- COPENHAGEN FIRE FIGHTING EXHIBITION—**
September.
- ROTTERDAM INTERNATIONAL FLYING FEET—**
September.
- LJUBLJANA (LAIBACH) INTERNATIONAL SAMPLES FAIR (SERB-CROAT-SLOVENE KINGDOM)—**
September 2nd-11th. Application form from Exhibitions and Fairs Division, Department of Overseas Trade.
- LIEGE COMMERCIAL FAIR—**
September 2nd-26th.
- TRIESTE SAMPLE FAIR (INTERNATIONAL)—**
September 3rd-18th. Apply to:—British Chamber of Commerce, Trieste. Application forms from Exhibitions and Fairs Division, Department of Overseas Trade.
- NORWEGIAN INDUSTRIES FAIR—**
Christiania, September 3rd-10th.
- PRAGUE SAMPLES FAIR—**
September 3rd-10th.
- UTRECHT SAMPLE FAIR—**
September 4th-9th.
- LEMBERG EASTERN FAIR—**
September 5th-15th. Apply to:—Lwow, Akademicka 17, Poland.
Application forms in English are available at Exhibitions and Fairs Division, Department of Overseas Trade.
- VIENNA INTERNATIONAL SAMPLE FAIR (Section for Raw Materials)—**
September 10th-16th. Apply to:—Museumstrasse 1, Vienna VII.
- KOVNO (LITHUANIA) INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL FAIR—**
September 10th-20th.
- NAPLES SAMPLES FAIR—**
September 16th-30th.
- NETHERLAND EAST INDIES FAIR—**
Bandoeng, Java, September 18th-October 8th. Apply to:—Secretary, Vereeniging, Nederlands Indische Jaarlieders, Menadostraat, Bandoeng, Java.
- LYONS SAMPLE FAIR—**
October 1st-15th.
- PARIS MOTOR SHOW, GRAND PALAIS—**
October 4th-15th.
- CHICAGO RADIO SHOW—**
October 14th-22nd.
- MONS COMMERCIAL FAIR—**
November.
- PARIS INTERNATIONAL AERO EXHIBITION—**
Grand Palais, December 15th-January 2nd, 1923.

[NOTE.—The above list is not intended to include all forthcoming Fairs and Exhibitions throughout the world, but only to cover some of the more important ones, especially those of interest to the British manufacturer. Information regarding Exhibitions and Fairs other than those mentioned above is on file and may be obtained on application to the Exhibitions and Fairs Division, Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1]

Imperial and Foreign Trade.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

BRITISH INDIA.

WEEKLY CABLE.

The weekly cable received from the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, Calcutta, dated 3rd July, is as follows:—

SEASON.

26th June.—Monsoon vigorous in Burma, North-East India, and on the West Coast. 27th June.—Active generally. 28th June.—Widespread rain in the Punjab. 29th June.—Weakened in North-East India and South of Peninsula. 30th June.—Monsoon extending up the Gangetic Plain. 1st July.—Active in Gangetic Plain and in central parts of India. 2nd July.—Weakened in North-East India but strengthened in central parts of India.

CONDITION OF CROPS.

30th June—Bengal.—Weather continues favourable. Bombay immediate outlook much improved and prospects satisfactory almost everywhere. 3rd July—Assam.—Prospects of tea, jute, and autumn rice fair.

MARKETS.

Cotton—29th June.—Bombay market steady. Fine M.G. Oomras Rs. 457-8 July, Rs. 472-8-0 September. Bombay cotton arrivals from 1st September, 1921, to 24th June, 1922, were 3,165,000 bales, as compared with 2,466,000 bales during the same period of last year.

Piece-goods—29th June.—Bombay imported market continues hopeful and indicates some demand for white staples and styles from old stock, but very little demand for prints. Local goods moving steadily.

Jute—29th June.—Calcutta market very firm. Firsts Rs. 86-8-0. Gunnies firm but quiet and rates unchanged.

Tea—At sale on 27th June there was keen demand for good liquoring tea and tea with tips at last prices. All other grades in less demand and sold at irregular decline of 1 anna. Bombay and Persian buyers much less active for pekoes, but other markets interested at lower basis of values. At this sale the average price fell to 11 annas 2 pies per lb., as compared with 11 annas 6 pies at the last week's sale; 41,086 packages sold to date.

Shellac—29th June.—Market unchanged with enquiries weak.

Rice—29th June.—Rangoon market firm at the end of month with enquiries from Japan. Special Straits quality Rs. 495.

FREIGHT RATES.

Rates for Continent for July-August reduced to 25s. on jute, linseed basis.

Bank rate unaltered.

OVERSEAS TRADE IN APRIL.

(From H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner.)

CALCUTTA.

According to a note issued by the Director of Statistics, India, the trade returns of British India for the month of April showed decreases in the values of both imports and exports of private merchandise compared with the preceding month. Imports in April were valued at Rs. 17.84 lakhs, against Rs. 21.49 lakhs in March, 1922, and exports were also less by Rs. 3.00 lakhs than in the preceding month, and amounted to Rs. 23.02 lakhs, and re-exports were valued at Rs. 84 lakhs against Rs. 1.60 lakhs. As compared with the corresponding month of last year, imports and re-exports declined by 31 and 24 per cent. respectively, while exports increased by 36 per cent. Gold and silver on private account showed a net import of Rs. 3.85 lakhs, as against Rs. 4.68 lakhs in the preceding month. In April, 1921, there was a net export of treasure valued at Rs. 88 lakhs. These figures exclude transactions which do not enter into India's balance of trade.

BALANCE OF TRADE.

Measured by the statistics of merchandise, treasure, unfaced rupee paper, etc., the balance of trade was in favour of India to the extent of Rs. 4.17 lakhs in April, 1922, compared with a favourable balance of Rs. 1.42 lakhs in

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE—Continued.

March, 1922, and an adverse balance of Rs. 6.86 lakhs in April, 1921.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF PRIVATE MERCHANDISE.

The following table shows the value of imports and exports (1) for April, 1922, with the increase or decrease as compared with March, 1922, and (2) for April, 1922, as compared with April, 1921:—

	Month of April, 1922. Rs. (lakhs).	Month of March, 1922. Rs. (lakhs).	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in April 1922, compared with March, 1922.	
			Rs. (lakhs).	Per cent.
Imports	17.84	21.49	-3.65	-17
Exports	23.02	26.02	-3.00	-11.5
Re-exports...	84	1.60	-76	-47.5

	Month of April, 1922. Rs. (lakhs).	Month of April, 1921. Rs. (lakhs).	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in April, 1922, compared with April, 1921.	
			Rs. (lakhs).	Per cent.
Imports	17.84	25.87	-8.03	-31.0
Exports	23.02	16.94	+6.08	+35.9
Re-exports...	84	1.10	-26	-23.7

CLASSIFICATION OF ARTICLES.

The system of classification of articles entering into the sea-borne trade of British India has undergone revision.

CHANGES IN IMPORTS.

As compared with April, 1921, the imports under each category showed a decrease. Thus, food, drink, and tobacco declined by Rs. 1.76 lakhs, raw materials by Rs. 50 lakhs, and manufactured articles by Rs. 5.57 lakhs. Of articles of food, drink, and tobacco, sugar 16 D.S. and above showed a large decrease of 15,500 tons in quantity and Rs. 1.79 lakhs in value, while there was a small increase of Rs. 19 lakhs in the imports of wheat, mostly from Australia. The decrease in raw materials was chiefly due to the smaller imports of mineral oils (Rs. 40 lakhs) and raw cotton (-Rs. 24 lakhs), although there was an increase of Rs. 22 lakhs in the imports of coal. Under manufactured articles the imports of cotton yarn and manufactures declined by 1.25 lakhs, railway plant and rolling stock by Rs. 1.22 lakhs, iron and steel by Rs. 26 lakhs, motor vehicles by Rs. 22 lakhs, and machinery and mill-work by Rs. 75 lakhs.

VARIATION IN EXPORTS.

As regards the exports of Indian produce, food, drink, and tobacco, compared with April, 1921, showed an increase of Rs. 2.04 lakhs. There was an increase of Rs. 2.78 lakhs in the exports of grain, pulse, and flour, while tea declined by over Rs. 50 lakhs. Raw materials and produce rose by Rs. 3.93 lakhs, there being an increase of Rs. 2.43 lakhs in the exports of seeds, chiefly to Japan, and of Rs. 52 lakhs in raw jute. Manufactured goods also showed a small increase of Rs. 27 lakhs, jute goods and tanned hides and skins being responsible for an increase of Rs. 30 lakhs and Rs. 19 lakhs respectively, while there was a decrease of over Rs. 21 lakhs in cotton yarn and manufactures.

TRADE WITH UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, AND JAPAN.

The United Kingdom contributed 66 per cent. of the imports in April, as against 61 per cent. in March. Her share in the export trade, however, declined, and stood at 10 per cent. in April, as against 12 per cent. in the preceding month. The shares of Japan and the United States were respectively 4 per cent. and 6 per cent. under imports and 11 per cent. and 10 per cent. under exports.

MOVEMENT OF SHIPPING.

The tonnage of vessels entered into British India and cleared outwards with cargoes from and to foreign countries and British Possessions during April amounted respectively to 611,000 and 692,000, as against 615,000 and 698,000 in March, 1922, and 513,000 and 566,000 in April, 1921.

CANADA.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY IN ONTARIO.

(From H.M. Trade Commissioner.)

TORONTO.

Wholesale and retail trades continue along restricted lines. Wholesale dry goods merchants have to be satisfied if the week's turnover is equal to that of the corresponding period of the previous year, and frequently it is lower. There is an unquestioned improvement in connections, however. One large jewellery store reports transactions heavier than last year, but the money volume is smaller. Merchants generally find a tendency on the part of the buying public to be economical.

Investigations by the Labour Department show that

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE—Continued.

there was greater employment in the textile, leather, and rubber industries of Canada, during April, than for the same month in 1921. Reports from wholesale and retail merchants also showed that an improvement had taken place, and staffs had been increased. This favourable review is borne out by statistics supplied by trade unions, which indicated a percentage of unemployment of 9.6 compared with 10.6 in March, 1922, and 16.5 in April, 1921. The ratio was based on reports from 1,480 labour organisations with 157,639 members. There has been a great change for the better in employment in the building industries.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANKS.

With four Savings Offices open since 1st March and two others doing business more recently, the Ontario Government's Sub-Treasury Offices have taken about a million dollars in deposits. As soon as the money is paid in by depositors it is passed to the Provincial Treasurer and put into use for public purposes. The depositor receives 4 per cent. Farm loans have first claim upon the money. Additional branches are to be opened at Ottawa, Hamilton, Brantford, Newmarket, Walkerton, and Pembroke.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Interest in the boot and shoe trade centres mostly in special lines of ladies' footwear, as well as in sports goods such as running shoes and sandals. Staple goods for the time being are in the background, the demand for these apparently having been fairly well satisfied in the buying which took place a few weeks ago. Warm weather would no doubt accelerate sales of light summer canvas goods considerably. So far, there is not a great deal of forward buying for the autumn.

CANADIAN NEWSPRINT PRODUCTION.

Seven new machines with a total rated daily capacity of 558 tons of newsprint were brought into operation in Canada during 1921, bringing the maximum daily production of newsprint up to 3,342 tons, or 1,002,600 tons a year. Two additional mills are in course of construction, and will be in operation in the near future. This will bring Canada's maximum newsprint capacity up to 1,032,600 tons annually, which is reported approximately 50 per cent. of the total newsprint consumption on the American Continent.

WOOL MARKET CONDITIONS.

The general conditions of the wool market are better than during the corresponding period of last year. Prices have advanced considerably, and it is anticipated that there will be a much stronger demand for the year's clip than in 1921. Dealers have commenced operating in some sections. Recent reports give quotations as being from 6 cents to 10 cts. per lb. in the West and 10 cts. to 15 cts. per lb. in the East, for unwashed, ungraded wools.

The market for graded wools is stronger, quotations to mills ranging from 11 cts. to 27 cts. per lb.

AMALGAMATIONS AND NEW ESTABLISHMENTS.

The President of the National Electro Products, Ltd., has announced that arrangements have been completed for one of the largest amalgamations of its kind that has yet been effected in Canada. As a result of it, National Electro Products, Ltd., is amalgamated with the Dominion Oxygen Company, Ltd., and the enlarged company has plans under way which will give it a complete chain of branches at all important industrial centres in Canada. At present plants are located in Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Merriton, Quebec, Shawinigan Falls, Welland, Windsor, and Winnipeg, and additional plants will be immediately added to other points.

The Dominion Oxygen Company is affiliated with the National Carbon Company, and the Pres-o-Lite Company of Canada, the largest corporation of their kind in America. No new financing of any kind is contemplated in connection with the proposed amalgamation, the undertaking being carried out on a basis of exchange for securities.

The Canadian Firestone Tyre and Rubber Company has resumed construction of a tyre plant at Hamilton, Canada, which was begun before the war and on which work ceased during hostilities. The Firestone Canadian plant will have a capacity of approximately 3,500 tyres per day, according to information given out regarding the plant when the site was purchased.

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE—Continued.

HONG KONG.

TRADE IN MARCH QUARTER.

The import trade of Hong Kong during the March quarter of 1922, excluding treasure, amounted to £10,007,229, as compared with £19,349,311 for the same period of 1920, according to statistics compiled by the Imports and Exports Department of Hong Kong. The principal commodities imported were rice, sugar, flour (wheat), cotton yarn, kerosene and tin slabs and ingots. The chief sources of supply were the United States, French Indo-China, United Kingdom, and North China. The exports from these countries (exclusive of treasure) amounted to £1,545,028, £1,357,305, £1,288,544, and £1,267,877 respectively. The following table sets out the value of the chief imports:—

Commodity.	Value.
	£
Rice (broken, cargo, white and in husk (Padi)	1,307,935
Sugar (raw and refined)	958,010
Flour (wheat)	757,998
Cotton yarn	676,340
Kerosene	406,742
Tin slabs and ingots	297,394

Imports of treasure amounted, in the period under review, to £2,186,058, as compared with £3,958,157 in 1921.

EXPORT TRADE.

The export trade (exclusive of treasure) for the first quarter of 1922 amounted to £9,940,540, as compared with £17,159,811 in 1921. The principal commodities exported were rice, sugar, cotton yarn, kerosene, cigarettes and tobacco. A large proportion of the exports were absorbed by China, French Indo-China, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, and the United States. The exports to these countries amounted to £6,323,265, £666,911, £602,824, and £353,029 respectively. The following table sets out the value of the chief exports:—

Commodity.	Value.
	£
Rice (broken, cargo, white and in husk (Padi)	1,239,309
Sugar (raw and refined)	885,016
Cotton yarn	661,035
Kerosene	549,939
Cigarettes and tobacco (prepared, native and raw)	474,869

Exports of treasure amounted to £2,320,531, as compared with £4,493,574 in 1921.

NEW ZEALAND.

FOREIGN TRADE IN 1921.

(From H.M. Trade Commissioner.)

WELLINGTON.

According to the Report of the Council of the Wellington Chamber of Commerce, presented at the recent annual meeting, the value of imports into New Zealand during 1921 was £42,744,122, as compared with £61,553,853 in 1920 and £30,308,908 in 1919, while the value of exports was £44,828,460 against £46,405,366 and £52,826,704 respectively in the two previous years. The figures of import values for 1921 show a satisfactory reduction on the excessive level obtained in 1920, but are considered still too high as compared with the value of exports. In 1920 there were enormous imports of soft goods (mainly piece-goods and apparel), their value amounting to £13,916,362, as compared with £6,575,773 in the previous year. Last year the value was reduced to £7,242,548. Exports for the past year were considered satisfactory, and among the principal features was an increase in the value of butter and cheese shipments to £19,468,713, which compared with £9,183,175 in 1920 and £10,871,118 in 1919. On the other hand, there was a decided decrease in the value of wool exports, viz., to £5,221,479 in 1921, against £11,863,827 in 1920, and £19,559,537 in 1919.

IMPORTERS' POSITION.

During the year under review importers found themselves very unfavourably placed. Practically all of them were carrying heavy stocks purchased at high prices. Most wholesale houses met the position by radically reducing stocks and realising their losses. Retailers were at first in a rather better position, but during the latter half of the year began to feel severely the effect of the general trade situation.

EXPORTERS' EXPERIENCE.

The outlook for the export trade was viewed with considerable apprehension early in the year, and although the

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE—Continued.

wool market showed improvement as the season progressed the frozen meat position proved extremely difficult, while dairy produce hardly realised the prices that were at one time anticipated.

EUROPE.

FRANCE.

FOREIGN TRADE, JANUARY-MAY.

(From H.M. Ambassador.)

PARIS.

The returns of French trade for the first five months of 1922 show that the value of imports amounted to 8.8 milliard frs., as against 9.1 milliard frs. in the same period of 1921, and that of exports to 9.1 milliard frs., as against 9.2 milliard frs. Imports of raw materials show an increase of nearly 400 million frs., and exports of manufactured articles an increase of about 110 million frs.

During the month of May the value of imports amounted to 1,810,125,000 frs., as against 1,743,640,000 frs. in the month of April, and that of exports to 1,886,964,000 frs., as against 1,962,997,000 frs.

A comparison of weights shows an increase in both imports and exports as compared with the first five months of 1921, the former amounting to 20,138,000 tons, as against 15,243,050 tons, and the latter to 7,977,993 tons, as against 6,476,126 tons.

Imports of raw materials increased by nearly 4,400,000 tons. The increase in the imports of coal and coke was particularly noticeable, the figures being 12,160,987 tons in 1922, as against 8,957,566 in 1921.

The increase in exports was due solely to an expansion in the trade in raw materials, as exports of both foodstuffs and manufactured articles showed a decline, the former of 233,000 tons and the latter of 42,500 tons.

TRADE RETURNS FOR JANUARY-APRIL.

Figures published in the French press show that during the first four months of 1922 the total movement of merchandise at the ports amounted to 11,642,800 metric tons, consisting of 9,451,000 tons imports and 2,191,800 tons exports. The large excess of imports was accounted for by 5,231,200 tons of coal, which represented 55 per cent. of the total tonnage imported.

The following table gives the figures for the first four months of the present year, together with the average figures for imports during the corresponding period of 1921:—

	Imports.		Exports. 1922.	Total.
	1922.	1921.		
	Metric Tons.	Metric Tons.	Metric Tons.	Metric Tons.
January ...	2,313,000	1,671,100	568,500	2,881,500
February ...	2,319,000	1,671,100	515,600	2,834,600
March ...	2,473,000	1,671,100	565,200	3,038,200
April ...	2,346,000	1,104,800	542,500	2,888,500

GERMANY.

GRANTS FOR WATER POWER SCHEMES.

The "Deutscher Reichsanzeiger" recently published four Laws sanctioning various water power schemes in Germany.

The first Law sanctions a grant of 311,000,000 marks for the development of water power of the lower Fulda. This is a new scheme and provisions are made that the grant is either taken up by responsible Ministers, or by a company formed for the purpose. The State is allowed to issue bonds or bills to cover the amount sanctioned, and provisions are made for redemption of the bonds.

The second Law sanctions additional grants for the further development of the water power of the River Main. The sums originally granted were 6,200,000 marks in 1916, and 25,573,000 in 1920. The further sum now granted is 44,272,000 marks. As in the previous case, the State is authorised to issue either bonds, Treasury notes, or bills, and provision is made for redemption.

The third Law sanctions further grants for the development of water power of the sources of the Wever. At the present time the sums already sanctioned are 10,500,000 marks in 1913 and 30,500,000 in 1920. The further grant sanctioned is 55,205,300 marks. Similar provisions are made as regards the issue of bonds, etc., as in the preceding paragraph.

The fourth Law sanctions a grant of money (100,000,000

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE—Continued.

marks) for the purpose of ensuring the supply of water in the areas of the sources of the Weser and the Main, the grant to be made to responsible Ministers, or a company formed for that purpose. Provisions are made as regards the issue of Treasury notes, bonds, and bills, to cover the grant.

It will be noted that the total amount of money sanctioned by the Government for the development of its water power is 510,477,300 marks.

SWEDEN.**THE TIMBER MARKET.**

The situation on the Swedish timber market has shown an improvement during May and prospects appear brighter, states the General Export Association of Sweden. According to estimates, contracts have been effected during May for about 75,000 standards of timber, and the quantity sold for shipment down to 31st May amounted to 325,000 standards. Although sales have shown an increase over those for the same period of 1921, they are still considerably below the pre-war figures. Sweden has not sold more than about 30 per cent. of her estimated production for the current year, whereas, pre-war, upwards of 80 per cent. of the output had been sold by the end of May. Enquiries have been received from the United Kingdom, and it is anticipated that substantial business will ensue. France is still buying Swedish timber, although on a smaller scale than in 1921. Several thousand standards have recently been disposed of to the Netherlands. On the other hand, business with Germany, which recently showed signs of revival, has ceased. Substantial orders from Australia and South Africa for planed timber are circulating in the market, but, pending an adjustment of prices, business is unlikely to ensue.

ASIA.**PERSIA.****THE MARKET FOR ENGINEERING PRODUCTS.**

(From the Commercial Secretary to H.M. Legation.)
TEHERAN.

The economic potentialities of Persia are such that some day when its awakening is more general the country will surely become a hungry market for machinery, and those foreign manufacturers who have quietly studied the ground and prepared their plans and pressed their opportunities in the present difficult times will have the best chance.

Of engineering products the most obviously and urgently necessary are:—Agricultural machinery and implements; boot-making machinery; electrical plant, machinery and accessories; grain-milling machinery, hardware, and metal smallware; internal combustion engines; iron and steel works, plant and equipment; mining, quarrying, and metallurgical plant and machinery; motor vehicles and road transport; oil well plant and machinery; paper-making plant and machinery; pumps; railway and tramway plant and material; refrigerating and ice-making machinery and plant; small arms and ammunitions; textile machinery; hand tools; wood-working machinery; wire.

But the first and greatest of these needs, and indeed a pre-requisite to them all, is railway and tramway plant. Persia, which is as large as France and Germany combined, is landlocked by its own unrailed distances and cannot move in any progressive direction until it be given the means of mobility.

It will be understood that the introduction of engineering products in an ancient country which has only a dim and distant knowledge of the marvels of modern mechanics must be cautious at first. Machinery must be on the simplest plan, and of the cheapest standard; so that by modest and immediately successful beginnings the idea may become implanted in the Persian mind that a machine is not a consumer of money but a producer of it.

What would sell soonest would be small power-generating machines (to do the work of men who turn handles all day); small printing-presses (flat, not rotary); small illuminating plant; cigarette-making machines (it is stated that more than three million cigarettes are smoked in Persia daily); small cotton-spinning and wool-spinning machines; small cotton-weaving and wool-weaving machines; and small pumps for irrigation.

Power-generating machines must be portable and capable of developing from 1 to 4 h.p. on kerosene oil; construction must be simple, and the parts must be strong and durable. Small electric plants for generating current

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE—Continued.

for lighting purposes; charging accumulators should be capable of being run on kerosene and of maintaining from 50 to 250 lamps of 20 watts. The adjustment of the power to the load should be automatic.

Printing presses may be actuated by hand, foot, or motor, and should be able to take any size of paper from visiting card to foolscap size. Cigarette making machines must cut the roll of paper, cut the tobacco, roll the cigarette, and fasten it.

Thread-making or spinning machines must be hand or foot driven for the family factory as well as motor driven for the public factory. Weaving machines are in great demand, especially for cloths 36 to 42 inches wide. These also should preferably be hand or foot driven at first. Power drive will come later.

Agricultural machinery should be suitable for animal draught. Other immediate requirements are: circular saws, lathes (hand driven), emery grinders, hand drills.

The Commercial Secretary adds that he will be particularly glad to supplement the above details in any desired direction on receipt of an enquiry from any British engineering firm who may be interested in the Persian market. Such enquiries should be addressed in the first place to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1, who, where necessary, will refer them direct to the Commercial Secretary.

LATIN AMERICA.**ARGENTINA.****CONDITIONS IN THE PAPER MARKET.**

Owing to the high prices of American paper due to the unfavourable rate of exchange on the dollar, German paper of all kinds has again come into prominence in the Argentine market, states the Report of the United States Department of Commerce. Germany, pre-war, was the principal competitor of the United States in supplying paper and paper products to the River Plate countries, and on account of lower prices was far ahead of the United States in certain lines, such as cardboards, wrapping, writing, and tissue papers.

IMPORT TRADE.

The principal kinds of paper imported into Argentina are newsprint, book, cardboard, writing, and wrapping paper. In 1920 the total importation of these five items was 65,000 metric tons, of which about one-half came from the United States. American products practically controlled the book-paper and writing-paper markets in 1920, though this trade was in the hands of the Germans before the war.

At the present time papers of all kinds are being offered in quantity on the market from Canada, Finland, Sweden, and Germany at prices 30 per cent. lower than the American papers, and to a lesser degree papers from the Netherlands, United Kingdom, France, and Czechoslovakia are offered at very favourable prices. A small quantity of paper is imported from Japan, but it consists chiefly of wrapping paper and of such paper products as blank books and paper napkins. The three largest American importers in Buenos Aires are now dealing in European papers because of their more favourable prices. Stocks of paper in the country are not large. The importers are buying with caution, and usually to fill immediate orders, as the fluctuating exchange rates make prices uncertain from day to day. Consequently, the question of delivery has lately been an important one, particularly in sales of newsprint, for which in certain cases prices somewhat higher than the ordinary market prices are paid in order to obtain quick delivery. European houses have been offering 60 and 90 day credits. Fully 98 per cent. of all imported paper enters through Buenos Aires and is handled by houses in that port. One or two houses in Rosario sometimes import paper direct.

PRODUCTION OF LOCAL MILLS.

The local paper mills are operating at normal capacity, producing cardboard and printing and writing papers, which are protected by the Customs Tariff. The total production of all the mills in Argentina is estimated at less than 125 metric tons daily. Two small factories in Buenos Aires are manufacturing carbon paper and considerable quantities of such paper products as blank books, boxes, postal cards, envelopes, and paper streamers are now manufactured in Argentina. The importation of these articles has been decreasing.

Finance and Banking.

UNITED KINGDOM.

NEW CAPITAL ISSUES IN JUNE.

The following statistics relating to the issue of new capital during June have been compiled by the London Joint City and Midland Bank. The figures exclude all direct borrowings by the British Government for national purposes, shares issued to vendors, allotments arising from the capitalisation of reserve funds and undivided profits, issues for conversion purposes, short-dated bills sold in anticipation of long-term borrowings, and loans by municipal and county authorities except in cases where there is a specified limit to the total subscription. They do not include issues of capital by private companies except where particulars are publicly announced. In all cases the figures are based upon the prices of issue.

NEW CAPITAL ISSUES BY MONTHS.*

	1919	1920	1921	1922
	£	£	£	£
January ...	18,340,586	42,446,210	22,468,915	42,343,378
February ...	9,683,737	35,213,793	10,362,523	25,996,607
March ...	11,862,083	69,355,644	25,518,471	24,867,127
April ...	6,048,111	45,795,840	14,764,670	17,167,267
May ...	17,541,224	20,860,980	17,187,148	35,782,757
June ...	16,823,316	27,559,699	33,918,846	21,959,855
6 months ...	80,299,056	241,232,166	124,220,573	168,146,991
July ...	28,277,343	43,422,343	7,352,604	—
August ...	14,807,345	9,855,340	3,058,511	—
September ...	9,294,271	20,064,482	9,951,476	—
October ...	24,977,183	28,152,110	33,358,634	—
November ...	33,106,761	33,021,283	18,500,630	—
December ...	46,779,404	8,463,094	19,353,026	—
Year ...	237,541,363	384,210,818	215,795,454	—

* Excluding British Government Loans raised directly for national purposes.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION BY MONTHS.*

	Great Britain and Ireland. £1,000.	India and Ceylon. £1,000.	British Possessions. £1,000.	Foreign Countries. £1,000.	Total. £1,000.
January, 1920 ...	30,071	138	7,933	4,304	42,446
February, " ...	31,851	1,076	1,401	886	35,214
March, " ...	65,088	126	1,922	2,220	69,356
April, " ...	44,677	74	902	143	45,796
May, " ...	19,124	—	1,240	497	20,861
June, " ...	21,277	100	5,879	304	27,560
July, " ...	41,660	600	1,162	—	43,422
August, " ...	6,453	30	2,581	791	9,855
September, " ...	18,384	1,000	468	212	20,064
October, " ...	24,225	30	2,780	1,117	28,152
November, " ...	23,352	122	8,654	893	33,021
December, " ...	4,818	217	2,138	1,290	8,463
Year ...	380,980	3,513	37,060	12,657	384,210
January, 1921 ...	11,274	105	5,000	6,090	22,469
February, " ...	6,963	58	3,042	300	10,363
March, " ...	17,981	—	1,124	6,413	25,518
April, " ...	4,563	8,500	663	1,039	14,765
May, " ...	6,517	5	4,687	5,977	17,186
June, " ...	15,150	5,970	9,969	2,830	33,919
July, " ...	5,679	1,509	65	100	7,353
August, " ...	1,501	73	1,132	352	3,058
September, " ...	2,813	195	5,878	1,065	9,951
October, " ...	19,318	3,210	10,651	180	33,359
November, " ...	4,942	—	13,514	45	18,501
December, " ...	3,373	9,938	5,542	500	19,353
Year ...	100,073	29,563	61,268	24,891	215,795
January, 1922 ...	27,422	20	8,076	6,825	42,343
February, " ...	6,569	—	5,195	14,292	25,997
March, " ...	9,602	100	5,655	9,510	24,867
April, " ...	5,899	—	8,095	3,173	17,167
May, " ...	9,050	1,938	7,740	17,055	33,783
June, " ...	6,045	12,020	410	3,505	21,990
6 months ...	64,597	14,078	35,172	54,300	168,147

* Excluding British Government Loans raised directly for national purposes.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION BY HALF-YEARS.*

Half-year ended.	Great Britain and Ireland.		Overseas Countries		Total. £1,000
	£1,000	Percentage of Total.	£1,000	Percentage of Total.	
1919:					
June ...	69,233	86.2	11,066	13.8	80,299
December ...	118,436	75.3	38,805	24.7	157,241
1920:					
June ...	212,088	87.9	29,145	12.1	241,233
December ...	118,892	83.2	24,085	16.8	142,977
1921:					
June ...	62,448	50.3	61,772	49.7	124,220
December ...	37,625	41.1	53,950	58.9	91,575
1922:					
June ...	64,597	38.4	103,550	61.6	168,147

* Excluding British Government Loans raised directly for national purposes.

FINANCE AND BANKING—Continued.

DENMARK.

FINANCIAL CONDITIONS IN 1921.

On 31st March, 1921, the Danish National Debt amounted to 1,063,822,893 kr. (£49,244,060), of which 664,225,162 kr. (£31,038,558) were Danish and 399,597,730 kr. (£18,672,791) foreign debt, states the Commercial Secretary to H.M. Legation at Copenhagen in his recent Report on the Economic Situation of Denmark (H.M. Stationery Office, price 1s. 6d. net). On the same date the net Danish national capital (i.e., capital minus indebtedness) amounted to 485,000,000 kr. (£22,657,009), as compared with 474,300,000 kr. (£22,163,551) at the end of the financial year 1919-1920. The increase in the national capital was due to the acquirement of assets in return for loans made to North Slesvig. The national debt at the beginning of 1922 amounted approximately to 1,200,000,000 kr. (£56,074,771), while the debt of the municipalities is stated to exceed 900,000,000 kr. (£42,056,075). The closed accounts for the year 1920-21 showed a total revenue of 498,648,869 kr. (£23,301,349) on the current account and a total expenditure of 555,156,259 kr. (£25,941,881). On the capital account the income was 155,581,141 kr. (£7,270,147) and the expenditure 205,243,915 kr. (£9,586,164), the total deficit on the two accounts being thus 106,170,164 kr. (£4,956,549), which was some 90,000,000 kr. (£4,205,607) less than anticipated in the Budget. It may be added that the closed accounts for the year 1919-1920 showed a surplus of 148,364,761 kr. (£6,932,932).

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

Among the various items of extraordinary expenditure of the year may be mentioned 101,000,000 kr. (£4,719,626), paid to Germany in connection with the taking over of North Slesvig and considerable expenditure in connection with the supply of corn to the population, and various other measures for meeting the high cost of living. Among the principal items of expenditure on the capital account may be mentioned 60,000,000 kr. (£2,803,738) for public works which were largely instituted to meet the unemployment, and, besides the payment to Germany mentioned above, loans to various Communes in connection with unemployment.

Throughout the financial year State undertakings showed a deficit of some 72,000,000 kr. (£3,364,300), whereof 53,000,000 kr. (£2,476,635) were on the working of the State railways, 16,600,000 kr. (£747,663) on the Post Office, and 4,000,000 kr. (£186,916) on the Telegraph Office.

Taxes and duties resulted in a revenue of 543,000,000 kr. (£25,373,832), which was rather larger than expected, but some 32,000,000 kr. (£1,495,327) less than in the previous financial year. Income and property taxes accounted for some 301,000,000 kr. (£14,065,420), a decrease of some 24,000,000 as compared with the previous year, but the revenue from Customs showed an increase of some 14,000,000 kr., amounting to a total of 72,700,000 kr. (£3,397,010).

FOREIGN LOANS.

During the year an 8 per cent. loan of 25,000,000 dollars was raised in the United States of America, and figures in the capital account for a sum of about 150,000,000 kr. (£7,009,346). Payments in connection with the interest on the national debt amounted to 39,500,000 kr. (£1,845,800), but this sum does not include the interest on the above-mentioned American loan, which first became payable during the financial year 1921-1922.

Commercial Treaties and Arrangements.

FRANCE—POLAND.

COMMERCIAL CONVENTION.

With reference to the notice under the above heading at pages 542-3 of the issue of this "Journal" for 18th May, it should be noted that, in virtue of a French Presidential Decree, dated 19th June and published in the "Journal Officiel" for 20th June, the Franco-Polish Commercial Convention of 6th February last is put into force provisionally pending its approval by the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate.

Shipping and Railways.

AUSTRALIA.

UNIFORM RAILWAY GAUGE.

H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner at Melbourne has forwarded to the Department of Overseas Trade a copy of a Paper, issued by the Prime Minister, on the uniform railway gauge question, together with brief résumé of the discussions which have taken place at the Premiers' conferences, etc.

The scheme advocated by the Royal Commission as the first step, and strongly supported by the Prime Minister, will provide a standard 4 ft. 8½ in. gauge railway between Brisbane and Fremantle, and the conversion of the whole of the broad-gauge lines of Victoria and South Australia, at an estimated cost of £21,600,000, spread over a period of approximately eight years.

The Paper may be seen upon application to the Department of Overseas Trade (Enquiry Room), 35, Old Queen Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1. (Reference 4301/E.D./G.P.).

FINLAND.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS.

According to preliminary returns published by the Finnish State railways the revenue of the State railways for the first eleven months of 1921 amounted to 411,700,000 F.mks., and the regular expenditure to 358,400,000 F.mks., showing a profit of 53,300,000 F.mks., states H.M. Consul at Helsingfors in his recent Report on the Economic, Financial, and Industrial Conditions of Finland. (H.M. Stationery Office, price 1s. 6d. net).

In the preceding year (12 months) the revenue amounted to 371,400,000 F.mks., and the expenditure to 280,900,000 F.mks., showing a profit of 90,500,000 F.mks.

ROLLING STOCK.

The average number of locomotives and goods wagons in use were 486 and 14,098 respectively.

The amount assigned in the estimate of the Ministry of Communication for 1922 for the general upkeep of the railways is 399,300,000 F.mks., but in addition to this the following expenditure on railway construction has also been provided for:—

	F. Mks.
For renewals, widenings, etc.	50,000,000
For completing rolling stock	15,000,000
For Idensalmi-Ylivieska Railway	10,000,000
For Abo-Nystad Railway	5,000,000
For Nurmes-Vaala-Uleaborg Railway	12,000,000
For Sonjarvi Railway	20,000,000

SHIPPING FACILITIES.

The total tonnage of the Finnish merchant fleet amounted on 1st January, 1921, to 194,412 registered tons, of which there were 771 steam vessels of a total registered tonnage of 84,622 tons, 716 sailing vessels comprising 95,576 tons and 102 motor craft 14,214 tons. In addition to this there were 3,088 barges of an aggregate tonnage of 267,469 tons. Compared with the figures for the previous year there appears to be a tremendous decrease in the number and tonnage of sailing vessels, which is accounted for by the register kept at the Finnish Board of Shipping having now been revised and the names of vessels which are no longer available for service having been removed from that register.

Since the above figures have been published four new cargo steam vessels (two of 2,200 tons dead-weight each) built at Rotterdam for the Finnish Steamship Company have been added to the Finnish Merchant Service.

SHIPBUILDING.

The following figures indicate the number of vessels and their gross tonnage under construction at Finnish dockyards during the year 1921:—

43 Steam vessels	7,225 gross registered tons.
1 Motor vessel	34 gross registered tons.
9 Sailing vessels... ..	2,890 gross registered tons.
236 Barges	15,550 gross registered tons.

Total 789 vessels ... 25,699 gross registered tons.

In the year 1921, 285 vessels with a gross tonnage of 23,159 tons have been completed, which represents practically all the vessels in course of construction during that period.

The two largest cargo vessels ever built in Finland, namely, the s.s. "Suomen Poika" and the s.s. "Suomen Neito," of a gross registered tonnage of 1,280 tons and a

SHIPPING AND RAILWAYS—Continued.

loading capacity of 1,600 d.w. tons were launched last summer from the Sandvikens Skeppsdocka och Mekaniska Verkstad at Helsingfors for the Finnish Transoceanic Trading Company, Limited. The vessels are of quarter-deck type and are specially strengthened for winter traffic through ice.

The building of combined motor and sailing vessels, for which there was a considerable demand some years ago, has now practically ceased. This type of vessel, which is neither a sailing nor a motor vessel, has been proved to be impractical and even dangerous and there will be no further development in this direction. The great number of barges which have been built is, however, remarkable. These barges are generally of the simplest kind, square box-shaped and intended for carrying timber and firewood, the high railway freights at present existing having encouraged this method of transport, which is very much less costly.

HARBOUR IMPROVEMENTS.

The work of construction of a deep-sea harbour, as projected by the Municipality of Helsingfors, at Sandviken and Gräsviken was proceeded with during the past year.

A wharf of about 600 metres long has already been built and the depth of water along the quayside is to be between 7½ and 9 metres. Two warehouses and a large goods depot having a total floor area of about 8,000 square metres have been completed, and a large concrete warehouse of three storeys high with cellars in the basement will be built shortly. This latter building will have a floor area of about 12,000 square metres and will be fitted out with cranes and other hoisting gear. Various other buildings for offices, etc., for the port and Customs authorities and a shunting station for the railway are also to be built. The work is so far advanced that the harbour is expected to be available for use by ships visiting this port during the present year.

A coal harbour on the west side between Busholmen and Uttern is in course of construction, but some time may lapse before it is expected to be completed, and the rebuilding of the timber harbour at Sörnäs is also under consideration.

The work of enlarging the port of Hango has engaged considerable attention and the Free Port Company have commenced the construction of the first basin in the free harbour which is to have a quay length of 150 metres. This basin is expected to be completed by the end of 1922. A new electric crane with a lifting capacity of 40 tons has been erected and several smaller portable cranes are also to be provided. The free harbour is now quite ready to receive goods in warehouse and has received sanction by law to store and re-ship them without payment of Customs duties.

Certain improvements are being carried out to the Mäntyluoto harbour, near Björneborg. Dredging was commenced in the autumn of 1921 with the intention of increasing the depth of water from 7½ to 8½ metres; this work is expected to be completed in the summer of 1922. The floor space of the warehouse has been increased by 2,600 square metres in view of the increased export of paper and mechanical pulp from this district.

A scheme for the extension of the harbour at Gamlakarleby and the building of a new quay has been under consideration, but, owing to the high estimated cost of carrying out the project amounting to about 7,000,000 marks, the prospects of undertaking the work in the near future are somewhat remote.

SWEDEN.

MALMO FREE HARBOUR EQUIPMENT.

(From H.M. Consul-General.)

STOCKHOLM.

The new free harbour at Malmo, which will be completed in the autumn, will be equipped with a three-storey warehouse 120 metres long, 34 metres wide, on the ground floor, and also with six electric goods lifts for 2-ton loads and six 2½-ton cranes.

There will also be a Customs warehouse, and a warehouse for goods to be dispatched by rail, administration and Customs offices, a locomotive engine shed, and a weigh-bridge for wagons up to 50 tons gross weight.

[NOTE.—A plan showing the situation of the buildings and the storage space available, as well as a section of the warehouse, has been received from H.M. Consul-General at Stockholm, and may be inspected by companies of United Kingdom origin, capital, and control interested, on application to the Department of Overseas Trade (Shipping and Transport Section), 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.]

Minerals and Metals.

BELGIUM.

COAL PRODUCTION.

The Commercial Secretary to H.M. Embassy at Brussels, in his recent Report on the Economic Situation of Belgium, states that the average annual production of coal in Belgium before the war amounted to 22,841,590 tons. The production dropped considerably on the outbreak of the war, but between 1915 and 1918 inclusive nearly 60 million tons of coal were extracted by the Germans. The total production in 1921 amounted to approximately 22 million tons, as compared with 18½ million tons and 22½ million tons in 1919 and 1920 respectively.

The development of the Limbourg or Campine fields, the pre-war production from which was insignificant, is continuing. The output in 1919 and 1920 amounted to 139,930 tons and 245,760 tons respectively, but difficulty is encountered owing to the great depth and watery nature of the covering ground.

GERMANY.

THE IRON MARKET.

According to an extract from the monthly Report of "Stahl und Eisen," recently published in the German press, and forwarded by the Commercial Secretary at Cologne, the stagnation already observed during the month of April in several branches of the iron and steel market continued during May. In regard to export trade, the iron industry had to contend with many difficulties. Foreign competition increased considerably, and owing to price undercuttings and the possibility of shorter terms of delivery, many orders were lost to Germany. The social export tax continues in spite of the fact that it was unanimously agreed at the Stahlbund between the representatives of manufacturers, consumers, and trade, that the export tax was no longer bearable and that it must be lifted at once. In a special petition it was also pointed out that the total export was burdened in advance by the new turnover tax of 2 per cent. which alone, in many cases, may eliminate the possibility of export. Railway freights to export harbours are also constantly increasing. In view of the expenses, the route via Antwerp and Rotterdam has been chosen. In thin plate, export business has ceased altogether, the United Kingdom and Belgium having eliminated German competition from the market. Foreign prices are, according to the thickness of the sheet iron, 2,000 marks to 3,000 marks less than the German inland prices. In wire rod also competition abroad has become more difficult, and in pipes greater difficulty is encountered every day, German prices for galvanised pipes in Spain and higher than those quoted by the United Kingdom, Belgium, and France, and the prices for black pipes are about the same.

COAL OUTPUT OF RUHR BASIN IN MAY.

(From the British Commercial Secretary, Occupied Territories.)

COLOGNE.

According to the "Deutsche Bergwerks Zeitung" the coal output of the Ruhr basin (including the mines on the left bank of the Rhine) is estimated for the month of May at 8,081,951 tons in twenty-six working days, as against 7,512,646 tons in April in twenty-three working days, and 9,014,278 tons in March in twenty-seven working days. The output per working day amounted in May to 310,844 tons, as against 326,637 tons in April and 333,862 tons in March, 1922, a decrease of 15,793 tons and 23,018 tons respectively. The truck supply in May amounted to 614,966, or 22,598 per working day, the highest number being supplied on 20th May with 24,300 trucks, and the lowest number on 1st May with 15,887 trucks. The number of workers employed has decreased considerably since February, from 561,158 at the end of that month to 545,640 at the end of May.

The coke manufacture in May, 1922, amounted to 2,075,238 tons, or 66,943 tons per day, as against 2,032,679 tons, or 67,756 tons per day, in April, 1922. The briquette manufacture amounted to 298,964 tons (per working day 11,499 tons) in May, 1922, as against 302,657 tons (per working day 13,159 tons) in April, 1922. Stocks decreased from 1,296,988 tons at the end of April to 731,437 tons at the end of May: at present they amount to some 500,000 tons.

Openings for British Trade.

FACILITIES OFFERED TO BRITISH TRADERS.

The Department of Overseas Trade has at its command an extensive overseas intelligence system, which comprises the Commercial, Diplomatic and Consular Services in foreign countries and Trade Commissioners and Imperial or other Trade Correspondents in the Empire.

From this Intelligence Service information on all subjects of commercial interest is received at the Department, where it is collated and classified in a form convenient for reference, and is available to any British trader upon personal or written application to the Department at 35, Old Queen Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

The information at the disposal of the Department is of a widely varied nature, and includes such matters as the following: Sources of supply, prices, etc., of trade products; Foreign and Colonial contracts open to tender; openings for British trade abroad; general conditions prevailing in Overseas markets; demand for particular articles abroad; nature and extent of foreign competition, and suggestions for meeting it; methods of distribution and marketing; credit conditions, terms of payment, etc., abroad; firms at home engaged in particular lines of business; Foreign and Colonial importers of British goods; firms or individuals considered suitable to act as representatives or agents for British firms, Foreign and Colonial Tariff and Customs regulations; statistics of Imports or Exports; forms of Certificates of Origin; regulations concerning commercial travellers, Consular Invoices; shipping and transport, etc., etc.

In addition, samples of foreign competitive goods and commercial products are constantly being received from abroad, and are available for inspection by British traders at 7 to 11, Old Bailey, London, E.C. 4.

[NOTICE TO MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS.]

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

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

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

BRITISH EMPIRE.

The following commercial information as to openings for the sale of British and Irish goods in overseas markets and other connected matters has been distributed during the past week by the Department of Overseas Trade, through its "Special Register" service. United Kingdom manufacturers and exporters are invited to apply to the Department of Overseas Trade should they be desirous of receiving further particulars of the "Special Register" service, or of the openings for trade given below, quoting the reference numbers in each case:—

Australia.—Motor locks operated by "T" handles, and motor hinges—Quotations invited. (8928/E.D./E.C.)
Switchboard plugs—Tenders invited. (9016/E.D./E.C.A.)
Electric cable (paper insulated, lead covered)—Tenders invited. (9017 E.D./E.C.)
Switchboard cables (silk and cotton insulated, beeswaxed and braided)—Tenders invited. (9018/E.D./E.C.)
Secondary batteries and cells—Tenders invited. (9016/E.D./E.C.B.)

Canada.—Cotton moleskin and trouserings—Samples and quotation invited. (8941/E.D./T.C.)

New Zealand.—Tinned steel mattress wire and galvanised clothes lines—Agent's services offered. (8692/E.D./E.C.A.)
Counter, mattress and ham twines—Agent's services offered. (8692/E.D./E.C.B.)
Electrical equipment (including distribution transformers, bare and insulated cables and jointing sleeves, lightning arresters and choke coils; pole type switches, pole type fuse supports and fuses; line insulators; pole ironwork; service meters, testing meters and service fuses)—Tenders invited. (8930/E.D./E.C.)

South Africa.—Glass and glassware—Trade prospects. (225/29/F.G./M.C./A.)
Pottery—Trade prospects. (225/29/F.G./M.C./C.)

Bulgaria.—Cast-iron railway brake blocks—Tenders invited (8473/F.E./E.C.)

Denmark.—Gas coal pitch—Quotations invited. (5790/F.R./M.C.)

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE—Continued.

- Netherlands*.—40 h.p. direct current electro motor—Quotations invited. (15952/F.W./E.C.)
 Paint, lithopone, turpentine oil, carbolic and nitric acid, orange liquid polish, graphite, moulding powder, gum arabic, ether, naphthaline, yellow ochre, and white soap. Tenders invited. (16011/F.W./G.C./A.)
 Lead pipes, lead wire, anvils, nails, tools (including augers, chisels, braces, drill chucks, etc.)—Tenders invited. (16011/F.W./G.C./B.)
 Packing paper—Tenders invited. (16011/F.W./G.C./C.)
 Linoleum, cork sheets, cork waste and cork stone—Tenders invited. (16011/F.W./G.C./D.)
 Firebricks and fireproof cement—Tenders invited. (16011/F.W./G.C./E.)
- Switzerland*.—Canoes and motor boats—Trade prospects. 780/10/F.G./E.C./A.)
- Algeria*.—Motor cars for desert work—Result of experiments. (8429/F.E./E.C.)
- Japan*.—Iron and steel—Japanese views on proposed revision of Customs Tariff. (8437/F.E./E.C./A.)
 Zinc, lead, nickel and aluminium—Japanese views on proposed revision of Customs Tariff. (8437/F.E./E.C./B.)
- United States of America*.—Cold-drawn seamless steel tubing—Quotations invited. (16016/F.W./E.C.)
- Argentina*.—Pottery—Trade prospects. (2256/F.G./M.C./C.)
- Brazil*.—Importation of cement. (6076/F.L./M.C.)
 Pianos and gramophones—Import duties leviable in various countries. (5560/U.M./M.C.)

NORTHERN IRELAND.

GREY COTTON CLOTH.—A Belfast agent with a wide connection in the textile trade, and until recently secretary to a large firm of linen merchants, desires to secure the representation for Northern Ireland of United Kingdom manufacturers of grey cotton cloth. (Reference No. 1.)

Applications for name and address must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

AUSTRALIA.

COTTON AND WOOLLEN DRESS GOODS.—A Sydney firm of agents desire to represent, on a commission basis, for the whole of Australia, United Kingdom manufacturers of cotton and woollen dress goods. The firm have good connections amongst buyers of soft goods in all the capital cities of Australia, and are regarded as of good repute and standing. (Reference No. 2.)

POTTERS' REQUIREMENTS.—A well known and important Australian firm engaged in the manufacture of metal ceilings, architectural terra-cotta, tiles, roofing material, asbestos goods, fibrous plaster, ceilings, shop fronts, show cases, etc., propose to take up the manufacture of domestic and fancy pottery as well as earthenware and sanitary pipes. In this connection they are desirous of obtaining catalogues and illustrated literature from United Kingdom manufacturers who may be in a position to offer various materials used in the potting industry, such as colours, glazes, chemicals, transfers, plaster, china and ball clays, lawns, filter-press cloths, thermoscopes, seeger cones. (Reference No. 3.)

PIECE-GOODS, HOSIERY, MEN'S CLOTHING AND MERCERY.—A firm of manufacturers' agents in Melbourne desire to get into touch with United Kingdom manufacturers of textile piece-goods, men's hats, mercery, men's clothing, hosiery and underwear who might be prepared to appoint them as Australian representatives on a commission basis. Both the partners of the firm are understood to have useful connections in the textile trade throughout Australia. (Reference No. 4.)

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

TENDERS INVITED.

LEAD-COVERED CABLE.—H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner in Australia has reported to the Department of Overseas Trade that tenders are invited by the Postmaster-General's Department, Melbourne, for the supply and delivery of various quantities of paper-insulated lead-covered cable. Sealed tenders on proper forms will be received in the Postmaster-General's Department, Melbourne, up till 25th July, 1922. A copy of the specification, conditions and tender form may be inspected by United Kingdom firms interested on application at the Enquiry Office of the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

A further copy of these documents is also available for loan to firms, in order of application, who are unable to arrange for inspection in London.

In view of the limited time available for the presentation of tenders this information will probably be only of use to firms who are in a position to notify their local agents by cable.

The Department will be pleased to supply United Kingdom firms not already represented in Australia with the names of agents who may be willing to act for them in this business. (Reference D.O.T. 9017/E.D./E.C.)

SECONDARY BATTERIES.—H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner in Australia has advised the Department of Overseas Trade that tenders are invited by the Postmaster-General's Department, Melbourne, for the supply and delivery of a quantity of secondary batteries and cells. Sealed tenders will be received by the Postmaster-General, Melbourne, up till 18th July, 1922.

A copy of the specification and conditions of tender relating to the above contract may be consulted by United Kingdom firms interested

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE—Continued.

on application at the Enquiry Office of the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

In view of the limited time available for the presentation of tenders this information will probably be only of use to firms who are in a position to notify their local agents by cable.

The Department will be pleased to supply United Kingdom firms not already represented in Australia with the names of agents who may be willing to act for them in this business. (Reference D.O.T. 9016/E.D./E.C. (B).)

STEEL TYRES FOR VICTORIAN RAILWAYS.—H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner in Australia has reported to the Department of Overseas Trade that the Victorian State Railways are inviting tenders for the supply and delivery of 370 steel tyres of various sizes and types. (Contract No. 35105.)

Tenders on the proper form, accompanied by a preliminary deposit of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total amount of the tender will be received by the Chief Storekeeper of the Victorian Railways Commissioners until 11 a.m. on the 30th August. Representation by a local agent is essential. The Department of Overseas Trade is prepared to furnish to United Kingdom firms not represented the names of agents believed to be suitable for this business.

A copy of the general and special conditions and tender form can be seen in Room 50, Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1. A further set is available for loan to United Kingdom firms unable to arrange for inspection of the documents in London. (Reference No. 9019/E.D./E.P.)

AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE SWITCHBOARDS.—H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner in Australia has forwarded to the Department of Overseas Trade copies of the tender form, specifications and blue prints, etc., in connection with tenders which are invited by the Postmaster-General's Department, Melbourne, for the supply of automatic switchboards, together with all associated apparatus (Schedule 39) required for the telephonic exchange at Ascot, Victoria, and also for similar equipment (Schedule 40) for the telephonic exchange at North Melbourne, Victoria. Tenders close on 17th October, 1922.

A copy of the tender form, specifications, blue prints, etc., is available for inspection by United Kingdom firms at the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1, on application at the Enquiry Office, and an additional copy can be sent on loan (in order of application) to United Kingdom firms who are unable to arrange for inspection in London. (Reference D.O.T. 8758/E.D./E.C.)

ENQUIRIES AT OFFICE OF HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR AUSTRALIA.

The following enquiries have been received at the Office of the High Commissioner for Australia, Australia House, Strand, London, W.C. 2:—

CHEMICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL GOODS, ETC.—A qualified pharmacist from Adelaide desires to get into touch with United Kingdom manufacturers and suppliers of chemical and pharmaceutical goods, drugs, chemists' sundries, etc., with the object of representing them in Australia.

Replies should be addressed to the Official Secretary, Commonwealth of Australia, Commercial Bureau, Australia House, Strand, London, W.C. 2, quoting reference number 412/20/7/3080.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.—A Melbourne merchant is desirous of getting into direct touch with United Kingdom manufacturers of laces, eyelets and all findings for the boot and shoe trade.

Replies should be addressed to the Official Secretary, Commonwealth of Australia, Commercial Bureau, Australia House, Strand, London, W.C.2, quoting the relative reference number (412/20/7/3089.)

CANADA

ENQUIRIES AT OFFICE OF CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER.

The following enquiries have been received at the Canadian Government Trade Commissioner's Office, Portland House, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2, where full information may be obtained:—

ELECTRIC AUTOMOBILE CIGAR LIGHTERS.—A Montreal company manufacturing an electric automobile cigar lighter ask to be placed in communication with United Kingdom firms who would be interested in importing the appliance.

INDIARUBBER LIFE-SAVING SWIMMING GLOVE.—A Canadian company manufacturing a patented indiarubber life-saving swimming glove desire the addresses of United Kingdom sporting goods dealers prepared to undertake its sale.

INDIA.

TENDERS INVITED.

HARDWARE AND RAILWAY TICKETS.—The Department of Overseas Trade is informed that the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company, Limited, invite tenders for:—

- (1) 389 cwt. bolts, nuts and rivets;
- (2) Lamp fittings and miscellaneous glass (burners, plate and sheet glass, etc.);
- (3) 65,625,000 railway tickets (blank);
- (4) Wood screws, nails, pins, etc. (iron and brass),

in accordance with the specifications which may be seen at the offices of the Company, 25, Buckingham Palace Road, Westminster, S.W. 1. The charge for each specification, Nos. 2, 3 and 4, is one guinea, and for No. 1 half a guinea, which is in no case returnable.

Tenders must be addressed to the Secretary, not later than 2 p.m. Tuesday, 18th July, marked "Tender for bolts, nuts and rivets" or as the case may be. (Reference D.O.T. 6697/T.E./E.P.)

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE—Continued.

LOCOMOTIVE ENGINES AND TENDERS, GROUND SHEETS AND TELEPHONE GEAR.—The High Commissioner for India is prepared to receive tenders for the supply of:—

1. Locomotive engines and tenders, 5 ft. 6-ins. gauge :—

0.6.0 type, goods	...	No. 9
4.4.0 type, passenger	...	No. 12
2. Sheets, ground, Mark VII. ... No. 30,000
3. Telephone:—

Switchboards	...	No. 17
Desk sets	...	No. 4,000
Wall sets	...	No. 2,000
Operator's headgear	...	Sets 110

Forms of tenders may be obtained from the Director-General, India Store Department, Belvedere Road, Lambeth, S.E. 1, and tenders are to be delivered at that office not later than 2 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday, 18th July, 1922, for No. 2, on Friday, 21st July, 1922, for No. 1, and on Friday, 28th July, 1922, for No. 3.

NEW ZEALAND.

FOOTWEAR.—A New Zealand firm of agents having branches with a selling staff in Wellington, Auckland, Dunedin and Christchurch is desirous of obtaining the representation of a United Kingdom manufacturer of both men's and women's medium and high grade footwear. A director of the New Zealand firm is now in this country, and will be pleased to interview manufacturers interested. (Reference No. 5.)

ELECTRICAL MATERIAL, ACCESSORIES, ETC.—An Auckland firm, doing a considerable business in electrical material and accessories, desire to be placed in touch with United Kingdom manufacturers of batteries, carbon and dynamo brushes, motor controllers, electro-magnets, fan motors, fuses, generating sets, insulators, motor generators, switches, electric tools, transformers, wires and cables, and small motors, etc., with a view to undertaking their representation for the Dominion of New Zealand. A representative of this firm is at present on a visit to the United Kingdom. (Reference No. 6.)

ELECTRIC PLANT AND ACCESSORIES.—A London firm of exporters of engineering plant and material, having agents in Auckland, desire to obtain the representation for New Zealand of United Kingdom firms manufacturing hydro-electric plant, transformers, etc., cables and general electric equipment. (Reference No. 7.)

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

TENDERS INVITED.

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT.—H.M. Trade Commissioner at Wellington has forwarded to the Department of Overseas Trade specifications and conditions of contract for the supply of certain electrical equipment for which the Southland Electric Power Board are inviting tenders. The material required is divided into sections as follows:—

- Section A.—Distribution transformers.
- Section B.—Bare and insulated cables and jointing sleeves.
- Section C.—Lightning arresters and choke coils.
- Section D.—Pole type switches.
- Section E.—Pole type fuse supports and fuses.
- Section F.—Line insulators.
- Section G.—Pole ironwork, (bolts, pole steps, coach screws, hookhead).
- Section H.—Service meters, testing meters and service fuses.

Tenders, which should be addressed to the Chairman, Southland Electric Power Board, P.O. Box 121, Invercargill, New Zealand, will close on 30th September, 1922. Tenders must be accompanied by a deposit of £50 or one per cent. of the amount of the tender, whichever is the greater. Payment will be made as follows:—Seventy-five per cent. in exchange for complete shipping documents in Invercargill; and twenty-five per cent. after tests in New Zealand, or at a date not later than two months after arrival of the goods at the Bluff, New Zealand.

In the special conditions in connection with this tender it is stated that the Board has under consideration the question of doubling the quantities specified in the schedule, and tenderers are invited to furnish with their tenders a memorandum stating at what rates and prices they would undertake to supply double quantities.

A copy of the specification and conditions is available for inspection at the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1, by United Kingdom firms on application at the Enquiry Office until 30th June, after which date the documents will be sent in order of application to United Kingdom firms in the provinces who are unable to arrange for their inspection in London. (Reference D.O.T. 8939/E.D./E.C.)

SOUTH AFRICA.

GALVANISED IRON.—A representative of an old established Johannesburg house specialising in mining material is at present in this country, and is desirous of getting in touch with manufacturers of galvanised iron who are prepared to consider the appointment of representatives in South Africa. The firm already represent a number of United Kingdom houses for tubes and piping, steel products, battery screening, anti-friction metals, etc. (Reference No. 8.)

Applications for name and address must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE—Continued.

POSSIBLE OPENINGS FOR TRADE.—H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner in South Africa has forwarded to the Department of Overseas Trade a copy of the agenda of the meeting of the Rand Water Board held on 19th May last. The agenda mentions certain works for which tenders will shortly be invited, among which the following may be of interest to United Kingdom manufacturers:—

- (1) River pumping station.—Guides and screens, cast iron pipe specials, power transmission line from main station to river pumping station.
- (2) Precipitation and filter plant, Vercening.—Sludge pumps and motors, sludge well and building, filter house and offices, lighting, chlorination plant. The plans and specifications are well in hand.
- (3) Pipe-line materials.—24-in. bye-pass at village pumping station. Tenders will be invited at an early date.
- (4) Main pumping station.—Foundations for turbo pumps and alternators, station piping (suction and delivery), station water supply, coal conveyor plant, station lighting. The plans and specifications are well in hand.
- (5) Reservoirs.—Collecting reservoir in connection with filters and concrete work for filters. The plans and specifications are practically completed. (Reference No. 3791/E.D./E.P.)

TENDERS INVITED.

TOWELS AND SWIMMING COSTUMES.—H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner in South Africa reports that the Municipal Council in Johannesburg are inviting tenders for the supply of 804 men's and boys' swimming costumes, 196 women's and girls' swimming costumes (Canadian style) and 1,000 towels.

Tenders, superscribed with the Contract Number (918), must be addressed under sealed cover to the Town Clerk, and placed in the Tender Box, 1st Floor, Municipal Offices, Johannesburg, not later than noon on 18th July. A deposit of 10 per cent. must accompany tenders. In view of the limited time available it will be necessary for United Kingdom firms interested to cable instructions to their agents. Delivery is required not later than 1st September.

Samples of the goods offered showing the quality and texture, but which need not bear the special identification marks required in the contract goods, should reach the Buyer, Room 33, Municipal Offices, Johannesburg, not later than the time of closing of tenders. Samples of the goods preferred by the Council are available for inspection at the Buyer's Office only.

Representation by an agent resident in the Union is desirable. The Department of Overseas Trade can supply to United Kingdom firms not so represented the names or firms through whom tenders might be submitted. A copy of the general and special conditions, specification and tender form can be seen at the Department of Overseas Trade (Room 45), 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1. A second set of the documents is available for firms in the provinces unable to arrange for inspection of them in London. (Reference 8938/E.D./T.P.)

EUROPE.**DENMARK.**

MOTOR CAR ACCESSORIES.—A wholesale commission agent in Copenhagen is desirous of being placed into touch with United Kingdom manufacturers of motor car accessories. (Reference No. 9.)

HOSIERY, WOOLLEN PIECE-GOODS, SERGES, ETC.—A wholesale commission agent of Copenhagen is desirous of obtaining the representation of United Kingdom manufacturers of hosiery, woollen piece-goods, serges, etc., for men's and women's clothing. (Reference No. 10.)

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

FRANCE.

MACHINE TOOLS, SMALL TOOLS, METALS, ETC.—A firm of manufacturers' agents, with several branches throughout France and headquarters in Paris, desire to obtain representation of United Kingdom manufacturers of machine tools and engineering equipment (including tools used in the construction and repair of rolling stock), small tools, saws for metals, motor car accessories. (Reference No. 11.)

PORCELAIN SANITARY APPLIANCES AND TILES.—A French firm, established at Lyons, desires to secure the representation of United Kingdom firms manufacturing porcelain sanitary appliances and tiles. (Reference No. 12.)

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

NETHERLANDS.

ELECTRO-MOTOR.—The Commercial Secretary to H.M. Legation at The Hague reports that quotations are invited for the supply of a 40 h.p. electro-motor, direct current, to be placed on a well sprung lorry. The motor must be run on ball bearings and be reversible, and must be complete with 20 metres of cable and two driving bands of 12 and 24 metres. A heater must also be supplied for heating the food of the attendants. No further particulars are available except the name and address of the individual in the Netherlands, to whom quotations should be addressed. This can be obtained by United Kingdom firms interested on application to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1. (Reference D.O.T. 15952/F.W./E.C. 2.)

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE—Continued.

PORTUGAL.

TENDERS INVITED.

PRINTING PAPER (NEWS), COAL, COKE, BUTTER, SUGAR, POTATOES AND DRY CODFISH.—The Portuguese Government, through the "Comissariado Geral dos Abastecimentos, Lisbon," will consider tenders from United Kingdom firms for the supply of printing paper (news), coal, coke, butter, sugar, potatoes and dry codfish.

United Kingdom firms interested must communicate direct with the Comissariado Geral dos Abastecimentos, Lisbon, or with the Commercial Counsellor to the Portuguese Legation, 40, Woburn Square, London, W.C. 1, as no further information concerning this announcement is available at the Department of Overseas Trade.

SPAIN.

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES.—A Spanish firm of commission agents, recently established in Bilbao, are desirous of taking up representations, on a commission basis, of manufacturers of proprietary articles of all kinds. (Reference No. 13.)

Applications for name and address must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

AFRICA.

TANGIER.

PORT WORKS AT TANGIER.—On 11th June the representative of the Sultan of Morocco at Tangier posted in the town a notice signed by himself as President of the Adjudications Commission, fixing 9th November next as the date for the adjudication of tenders for the construction of harbour works at Tangier. H.M. Government regard this notice as null and void, since the Adjudications Commission had not approved or authorised its publication; and the Diplomatic Body at Tangier have requested the Sultan's representative to withdraw it.

In the above connection it will be remembered that H.M. Government have formally protested against the grant to the Société pour le développement de Tanger of a concession for the construction and exploitation of harbour works at Tangier, on the ground that the concession had not previously been submitted to and approved by the Diplomatic Body at Tangier.

FAR EAST.

INDIA, CEYLON, BURMAH, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, FEDERATED MALAY STATES, NETHERLAND EAST INDIES, SIAM AND CHINA.

LINEN, CUTLERY AND ELECTRO-PLATE WARE.—A London firm of export merchants and manufacturers' representatives desire to obtain agencies for the Far East, including India, Ceylon, Burmah, Straits Settlements, Federated Malay States, Netherland East Indies, Siam and China, these territories being regularly covered by their travellers. The Managing Director proposes to make a business trip in a few months' time to all these markets, and meanwhile he would be glad to get into touch with United Kingdom manufacturers and is particularly anxious to obtain the representation of three good firms for linen—such as table cloths, serviettes, sheets, pillow cases, etc., and similar goods; cutlery and electro-plate ware. (Reference No. 14.)

Applications for name and address must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

LATIN AMERICA.

ARGENTINA.

WALLPAPER, BRUSHES, SPONGES, ETC.—A commission agent resident in the Argentine, and having 25 years' experience of the market, desires to represent United Kingdom manufacturers of wallpaper, brushes, sponges, wire and manilla rope, glass (sheet, plate and glass tiles), ironmongery in general. (Reference No. 15.)

Applications for name and address must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

CUBA.

LIQUID COAL-TAR DISINFECTANT.—H. M. Charge d'Affaires, British Legation, Havana, Cuba, reports that from time to time enquiries are received in the Legation for the names and addresses of United Kingdom producers of a cheap grade of liquid coal-tar disinfectant largely used in Cuba and other Latin American countries.

It is suggested that it might be useful for firms interested to communicate with the principal wholesale importers of chemicals in Cuba. A list of such firms and further particulars can be obtained on application to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1. (Reference D.O.T. 6257/F.L./S.C.2.)

MEXICO.

MACHINERY AND KINDRED LINES.—A British mining engineer, with Mexican experience and connections, is desirous of securing the agency for Mexico of United Kingdom firms manufacturing machinery and kindred lines. (Reference No. 16.)

Applications for name and address must be sent to the Department of Overseas Trade.

Customs Regulations and Tariff Changes.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

ANTIGUA.

CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN IN CONNECTION WITH THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.

An Order in Council made by the Governor of the Leeward Isles on 20th March, 1922, contains the following revised regulation governing the importation into Antigua under the British Preferential Tariff of goods produced or manufactured in one part of the Empire and shipped from another part of the Empire:—

10. Goods the produce or manufacture of one part of the Empire when imported into the Presidency from another part of the Empire may be admitted to preference, provided the goods are accompanied by a certificate declared before the Customs Authorities of the last port of shipment certifying, in the case of goods not manufactured, that such goods are the produce of the Empire, and in the case of manufactured goods, that not less than 25 per cent. of the total value of each manufactured article included in such certificate, is the result of labour within the Empire, and that the goods included in such certificate are in the packages in which they were exported from the country of origin.

The above section is in substitution of the corresponding section contained in the Regulations issued under Order in Council of 24th October, 1921.

BARBADOS.

INCREASED CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Under the Revenue in Aid Act, 1922 (No. 9 of 1922), passed on 25th April, 1922, increased Customs duties are imposed on all dutiable articles, with certain specified exceptions, imported into Barbados.

The Act provides that instead of the duties leviable under the Customs Tariff Act, 1921, on the undermentioned articles, the following rates of duty shall be leviable thereon, viz.:—

	British Preferential Tariff.	General Tariff.
Cotton piece-goods ...	10 per cent. <i>ad val.</i>	20 per cent. <i>ad val.</i>
Cotton seed to be used for expressing oil therefrom	7s.6d. per ton.	15s. per ton.
Charcoal and firewood ...	1s. per ton.	2s. per ton.

In addition to the duties at present leviable, the Act also provides for an *additional duty* to be levied at the rate of one-fifth of the present duties payable on all articles liable to Customs duty, except the following:—

- Beer, ale, stout and porter;
- Biscuits, bread and cakes, unsweetened, in barrels;
- Charcoal and firewood;
- Cotton piece-goods.
- Fish: Other kinds, dried, salted or smoked;
- Grain: Rice.
- Flour and Meal: Wheaten or rye flour;
- Maize or cornmeal;
- Pulse: Beans and peas, whole or split;
- Oils: Edible;
- Kerosene for illuminating;
- Kerosene used as fuel;
- Seeds for expressing oil therefrom: Cotton seed;
- Spirits;
- Tobacco and snuff;
- All articles under this head in the first Schedule of the Customs Tariff Act, 1921, except cigars, cheroots, and cigarettes;
- Worn clothing.

The Act is to continue in force until and inclusive of 31st March, 1923.

GRENADA.

ADDITIONAL EXPORT DUTIES.

The Export Duties Ordinance, 1922 (No. 12 of 1922), imposes the following duties with effect from 1st January, 1922, until 31st December, 1922, in addition to the duties already leviable on these goods under the Export Duties Ordinance, viz.:—

Additional export duties:—

Cocoa per cwt. or fractional part	1s.
Cotton ditto	7d.
Cotton seed ditto	3½d.
Nutmegs ditto	3d.

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND TARIFF CHANGES—Continued.

The Ordinance provides that all duties paid under the Order in Council of 9th January, 1922, which imposed similar duties to those now leviable under this Ordinance shall be deemed to have been payable under this Ordinance, and the Order in Council cease to be operative.

NEW ZEALAND.

DUTY ON PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATES.

The New Zealand Customs Authorities have ruled that sensitised photographic plates may be admitted into the Dominion under the Tariff item relating to sensitised surfaces, which provides for free entry under the British Preferential Tariff, and for a duty of 15 per cent. *ad valorem* under the General Tariff.

ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CUSTOMS TARIFF.

The "Customs Tariff Amendment Ordinance 1922" (No. 1 of 1922), assented to on 4th March, 1922, amends the Customs duties leviable on various articles imported into St. Christopher and Nevis, in the manner shown in the following statement:—

Articles.	Former Rate of Import Duty.		Present Rate of Import Duty.	
	British Preferential Tariff	General Tariff	British Preferential Tariff	General Tariff
Firearms:				
(a) Fowling pieces each	20/-	30/-	20/-	30/-
(b) All other kinds each	20/-	30/-	15/-	25/-
Ammunition, all kinds, including cartridges, cartridge cases and percussion caps ... <i>ad valorem</i>	15 per cent.	20 per cent.	15 per cent.	25 per cent.
Explosives: gunpowder and all other explosives <i>ad valorem</i>	15 per cent.	20 per cent.	15 per cent.	25 per cent.
Beer and ale and stout and porter:				
(a) in bottle per gallon	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/8
(b) in wood per gallon	1/3	1/3	1/2	1/7
Fireworks ... <i>ad valorem</i>	15 per cent.	20 per cent.	15 per cent.	25 per cent.
Spirits: (a) Brandy per proof gallon on under	10/-	12/6	10/-	12/6
(b) Gin per proof gallon or under	6/-	7/6	6/-	8/6
(c) Rum per proof gallon or under	9/-	11/3	9/-	11/6
(d) Whisky per proof gallon or under	12/-	15/-	11/-	13/6
(e) Sweetened spirits, cordials, liqueurs per gallon	7/6	9/-	6/6	9/-
(f) Bitters of all kinds, including flavoured extracts, containing spirits per gallon	4/-	5/-	4/-	6/6
(g) Methylated spirits and methylated alcohol admitted as such by the Treasurer or proper officer of Customs ... per gallon	2/6	3/6	1/-	3/6
(h) Bay rum and all other perfumed spirits, including pomades, dentifrices, toilet preparations and washes <i>ad valorem</i>	15 per cent.	25 per cent.	15 per cent.	25 per cent.
(i) Unenumerated spirits ... per gallon	6/-	8/4	6/-	8/6

REVISED SCHEDULE OF EXPORT DUTIES.

It is provided in the Export Duty (Amendment) Ordinance, 1922 (No. 3 of 1922), assented to on the 24th March, 1922, that the following Schedule of Export Duties should be substituted for that attached to the Export Duty Ordinance, 1919, as subsequently amended, viz.:—

SCHEDULE.

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
Sugar—Crystal:	
When at the date of exportation from the Presidency the price of sugar per ton f.o.b. is:	
Under £15	4/- per ton
£15 and under £16	4/6 per ton
For every increase of £1 per ton in price over £16 and up to £26	An increase of 9d. per ton
For every increase of £1 per ton over £26 per ton	An increase of 2/- per ton
Sugar—Muscovado:	
When at the date of exportation from the Presidency the price f.o.b. per ton is:	
Under £13	2/- per ton
£13 and under £14	2/6 per ton
For every increase of £1 per ton in price over £14 and up to £26	An increase of 9d. per ton
For every increase of £1 per ton over £26 per ton	An increase of 2/- per ton

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND TARIFF CHANGES—Continued.

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
Syrup:	
When at the date of exportation from the Presidency the price f.o.b. is:	
Under 10d. per gall. (wine)	9d. per 100 gall. (wine)
10d. and under 11d. per gall. (wine) ..	1/- per 100 gall. (wine)
For every increase of 1d. per gall. (wine) in price over 11d. but under 21d. per gall. (wine)	An increase of 3d. per 100 gall. (wine)
Of and over 21d. per gall. (wine)	An increase of 9d. per 100 gall. (wine)
Molasses:	
When at the date of exportation from the Presidency the price f.o.b. is:	
Under 10d. per gall. (wine)	8d. per 100 gall. (wine)
10d. and under 11d. per gall. (wine) ...	10d. per 100 gall. (wine)
For every increase of 1d. per gall. (wine) in price over 11d. but under 21d. per gall. (wine)	An increase of 3d. per 100 gall. (wine)
Of and over 21d. per gall. (wine)	An increase of 9d. per 100 gall. (wine)
Rum	3/6 per 100 gall. (imp.)
Cotton—Lint:	
When at the date of exportation from the Presidency the price f.o.b. is:	
Under 1/6 per pound	1/2d. per pound
1/6 and under 2/- per pound	3/4d. per pound
For every increase of 6d. per pound in price over 2/- per pound	An increase of 1/2d. per pound
Coconuts:	
When at the date of exportation from the Presidency the price f.o.b. is:	
Under £5 per thousand	1/6 per thousand
£5 and under £6 per thousand	2/- per thousand
For every increase of £1 per thousand in price over £6 per thousand	An increase of 6d. per thousand

FOREIGN.

BELGIUM.

IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN COLOURING MATERIALS.

The "Moniteur Belge" for 28th June contains a Decree, dated 26th June, which provides that, as from 30th June, colouring materials with an aniline base may only be imported into Belgium under licence. The Decree further provides that these goods need no longer be accompanied by the certificate of origin required by the Royal Decree of 9th August, 1919—see page 346 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 11th September, 1919.

"COEFFICIENTS OF INCREASE" ON IMPORT DUTIES.

In virtue of a Law, dated 30th June, and published in the "Moniteur Belge" for 1st July, the power accorded to the Belgian Government by the Laws of 10th June, 1920, and 31st March, 1921, to impose, until 30th June last, "coefficients of increase" not exceeding 6 on the specific import duties of the Belgian Customs Tariff has been extended for a further period of twelve months, i.e., until 30th June, 1923.

A Royal Decree of the same date has also been issued maintaining in force the "coefficients of increase" already imposed.

CHINA (KWANTUNG).

CONSUMPTION DUTIES ON TOBACCO AND ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS.

H.M. Consul at Dairen reports that an Imperial Ordinance, No. 199 of 15th April, published in the Kwantung Government "Official Gazette" for 19th April, imposes consumption taxes on tobacco and alcoholic liquors in the Kwantung Leased Territory, as from 20th April. Further particulars as to the rates of duty leviable, etc., will be published in this "Journal" as soon as information is received in the Board of Trade.

FRANCE.

MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN IMPORT DUTIES.

The French "Journal Officiel" for 1st July contains a Presidential Decree, dated 14th June, which modifies the "coefficients of increase" applicable to the specific rates

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND TARIFF CHANGES—Continued.

of duty leviable on the undermentioned goods on importation into France. It will be noted from the following table that the modifications introduced are, in the main, in the nature of reductions of the coefficients previously applicable, although in two cases a coefficient of increase is now applied for the first time. The articles covered by the Decree are as follows:—

Tariff No.	Articles.	Coefficient of Increase.	
		Former.	New.
ex 110	Fixed oils, pure :		
	Linsed oil	3	*3
	Cotton seed, sesame and earth nut oils other than those intended for the manufacture of soap and of alimentary fats	3	2
	Maize oils other than those intended for soap making	3	1.5
	Soya oils other than those intended for soap making and the preparation of colours and varnishes	3	1.5
	Sunflower seed oils other than those intended for the preparation of colours and varnishes	3	1.5
	Other oils not specially mentioned in the Tariff:		
	Intended for the preparation of colours and varnishes	3	3
	Other oils	3	1.5
194	Mineral wax or ozokerite	—	3
ex 199	Paraffin wax	5.8	3
087	Sulphate of alumina	5	4
329	Milk sugar	—	2.5
575	Manufactures of pure copper, or copper alloyed with zinc or tin—articles not specified in the Tariff	3	+3.5

Goods proved to have been dispatched direct to France before 1st July may be admitted at the rates of duty previously levied if these are more favourable.

* So-called Chinese wood oil, also called wood oil, "abrasin" oil "cloco-eoca" oil, are exempted from any coefficient of increase.

+ Lead holders and pencil holders are subject to a coefficient of 4. The coefficient remains fixed at 1.8 for wood screws of copper, brass or bronze.

GREECE.**INCREASE OF CUSTOMS DUTIES.**

H.M. Minister at Athens reports, by telegraph, that the Customs duties on some sixty classes of goods, including the "General" duty on coffee (the Conventional duty on which has been abolished altogether), have been increased as from 24th June to rates ranging from two to fifteen times those formerly in force. As from the same date, the Customs duties on all goods are payable at the rate of 5.60 paper drachmas for each gold drachma.

H.M. Minister further reports that it is proposed to prohibit absolutely for six months the importation of some eighteen classes of so-called luxury articles, including silk, lace, feathers, crystal, sweets, etc.

Further particulars will be published in this "Journal" as soon as they are available.

ITALY.**TEMPORARY DUTY-FREE ADMISSION OF GRAIN.**

With reference to the notice under the above heading at page 324 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 23rd March, it should be noted that the "Gazzetta Ufficiale" (Rome) for 22nd June contains a Decree, dated 11th June, which extends until 31st December, 1922, the privilege of duty-free admission into Italy accorded to wheat, oats, maize (except white maize), and rye.

IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON GOODS FROM AUSTRALIA AND CANADA ABOLISHED.

H.M. Commercial Counsellor at Rome reports that the abolition of the import prohibitions on United Kingdom goods (which was noted at page 22 of this "Journal" for 7th July, 1921), extends also to goods of Australian and Canadian origin, even if shipped direct to Italy. Goods originating in any part of the British Empire and imported

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND TARIFF CHANGES—Continued.

into Italy via the United Kingdom were already free from restriction.

[NOTE.—These concessions do not apply to dyes and dye-stuffs or to goods the importation of which is reserved to the State.]

PAYMENT OF CUSTOMS DUTIES.

With reference to previous notices under the above heading, H.M. Commercial Secretary at Rome reports, by telegraph, that the price fixed, for the first half of July, for certificates for the payment of Customs duties is 399 lire per 100 lire gold, i.e., the surcharge when duties are paid in paper is 299 per cent.

[NOTE.—The price of certificates for the second half of June was 373 lire for 100 lire gold.]

PERU.**CONSULAR FEES.**

With reference to the notice at page 385 of the issue of this "Journal" for 6th April regarding the increase of the Consular fee for the certification of invoices for goods shipped to Peru, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Lima reports, by telegraph, that in the case of shipments of goods on contracts made prior to 10th March the former fee of 2 per cent. will be charged.

It is also reported that the fee will continue to be levied at the rate of 2 per cent. in the case of goods which are free of import duty under the Customs Tariff.

POLAND.**PAYMENT OF CUSTOMS DUTIES.**

With reference to the notice at pages 592-594 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 25th May, it should be noted that in virtue of an Order of 15th May, the Customs surtax applicable to the duties on printing paper (ex Tariff No. 177) is reduced as follows, from 30th May.

The surtax is reduced to 900 per cent. in the case of:—

Printing paper, white, not glazed and unsized, containing not less than 60 per cent. of wood pulp, weighing not less than 48 grammes per sq. metre, in sheets, or in rolls of not less than 70 cm. in diameter.

The surtax is reduced to 4,900 per cent. in the case of:—

Printing paper, unsized, white, without ornaments or water marks, containing wood pulp, weighing not less than 48 grammes per sq. metre; paper for copybooks, white, without ornaments or water marks, with or without blue or grey lines, containing wood pulp, weighing not less than 65 grammes per sq. metre; blotting paper, white or coloured, containing wood pulp.

EXPORT OF EGGS.

H.M. Commercial Secretary at Warsaw reports that the Polish Ministry of Trade and Industry has authorised the export of 75 wagons of eggs per month during the months of July and August, under the same conditions as were formerly applicable.

The export tax is fixed at the rate of 20 marks per egg.

SPAIN.**PAYMENT OF CUSTOMS DUTIES.**

H.M. Commercial Secretary at Madrid reports, by telegraph, that the rate of surcharge for the month of July in respect of import and export duties, Customs fines, etc., paid in Spanish silver coins or notes of the Bank of Spain has been fixed at 22.56 per cent. (The surcharge for the month of June was 23.73 per cent.).

DEPRECIATED CURRENCY SURTAX.

With reference to the notice under the above heading at page 646 of the issue of this "Journal" for 8th June, H.M. Commercial Secretary at Madrid reports, by telegraph, that the "coefficients" to be used, during the month of July, in ascertaining the "depreciated currency" surtax on imported goods will be applied on the basis of the following rates:—

France	56.980
Germany	2.222
Portugal	8.446
Austria	0.048
Czecho-Slovakia	12.209
Finland	13.488

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND TARIFF CHANGES—Continued.

SWEDEN.

IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN ANIMALS.

H.M. Minister at Stockholm has forwarded copy and translation of a Swedish Royal Decree, No. 219, of 26th May, which provides that, as from 15th June, cattle, sheep, goats, and other ruminants, equine animals, pigs and dogs, when imported into Sweden by sea, must be accompanied by a certificate signed by two persons in the country of export, to the effect that the animals have not been imported into the country of export during the six months previous to such export. The reliability of these persons must be attested by a Swedish Consul or other public authority in the country of exportation.

CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENTS.

The Board of Trade are in receipt of information to the effect that the Swedish Customs Tariff amendments, particulars of which were published at pages 461-462 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 27th April, were enforced as from 27th March.

TUNIS.

TARIFF TREATMENT OF GERMAN GOODS.

The "Journal Officiel Tunisien" for 3rd June contains a Beylical Decree, dated 10th May, which provides that the Customs duties on glass bobbins for the manufacture of artificial silk are to be exempt from "coefficients of increase."

A further Beylical Decree, dated 16th May, and published in the same issue of the "Journal Officiel Tunisien," substitutes *ad valorem* rates for the specific duties formerly levied on the importation into Tunis of gold and silver leaf and dust, jewellery, etc., originating in or coming from Germany. The modifications introduced by this Decree conform to those made in the French "General" Tariff by the Presidential Decree of 12th April (see the "Board of Trade Journal" for 27th April, page 459). The "Journal Officiel Tunisien" for 7th June contains a Beylical Decree, dated 27th May, which increases the "General" Tariff rate of duty on malt imported into Tunis to 30 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Goods proved to have been dispatched direct to Tunis before the date of publication of the respective Decrees will be admitted at the former rates of duty, when these are more favourable.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

TRANSIT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

With reference to the notice at page 594 of the issue of this "Journal" for 25th May, it should be noted that in virtue of a Decision of the Treasury Department, dated 25th May, Customs Collectors are directed not to accept any transportation and exportation entries for intoxicating liquors arriving at either border or sea-coast ports after June 15th, regardless of date of shipment or any other circumstance, unless covered by a prohibition permit; and not to permit after 15th June, under circumstances other than a prohibition permit, the transshipment of such liquors from one vessel to another in ports of the United States or within three miles of the coast-line. Liquors arriving or transhipped after the date mentioned, not covered by a prohibition permit, are to be seized for forfeiture.

These Regulations do not apply to liquors, properly listed as ships' stores, or to liquors destined to a foreign country and going forward on the same vessel on which they arrived. All transportation and exportation entries must be made to show proof of the liquors covered thereby and such liquors when intended for shipment out of the country by land must be actually shipped out of the country within 48 hours after arrival at the port of exit; and if by water, then within 10 days after arrival, unless in the opinion of the Collectors of Customs conditions warrant an extension of that time.

Proposed Tariff Changes.

FIJI.

PROPOSED REVISION OF EXPORT DUTY ON COPRA.

The Board of Trade have received copy of a Bill which proposes to amend the Export Duties Ordinance, 1920, by decreasing the duty levied on copra exported from Fiji from 20s. to 15s. per ton or part of a ton.

Government Notices affecting Trade.

POSTAL SECTION.

REDUCTION IN TELEPHONE CHARGES.

The Postmaster-General points out that the reduction of telephone charges to which he has already referred in the House of Commons took effect as from Saturday, 1st July. It should be particularly noted that in the accounts which subscribers will receive during July the installation rental for residence connections and the charges for extra mileage, which are payable in advance, will be entered at the reduced rates. The local and trunk fees, being for calls made during the past quarter, will be charged at the old rates. The full effect of the reductions will be apparent in the accounts sent out in October, when the lower charges in respect of the installation rental and extra mileage (October-December quarter) and local and trunk call fees (July-September quarter) will be included.

The principal reductions which have been made are as follows:—

The yearly installation rental for a connection to a private residence where no business of any kind is carried on is reduced by 30s. The new quarterly rentals will therefore be 35s. in London, 32s. 6d. in Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow, and 30s. elsewhere. The charge for a two-party line will be 22s. 6d. for a residence connection and 30s. for a business connection.

As regards calls made on and after 1st July the fee for a local call is reduced to 1½d., and the charge for a call over a distance between 5 and 7½ miles is reduced from 3d. to 2½d.

The extra mileage charge has been reduced from 25s. to 20s. per furlong. A similar reduction will apply to external extensions and to private telephone wires.

TRUNK CHARGES.

The charges for trunk calls have been revised and in future the local fee will not be added. The charges for trunk calls made between 7.0 a.m. and 2.0 p.m. have been slightly reduced, while the charges for calls made between 2.0 p.m. and 7.0 p.m. are approximately 25 per cent. less than the present charges. Between 7.0 p.m. and 7.0 a.m. the charges are in most cases half the morning rates.

CALL OFFICE CHARGES.

The call office fees for calls up to 7½ miles will remain as at present. For calls over longer distances 2d. only, instead of 3d. is added to the trunk charge, the total being rounded up to the nearest penny when the call is made from an office with a coin box.

TELEPHONES IN RURAL AREAS.

Considerable concessions have been made in the terms on which new exchanges will be opened in rural areas. Where the cost of the necessary junction circuit is not excessive an exchange will be opened provided eight subscribers renting direct lines can be found, and the installation rental will be £2 a quarter, both for business and residence connections, with an extra mileage charge for any distance in excess of one mile from the new exchange. The usual fees will be charged for local and trunk calls. Where as many as fifteen subscribers can be found the usual installation rental of 37s. 6d. per quarter for business connections and 30s. a quarter for residence connections will apply.

A substantial concession has also been made as regards the opening of new call offices.

Rural party-line service is available in rural areas at premises which are more than half a mile from the nearest exchange, if the occupants are prepared to share the use of one circuit. This service is obtainable at a quarterly rental of 20s., 22s. 6d., or a somewhat higher charge, according to the number of subscribers per mile of circuit beyond the half-mile radius from the exchange. The subscription covers an unlimited number of calls to other subscribers on the exchange with which the party-line is connected.

AIR MAILS TO BRUSSELS.

The Postmaster-General announces that the dispatch of letter air mails to Brussels has been temporarily suspended. The dispatch of parcels by air is being maintained.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES AFFECTING TRADE—Continued.

LONDON-BAGDAD AIR MAIL.

The Postmaster-General states that the air mail for Bagdad which was dispatched from London on 15th June reached Bagdad on 27th June.

The air mail for London which was dispatched from Bagdad on 24th June reached Cairo on 27th June and should arrive in London about 7th July.

The next air mail to Bagdad will be dispatched from London on Thursday, 13th July.

LETTERS FOR AND VIA THE UNITED STATES.

The Postmaster-General states that letters for the United States and any other countries for which mails are being dispatched via the United States can now be posted at Waterloo Station up to ten minutes before the boat train leaves, on payment of a late fee of 1s.

GENERAL.

LIST OF EXPORT PROHIBITED GOODS:
1ST JULY, 1922.

(This List cancels all similar Lists issued prior to the above date.)

The following is a list of goods the export of which from the United Kingdom is prohibited save under licence.

Applications for licences to export prohibited goods (other than dangerous drugs) should be addressed to the Director, Imports and Exports Licensing Section, Board of Trade, Great George Street, S.W. 1. Applications for licences to export dangerous drugs should be addressed to the Under Secretary of State, Home Office, Whitehall, S.W. 1.

†Ammonia, sulphate of.

Arms and ammunition (see specific headings).

†Basic slag.

Bombs, bombing apparatus, and component parts thereof.

Bullion (see Gold).

Cannon and other ordnance, and component parts thereof.

Carriages and mountings for cannon, and other ordnance, and component parts thereof.

Cartridges, charges of all kinds, and component parts thereof (see, however, following notice).

*Cocaine and salts thereof, and any substance containing not less than 0.1 per cent. of cocaine.

Coin (see Gold ; Silver).

Depth charges, and component parts thereof.

*Diamorphine and salts thereof, and any substance containing not less than 0.1 per cent. of diamorphine.

*Egonine and salts thereof, and any substance containing not less than 0.1 per cent. of egonine.

Explosives, except the following:—Amorces, blasting gelatine, boubons, detonators, dynamite, electric-detonators, fire-works, fog signals, gelatine dynamite, gelignite, monobel, rex powder, rockite, safety fuses, superchlorite No. 1, superchlorite No. 2, super-rippite, tonite or cotton powder, No. 1, viking powder.

†Fertilisers (see specific headings).

Firearms and component parts thereof (see, however, following notice).

Flame-throwers and component parts thereof.

Fuses (other than safety fuses) and component parts thereof.

Gold, coin and bullion.

Grenades and component parts thereof.

Guns (see cannon, firearms, machine-guns).

Heroin (see Diamorphine).

Machine-guns, interrupter gears, mountings for machine-guns, and component parts thereof.

†Manures, compound, containing either sulphate of ammonia, superphosphate of lime, or basic slag.

Mines, land or sea, and component parts thereof.

*Morphine and salts thereof, and any substance containing not less than 0.2 per cent. of morphine.

*Opium and any preparation thereof containing not less than 0.2 per cent. of morphine, or 0.1 per cent. of diamorphine.

Ordnance (see Cannon ; Carriages).

Pistols (see Firearms).

Projectiles of all kinds (except airgun pellets) and component parts thereof.

Revolvers (see Firearms).

Rifles (see Firearms).

Silver coin.

†Sulphate of ammonia.

†Superphosphate of lime.

Torpedoes and component parts thereof.

Torpedo tubes, or other apparatus for discharging torpedoes.

*The export of dangerous drugs is regulated by the Home Office, Whitehall, S.W. 1. All communications respecting these drugs should be addressed to that Department.

†See, however, Notice in next column on open General Licences for the Export of Certain Fertilisers.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES AFFECTING TRADE—Continued.

OPEN GENERAL LICENCE FOR THE EXPORT OF SMOOTH-BORE GUNS AND MUNITIONS FOR USE THEREWITH.

An Open General Licence has been issued for the export of smooth-bore guns and munitions for use therewith, to the destinations given below, to which, therefore, exports may be made subject to the usual Customs formalities without applications for specific licences to the Import and Export Licensing Section.

British Possessions and Protectorates (see note below).

French Possessions and Protectorates (see note below).

United States of America.

South America.

Japan and Korea (see note below).

France, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Italy, Jugoslavia, Roumania, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Switzerland, Iceland, Czecho-Slovakia, Panama, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Cuba, San Salvador, San Domingo, and Haiti.

NOTE.—In accordance with Article 6, Chapter 2, of the "Convention for the Control of the Trade in Arms and Ammunition," all consignments of Arms and Ammunition proceeding into or through any of the Prohibited Areas set out below will require a Specific Export Licence.

The Prohibited Areas are:—

(1) The whole of the Continent of Africa, with the exception of Algeria, Libya, and the Union of South Africa. (Within this area are included all islands situated within a hundred nautical miles of the coast, together with Prince's Island, St. Thomas Island, and the Islands of Annobon and Socotra).

(2) Transcaucasia, Persia, Gwadar, the Arabian Peninsula, and such Continental parts of Asia as were included in the Turkish Empire on 4th August, 1914.

(3) A maritime zone including the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden, the Persian Gulf, and the Sea of Oman, and bounded by a line drawn from Cape Guardafui, following the latitude of that Cape to its intersection with longitude 57 deg. east of Greenwich, and proceeding thence direct to the eastern frontier of Persia on the Gulf of Oman.

OPEN GENERAL LICENCES FOR THE EXPORT OF CERTAIN FERTILISERS.

Open General Licences have been issued permitting:—

- The export to all destinations of—
Sulphate of ammonia.
Compound manures having sulphate of ammonia as their only export prohibited constituent.
- The export to the Channel Islands of—
Basic slag.
Super phosphate of lime.
Manures, compound, containing either basic slag or superphosphate of lime.

PATENTS AND DESIGNS ACTS, 1907 AND 1919: LICENCES OF RIGHT.

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of the provisions of Section 24 of the Acts the undermentioned patents were indorsed "Licences of Right" on 29th day of June, 1922:

No. and Year of Patent.	Grantee.	Title.
17770/10	Ramage, A. S.	"Lead pigments and method of making same."
15443/12	Staley, J. F., and anr.	"Improvements in safety mechanism for the winding gear of coal pits and the like."
10682/15	Stratton, F. F.	"Improved means for heating and screening air for carburetors employed on motor vehicles."
124,638 (9037/15)	Wade, H. (<i>China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., and ors.</i>)	"Improvements in or relating to decolourising carbon and the preparation thereof."
144,682 (15622/20)	Pittsburgh Rolls Corporation.	"Improvements in method of manufacturing rolls."
175,546 (7440/21)	Grubb, A. L.	"Improvements in and relating to railroad ties."
177,960 (6413/21)	Klingston, J. R., and anr.	"Improvements in or relating to motor vehicles."
(Patent of Addition to 155972.)		

The Patent Office.

W. TEMPLE FRANKS,

Comptroller-General.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES AFFECTING TRADE—Continued.

NON-FERROUS METAL INDUSTRY ACT: LICENCES.

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

Ironside, Limited, 106, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. 2.

Midland Iron and Hardware Company (Cradley Heath), Limited, Cradley Heath, Staffs.

Miles, Richard William, 9, Aylesbury Road, Brynmill, Swansea.

SHIPPING CASUALTIES: REPORTS OF FORMAL INVESTIGATIONS.

The Board of Trade hereby give notice under the General Rules for Formal Investigations into Shipping Casualties and Appeals and Rehearings, 1907, that they have received during the month of June, 1922, the following Reports of Formal Investigations into Shipping Casualties held by:—

Courts in British Self-Governing Dominions, Crown Colonies and Possessions Abroad:—

1. S.S. "Mokau."
2. S.S. "Canadian."
3. S.S. "Gaika."
4. Ferry steamer "Santi" and S.L. "Guzie."
5. S.S. "Cooma."

Commercial Returns.

CORN PRICES.

Statement showing the average price of British Corn per quarter of 8 bushels Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors of Corn Returns in the week ended 1st July, 1922, pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1832:—

	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 1st July, 1922	52	6	41	8	32	8
Corresponding week in—						
1913	33	4	25	10	19	4
1914	34	2	24	9	20	0
1915	50	1	34	7	31	6
1916	46	3	45	6	30	8
1917	78	1	69	5	55	2
1918	74	4	61	7	46	10
1919	73	4	62	4	49	0
1920	83	10	95	4	65	0
1921	89	10	41	11	38	8

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1832, 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.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

52nd Annual Report of the Council of the South Australian Chamber of Manufactures (Incorporated) for the Year ended 1921.

The Directory of Insurance Brokers, with List of Claims Assessors in the Principal Towns, 1922.—Published by the Cawley's Publicity Service, 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. 4. Price (post free) 5s.

This publication, which is the first of its kind, contains, in addition to a foreign section, a comprehensive list of Insurance Brokers in the United Kingdom, Lloyd's Brokers, and Members of the Corporation of Insurance Brokers being indicated.

British Standard Specification for Materials and Constructional Strength of Chemical Fire Extinguishers.—Published by the British Engineering Standards Association by Crosby Lockwood and Son, 7, Stationers' Hall Court, London, E.C.4. Price 1s. net (post free 1s. 2d.).

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

A list of Colonial and Foreign Publications on Trade and other subjects received and filed for reference at the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1:—

Cyprus:

Annual Report of the Director of Agriculture for the year 1921.

South Africa:

First-Third Reports of the Select Committee on Public Accounts.

SOUTH RHODESIA:

Report of the Director of Census regarding the European Census taken on 3rd May, 1921.

Report of the Commissioner of Taxes for the year ended 31st March, 1922.

Report of the Assistant Controller of Customs and Excise for the year ended 1921.

Report on Defence by the Commandment General for the year 1921.

Report of the Director of Education for the year 1921 (with Report of the Medical Inspection of Schools).

Report of the Postmaster-General for the year 1921.

Report of the Secretary for Mines for the year 1921.

Report of the Secretary Law Department for the year 1921.

Hydrographic and Meteorological Reports for the year ended 30th June, 1921.

Report on Roads by the Secretary for Mines and Works for the year 1921.

Report of the Commissioner British South Africa Police for the year 1921.

Report of the Chief Veterinary Surgeon (with report of the Veterinary Bacteriologist) for the year 1921.

Report of the Chief Native Commissioner (with Report of the Director of Native Development) for the year 1921.

Report of the Auditor-General for the financial year ended 31st March, 1921.

Report of the Director Geological Survey for the year 1921.

Ordinance No. 1, 1922. To increase the pensions or gratuities of Civil Servants who proceeded on active service during the Great War.

Ordinance No. 2, 1922. To make certain bank notes legal tender.

Ordinance No. 3, 1922. To provide for the extension of the operation of the "Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Ordinance, 1921."

Ordinance No. 4, 1922. To provide for the enforcement of judgments obtained in the United Kingdom and in other parts of His Majesty's Dominions.

Ordinance No. 5, 1922. To amend the "Natives Pass Consolidation Ordinance, 1913, Amendment Ordinance, 1917."

Ordinance No. 6, 1922. To amend the "Masters and Servants Ordinance, 1901."

Ordinance No. 7, 1922. To remove the restrictions on the exportation of Angora goats.

Ordinance No. 8, 1922. To provide for the imposition of postage and telegraph rates and other fees and charges.

Ordinance No. 9, 1922. To make further provision for the purpose of preventing persons from obtaining or disclosing official secrets.

Ordinance No. 10, 1922. To amend the "Police Ordinance, 1903," as amended from time to time.

Ordinance No. 11, 1922. To confirm and make further provision in regard to certain agreements between the British South Africa Company and officers in the Public Service.

Ordinance No. 12, 1922. To further amend the "War Taxation and Excess Profits Duty Ordinance, 1918"; to amend the "Income Tax Ordinance, 1921" and to impose an income tax in respect of the twelve months ended 31st March, 1922, and to fix the rate thereof.

Ordinance No. 13, 1922. To authorise a loan from His Majesty's Government for public works, and to prescribe the terms and conditions applicable to the said loan.

Ordinance No. 14, 1922. To give the Municipal Council of Umtali power to acquire land, rights of way, and such other property and rights, and to take such other precautionary steps as will enable it to augment the supply of water provided for the inhabitants of Umtali, and to enable the Council of such Municipality to raise a loan not exceeding £34,000 for the aforesaid purposes.

Ordinance No. 15, 1922. To provide for the payment of compensation to native labourers who suffer an injury or death in the course of their employment.

Ordinance No. 16, 1922. To provide for an electoral ballot on the questions whether Southern Rhodesia favours the form of Government known as Responsible Government or entry into the Union of South Africa.

Ordinance No. 17, 1922. To apply a sum of money for the service of the year ending the 31st March, 1923.

Ordinance No. 18, 1922. To apply a further sum of money for the service of the year ended the 31st March, 1922.

Ordinance No. 19, 1922. To further amend the Tariff of Customs and Excise duties in force in Southern Rhodesia.

Ordinance No. 20, 1922. To compensate for injuries suffered by workmen in the course of their employment, or for death resulting from such injuries.

TRANSVAAL:

Report of the members of Committee of the Land Owners' Association for the year ended 28th February, 1922.

Palestine: Commercial Bulletin No. 13, Vol. I. of the Department of Commerce and Industry.

Peru: Statistical Abstract of Peru, 1922 (Prepared by the Bureau of Statistics.).

West Africa: Annual Report on non-native officials in West Africa. Copies may be obtained on application to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, London, S.W. 1. Price 6d.

RECENT OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS.

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

Air Ministry. Benz Aero Engines. Report on. (6s. 3d.)

Boiler Explosions.—Report of Enquiries. No. 2556. From a Steam Separator at the Mynydd Newydd Colliery, near Swansea. (6d.)

Celluloid and Cinematograph Film (H.L.) Bill to make better provision for the prevention of fire in premises where raw celluloid or cinematograph film is stored or used. (7s.)

Colonial Reports. Annual, No. 1117, Cyprus, for 1921. (1s. 1d.)

Economic Conditions in Roumania. Revised to April, 1922. (2s. 1½d.)

Merchandise Marks (H.L.). To amend the Merchandise Marks Acts, 1887 to 1911, and to make provision with respect to the unauthorised application to goods of Government marks, and with respect to the unauthorised use of the Royal arms and devices and Royal and Sta titles. (7s.)

THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Great George Street, London, S.W. 1.

Telephone :
Victoria 3840.

President : The Right Hon. STANLEY BALDWIN, M.P.

Private Secretaries : C. Patrick Duff and E. W. Reardon.
Parliamentary Secretary (Unpaid) : J. C. C. Davidson, C.B., M.P.

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES :

Mines Department : Dean Stanley Street, Millbank,
Westminster, S.W. 1.

Tel. No. Victoria 9310. Telegrams : Minindust. Vic. London.

The Right Hon. W. C. Bridgeman, M.P.
(Secretary for Mines.)

Private Secretary : A. A. Hopper.

Department of Overseas Trade (Development and
Intelligence) : (35, Old Queen Street, S.W. 1.)

Sir Philip Lloyd-Greame, K.B.E., M.C., M.P.

Private Secretaries : (Board of Trade) A. E. Overton, M.C., and
B. C. Beauchamp (Unpaid) : (Department of Overseas Trade)
A. Mullins, C.B.E.

Parliamentary Private Secretary (Unpaid) : Capt. G. E. W. Bowyer,
M.C., M.P.

Board of Trade : (Great George Street, S.W. 1.)

Sir William Mitchell-Thomson, Bart., K.B.E., M.P.

Private Secretary : C. J. Pyke.

Economic Adviser to H.M. Government and Vice-President of the Board of Trade Council :

Sir H. Llewellyn Smith, G.C.B.

Private Secretaries : H. F. Hill and W. G. Fergusson.

PERMANENT SECRETARIES :

SIR SYDNEY CHAPMAN, K.C.B., C.B.E.

Private Secretaries : W. B. Brown and W. J. Galley.

H. A. PAYNE, C.B. (*Second Secretary*).

Private Secretaries : H. J. Hutchinson and T. G. Jenkins, M.C.

PERMANENT DEPARTMENTS :

Overseas Trade (Development and Intelligence).

(Joint Department with Foreign Office.)

35, Old Queen Street, S.W. 1. (Tel. No. Victoria 9040.)

City Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. 2.

(Tel. No. London Wall 4713.)

Sir W. H. Clark, K.C.S.I., C.M.G. (Comptroller-General).

Export Credits.—73, Basinghall Street, E.C. 2.

(Tel. No. London Wall 4713.) J. B. ATTFIELD (Manager).

Mines.

Dean Stanley Street, Millbank, Westminster, S.W. 1. (Tel. No.
Victoria 9310. Telegrams : Minindust. Vic. London.)

E. A. Gowers, C.B. (Permanent Under-Secretary for Mines).

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS AND TREATIES.—Great George Street,
S.W. 1. (Tel. No. Victoria 3840.)

H. Fountain, C.B., C.M.G. (Assistant Secretary).

Imports and Exports Licensing Section.—Great George
Street, S.W. 1.

INDUSTRIES AND MANUFACTURES.—Great George Street, S.W. 1.
(Tel. No. Victoria 3840.)

P. W. L. Ashley, C.B. (Assistant Secretary).

Standards.—7, Old Palace Yard, S.W. 1. (Tel. No.
Victoria 3840.)

J. E. SEARS, JUN., C.B.E. (Deputy Warden).

Gas Administration.—Great George Street, S.W. 1.
(Tel. No. Victoria 3840.) H. C. HONEY (Director).

INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY (INCLUDING PATENT OFFICE).—Southampton
Buildings, Chancery Lane, W.C. 2. (Tel. No. City 5301.)

W. Temple Franks, C.B. (Comptroller-General).

STATISTICS.—Great George Street, S.W. 1. (Tel. No. Victoria 3840.)

A. W. Flux, C.B. (Assistant Secretary).

INTELLIGENCE AND PARLIAMENTARY.—Great George Street, S.W. 1.
(Tel. No. Victoria 3840.)

G. C. L. Maunder (Principal).

MEBOANTILE MARINE.—3, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street
S.W. 1. (Tel. No. Victoria 8740.)

C. Hipwood, C.B. (Assistant Secretary).

Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen.—

Tower Hill, E. 1. (Tel. No. Central 74.)

J. B. HARROLD, M.B.E. (Registrar-General).

Consultative Branch (Survey).—68, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

(Tel. No. Victoria 2558.)

Principal Examiner of Masters and Mates.—68, Victoria
Street, S.W. 1. (Tel. No. Victoria 3507.)

Chief Examiner of Engineers.—68, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.
(Tel. No. Victoria 2558.)

PILOTAGE COMMISSIONER.—Great George Street, S.W. 1. (Tel. No.
Victoria 3840.)

COMPANIES.—Great George Street, S.W. 1. (Tel. No. Victoria 3840.)

H. M. Winearls, O.B.E. (Comptroller).

Company Winding-up.—33, Carey Street, W.C. 2.

H. E. BURGESS (Senior Official Receiver).

BANKRUPTCY.—Great George Street, S.W. 1. (Tel. No. Victoria
3840.)

H. F. Carlill (Inspector-General).

High Court.—Bankruptcy Buildings, Carey Street, W.C. 2.
(Tel. No. Holborn 2043.) W. P. BOWYER (Senior Official
Receiver.)

SOLICITOR.—Great George Street, S.W. 1. (Tel. No. Victoria 3840.)

T. J. Barnes, C.B.E. (Solicitor).

FINANCE.—Great George Street, S.W. 1. (Tel. No. Victoria 3840.)

H. Mead Taylor (Assistant Secretary for Finance).

ESTABLISHMENT.—Great George Street, S.W. 1. (Tel. No. Victoria
3840.)

S. W. Clark (Principal Establishment Officer).

"BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL".—Great George Street, S.W. 1. (Tel.
No. Victoria 3840.)

Harcourt Kitchin (Editor).

TEMPORARY DEPARTMENTS :

Controller of Trading Accounts.—Great George Street, S.W. 1. (Tel.
No. Victoria 3840.)

H. MEAD TAYLOR (Controller).

Food.—54, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

F. H. COLLEB, C.B. (Secretary).

Royal Commission on Wheat Supplies.—Great George Street, S.W. 1.
(Tel. No. Victoria 3840.)

Clearing Office for Enemy Debts.—Cornwall House, Stamford Street,
S.E. 1. (Tel. No. Hop 5820.)

E. SPENSER GREY, C.B. (Administrator).

Reparation Claims.—Cornwall House, Stamford Street, S.E. 1.
(Tel. No. Hop 5820.)

W. NEILL (Controller).

Timber Disposal.—Board of Trade, 49, Wellington Street, W.C. 2.
(Tel. No. Gerrard 5740.)

A. M. B. STEVENS (Acting Controller).

Department of Overseas Trade (Development and Intelligence).

Head Office—

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

Telephone No.: Victoria 9040.

Telegraphic Address: "Advantage, Vic, London."
Code: A.B.C. (6th Edition).

City Office—

73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. 2.

Telephone No.: London Wall 4713.

Telegraphic Address: "Advantage, Vic., London."

FOREIGN SAMPLES EXHIBITION, 7-11, Old Bailey, E.C. 4.

Telephone: City 1866.

A CLEARING HOUSE FOR INFORMATION.

ASSISTANCE TO BRITISH TRADERS.

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

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

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

CO-OPERATION WITH THE COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY.

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

FOREIGN COMPETITION IN OVERSEAS MARKETS.

For a trader successfully to compete in foreign markets, it is necessary that he should know the goods which competitors are offering. The Department has, therefore, formed a very extensive collection, which is being constantly increased, of samples of foreign competitive goods and commercial products. Over 70,000 such samples are now available for inspection by British traders at the Department's Showrooms, 7 to 11, Old Bailey,

E.C. Advertising plays a large part in export as in home trade, and the Department has collected over 16,000 foreign trade catalogues (including German and Austrian) which may also be inspected at the above address. The collection has been efficiently indexed under both Articles of Manufacture and Names of Manufacturers.

THE BRITISH TRADER ABROAD.

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

FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS.

The Department organises the annual British Industries Fair, at which British manufacturers and producers have the opportunity of displaying their goods before the buyers of all nations. The Fair is held for a period of two weeks during February and March.

The Department, in addition to organising exhibitions of foreign samples (see above), studies and initiates projects for commercial exhibitions of various kinds.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

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

APPLICATIONS.

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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRADE IN OVERSEAS MARKETS.

THE DEPARTMENT'S SPECIAL REGISTER SERVICE.

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

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

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

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

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

becomes generally known. Frequently they contain information which it is desired to keep confidential, so that British firms may reap full benefit from it.

VALUE OF INFORMATION RECEIVED.

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

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

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

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

The Register is not open to non-British traders.

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

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

HANDBOOK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE.

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

British Chambers of Commerce in Certain Foreign Countries.

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

- Argentina.**—British Chamber of Commerce for the Argentine Republic (Inc.), Calle Reconquista 46, Buenos Aires. British Chamber of Commerce in Rosario (affiliated to the above), c/o British Consulate, Rosario.
- Asia Minor.**—British Chamber of Commerce, Local Pater son (Grande Rue Parallele), 21, Smyrna.
- Austria.**—British Chamber of Commerce in Austria, Karntnerstrasse 41, Vienna 1.
- Belgium.**—British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium (Incorp.), 2, Rue de la Bourse, Brussels.
- Bolivia.**—British Chamber of Commerce in Bolivia, Correo Casilla 84a, La Paz. Branch at Oruro.
- Brazil.**—British Chamber of Commerce in Brazil (Inc.), 51/53, Avenida Rio Branco, Rio de Janeiro. (Telegraphic address, "Chambrit, Rio de Janeiro.")
(Representative in London—Mr. F. W. Perkins, c/o Messrs. Norton, Megaw and Co. Ltd., 36, Lime Street, London, E.C. 3.)
Bahia Branch.—c/o British Consulate, Bahia.
Pernambuco Branch.—P.O. Box 46, Pernambuco.
Pará Branch.—P.O. Box 47, Pará.
British Chamber of Commerce of São Paulo and Southern Brazil, 20, Rua 15 de Novembro, São Paulo. (Telegraphic address, "Britchamb, São Paulo.")
(Representative in London.—Mr. T. Johnson, 6, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C. 2.)
Santos Branch.—25, Rua Santo Antonio, Santos.
Porto Alegre Branch.—215, Rua dos Andradas, Porto Alegre.
- Bulgaria.**—British Chamber of Commerce (Turkey and Balkan States), Solun Street 19, Sofia.
- Chile.**—British Chamber of Commerce in the Republic of Chile (Inc.), Calle Cochrane 741 (Casilla 329), Valparaiso.
- China.**—
Shanghai British Chamber of Commerce, 1, The Bund, Shanghai.
Amoy British Chamber of Commerce, Amoy.
Canton British Chamber of Commerce, Canton.
Changsha British Chamber of Commerce, Changsha.
Chefoo British Chamber of Commerce, Chefoo.
Chinkingiang British Chamber of Commerce, Chinkingiang.
Chungking British Chamber of Commerce, Chungking.
Foochow British Chamber of Commerce, Foochow.
Hankow British Chamber of Commerce, British Municipal Council Buildings, Hankow.
Harbin British Chamber of Commerce, Harbin.
Mukden British Chamber of Commerce, c/o British Consulate-General, Mukden.
Newchwang British Chamber of Commerce, c/o British Consulate, Newchwang.
Peking British Chamber of Commerce, Culty Chambers, Peking.
Swatow British Chamber of Commerce, Swatow.
Tientsin British Chamber of Commerce, Tientsin.
Tsinanfu British Chamber of Commerce, Tsinanfu.
- Egypt.**—British Chamber of Commerce of Egypt, 6, Rue de l'Ancienne Bourse, Alexandria, and Savoy Chambers, Cairo.
(Agents in London.—Messrs. Back and Manson, Egypt House, 36, New Broad Street, E.C. 2.)
- France.**—British Chamber of Commerce, France (Incorp.) 6, Rue Halévy, Paris IXème.
(Correspondents in all the principal towns of France Commercial Representative in France of the Commonwealth of Australia.)
- France (continued).**
British Chamber of Commerce for the French Riviera and Principality of Monaco, 4, Avenue Massena, Nice.
British Chamber of Commerce (Inc.), Marseilles, 2, Rue Beauvau.
- Germany (Occupied Territory).**—British Chamber of Commerce in Germany, 100, Hohestrasse, Cologne.
- Greece.**—British Chamber of Commerce, 6A, Rue Dragatsaniou, Athens.
- Italy.**—British Chamber of Commerce for Italy (Inc.), Via Banchi, No. 3, Genoa (with Sample Show Rooms for British goods).
Branches—
26, Via Succhesi, Rome.
12, Via Silvio Pellico, Milan.
Scali d'Azeglio 3 p. p., Leghorn.
Via A Depretis, 31, Naples.
Piazza dell Unità, No. 6, Trieste.
- Iraq (Mesopotamia).**—British Chamber of Commerce, Bagdad.
British Chamber of Commerce, c/o Eastern Bank, Basrah.
- Madagascar.**—British Chamber of Commerce, Antananarivo.
- Mexico.**—Central British Chamber of Commerce, Apartado, 900, Mexico, D.F.
- Morocco.**—British Chamber of Commerce for Morocco, Tangier.
- Persia.**—British Chamber of Commerce, Bushire.
British Chamber of Commerce, Mohammerah.
- Portugal.**—British Chamber of Commerce in Portugal (Inc.), 4, Rua Victor Cordon, Lisbon. (Telegraphic address, "Britcham, Lisbon.")
Branches—
57, Rua Viterbo de Campos, Vila Nova de Gaia, Oporto.
81, Rua dos Netos, Funchal, Madeira.
- Roumania.**—British Chamber of Commerce, Bucharest (Incorporated), Strada Sft. Constantin, No. 8 Bucharest.
- Serbia.**—See Turkey.
- Spain.**—British Chamber of Commerce for Spain, Rambla de los Estadios, 8, Barcelona. (Telegraphic address, "Britcom, Barcelona.")
Branch.—Calle Marqués de Cubas, 9, Madrid.
(Delegates at Cartagena, Valencia, and Canary Islands.)
- Switzerland.**—British Chamber of Commerce in Switzerland (Inc.), 20, Rittergasse, Basle.
Branch—3, Place St. Francois, Lausanne.
- Tunis.**—British Chamber of Commerce, Rus Es-Sadikia, 35, Tunis.
- Turkey.**—British Chamber of Commerce of Turkey and the Balkan States (Inc.), 34, 35, Buyuk Tunnel Han Galata, Constantinople.
Branch Secretaries in Belgrade, Bucharest and Sofia.
- United States of America.**—British Empire Chamber of Commerce in the United States of America, Cunard Building, 25, Broadway, New York City.
- Uruguay.**—British Chamber of Commerce in Uruguay, Calle Rincón, 508, Montevideo. (Postal address, Casilla de Correo 465.)
- N.B.—Some of these Chambers issue periodically a Journal or Annual Report, which may be inspected at the Department of Overseas Trade (Development and Intelligence), 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W. 1.

