

Comparison with Pre-war Year.—It is a comparatively easy thing to compare the volume of the trade in a particular year with that in the preceding year, and the margin of error is comparatively small. When, however, a comparison of the volume of trade in a particular year with that of another year ten or more years before is undertaken, the margin of error is very much greater. Certain new commodities have come into existence in the course of the decade, while the qualities of others have been materially changed; further, various new items have been added to the customs classifications, and it is not always possible to say just what customs items in 1927 correspond with those of 1914. However, in view of the great changes in values since before the war, there is a strong public demand for the comparison of the volume of trade in post-war years with a pre-war year, and the revaluation on the basis of the pre-war fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1914, re-states the current trade of Canada, with as much accuracy as possible, in terms of pre-war values.

It appears from this re-statement (Table 36) that, while the declared value of exports of Canadian produce nearly trebled between 1914 and 1927 (the 1927 exports being 290.1 p.c. of those of 1914), the volume of exports more than doubled, the 1927 exports being 202.9 p.c. of those of 1914. On the other hand, while the declared value of 1927 imports was two-thirds greater than in 1914, the actual volume of 1927 imports was only 135.7 p.c. of their volume in 1914. For details see the Bureau's Annual Report on the Trade of Canada, 1927, pp. 727-730.

36.—Comparison of the Value and Volume of the External Trade of Canada, by Main Groups, for the pre-war fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1914 and the post-war fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1922-1927. ("000" omitted).

IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION

Main Groups.	1914.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.
Values as Declared (In thousands of dollars).	000 \$	000 \$	000 \$	000 \$	000 \$	000 \$	000 \$
Agricultural and Vegetable Products.....	97,618	172,666	161,670	186,469	173,586	203,417	213,098
Animals and their Products.....	41,093	46,646	46,737	45,027	41,492	49,186	53,214
Fibres and Textiles.....	109,154	139,097	170,147	173,796	165,441	184,762	183,584
Wood and Paper.....	37,397	35,791	35,846	40,977	38,185	40,403	47,962
Iron and its Products.....	143,865	110,211	138,724	173,474	134,684	181,197	229,430
Non-Ferrous Metals.....	35,574	29,773	37,493	43,433	41,112	47,693	52,748
Non-Metallic Minerals.....	85,289	137,604	139,989	155,899	131,013	139,034	156,785
Chemicals and Allied Products.....	17,073	24,630	25,793	26,088	24,760	28,404	31,845
Miscellaneous.....	52,131	50,456	46,180	48,204	46,660	53,233	62,227
Total.....	619,194	747,804	802,579	893,367	796,933	927,329	1,030,892
On the Basis of 1914 Average Values. (In thousands of dollars).							
Agricultural and Vegetable Products.....	97,618	121,445	131,257	128,384	131,129	143,725	163,557
Animals and their Products.....	41,093	46,728	48,219	53,437	48,154	52,772	63,713
Fibres and Textiles.....	109,154	82,785	101,401	97,358	93,240	109,209	124,916
Wood and Paper.....	37,397	20,566	22,059	23,577	24,067	25,076	27,433
Iron and its Products.....	143,865	76,805	122,951	140,504	112,405	168,258	227,499
Non-Ferrous Metals.....	35,574	28,058	36,817	41,960	41,415	45,292	46,741
Non-Metallic Minerals.....	85,289	81,882	78,993	101,148	93,926	99,798	113,349
Chemicals and Allied Products.....	17,073	12,766	18,705	17,145	17,954	20,449	22,310
Miscellaneous.....	52,131	34,098	34,160	34,380	35,008	40,465	50,719
Total.....	619,194	505,128	692,952	637,893	597,298	705,044	840,237