

in the West India trade, and have continued to do so down to our own time. There now exists a well-patronized passenger service from Halifax and St. John to the West Indies, and as far as British Guiana, while the Canadian Government Merchant Marine maintains a freight service to West Indian ports.

At the present time, the British West Indian colonies, together with Bermuda, British Guiana and British Honduras, have a combined area of some 110,000 square miles, and a total population of 2,160,000. Their products, mainly agricultural, are of a tropical character, not competing with our own. Both because of this fact and of our common allegiance, the West Indies and Canada have naturally been led into close commercial alliance. Thus the British preference, established in 1898, was applied to the products of Bermuda, the British West Indies and British Guiana. This continued until June 2, 1913, when a special trade agreement between Canada and certain West Indian colonies became effective, providing that Canada should obtain for a specified list of goods, a rate of four-fifths of the duty imposed on similar goods imported from any foreign country. Canada gave these West Indian colonies a corresponding preference on a list of specified articles, or the British preference, whichever was the lower. This agreement worked so well that a new agreement was made in 1920, under which Canada gave on nearly all goods a remission of 50 p.c. of the duty, while the West Indian colonies gave in return remissions of duty as follows:—Barbadoes, British Guiana, British Honduras and Trinidad, 50 p.c.; Leeward islands and Windward islands, 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ p.c.; Bahamas and Jamaica, 25 p.c. This agreement came into force as regards most of the West Indies on Sept. 1, 1921, and as regards Jamaica on June 1, 1922.

A historical table showing Canadian trade with the British and foreign West Indies is given as Table 23, and current trend tables of exports and imports are included as Tables 24 and 25. Especially notable is the great drop in our imports from Cuba following 1921; this was due in the main to the great decline in the price of sugar.

23.—Value of Imports and Exports from and to British and Foreign West Indies, 1901-1923.

Fiscal Year.	IMPORTS FROM			EXPORTS (DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN) TO		
	British West Indies.	Foreign West Indies.	Total.	British West Indies.	Foreign West Indies.	Total.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1901.....	1,275,452	605,010	1,880,462	2,300,007	984,306	3,284,313
1902.....	1,749,675	562,721	2,312,396	2,459,235	1,339,408	3,798,643
1903.....	2,403,077	579,594	2,982,671	2,701,147	1,471,843	4,172,990
1904.....	6,375,615	617,015	6,992,630	2,668,505	1,423,542	4,092,047
1905.....	7,517,880	667,869	8,185,749	3,420,399	1,460,801	4,881,200
1906.....	8,353,798	712,896	9,066,694	3,242,243	1,831,656	5,073,899
1907 ¹	5,730,934	567,719	6,298,653	2,425,946	1,497,240	3,923,186
1908.....	8,995,059	633,798	9,628,857	3,473,136	2,096,502	5,569,638
1909.....	9,890,358	495,715	10,386,073	3,290,291	2,006,362	5,296,653
1910.....	8,776,459	1,584,601	10,361,060	4,181,523	2,384,296	6,565,819
1911.....	10,268,470	2,171,520	12,439,990	5,213,399	2,501,599	7,714,998
1912.....	11,081,905	2,791,781	13,873,686	5,170,424	2,925,246	8,095,670
1913.....	9,867,017	4,658,890	14,525,907	5,040,015	2,327,508	7,367,523
1914.....	7,689,357	7,372,800	15,062,157	5,557,072	2,554,591	8,111,663
1915.....	9,678,539	5,112,932	14,791,471	5,423,302	2,095,000	7,518,311
1916.....	12,400,145	5,991,612	17,391,757	5,798,773	2,319,286	8,118,059
1917.....	22,510,156	4,509,658	27,019,814	7,422,772	4,085,227	11,507,999
1918.....	17,704,165	7,905,117	25,609,282	9,746,998	5,129,505	14,876,503
1919.....	15,522,859	7,980,671	23,503,530	14,238,189	6,503,851	20,742,040
1920.....	19,885,368	28,525,140	48,410,508	15,395,237	9,456,875	24,852,112
1921.....	24,130,552	38,478,641	62,609,193	18,327,596	8,565,268	26,892,864
1922.....	14,460,079	17,150,633	31,610,712	13,630,850	5,668,806	19,299,656
1923 ²	18,255,779	17,403,265	35,659,044	13,149,149	6,877,142	20,026,291

¹Nine months. ²Unrevised figures.