

countries of actual origin, since goods produced in one country may be purchased by a firm in another country and thence despatched, after a longer or shorter interval, to Canada. In such cases the second country would be the country of consignment to which the goods would be credited. An example is the case of tea grown in the Orient but purchased in the bonded market in London, England; Canadian statistics record such imports as coming from the United Kingdom.

Exports are credited to the country of final destination, *i.e.*, the country to which they are consigned, whether that country possesses a seaboard or not. The country of final destination is the country to which goods exported from Canada are intended to pass, without interruption of transit save in the course of transshipment or transfer from one means of conveyance to another.

Fiscal Years.—The Canadian fiscal year ended on June 30 of the years from 1868 to 1906, and on March 31 of 1907 and subsequent years.

Subsection 1.—Historical Statistics of Canadian Trade.

A general view of the aggregate trade of Canada in the years from 1868 to 1928 is furnished in Table 1 (p. 494), giving the imports of merchandise for home consumption, dutiable and free, and the exports of Canadian and foreign produce, the total trade as here given being the aggregate of the two. Necessarily, some difficulties have been met in maintaining comparable statistics through such a length of time, one of the most serious of these arising through different methods adopted in dealing with exports of foreign produce. For example, the shrinkage in the exports of foreign produce after 1920 has been due to change of statistical method rather than to actual diminution in value or volume of such goods exported. For the past eight years, re-exports of foreign products from bonded warehouses have no longer been included in Canadian trade statistics either as imports or as exports, while the exports of foreign produce during this period have been composed of goods which had previously been entered as imports for home consumption. Such goods, therefore, are debited to Canada when entering this country, and should be credited to Canada when re-exported.

From Table 2 it will be observed that in most of the years from Confederation to the outbreak of the Great War, imports entered for consumption exceeded total exports, especially during the great growing period from 1904 to 1914. Since 1915, except in the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1921, there has been an annual excess of total exports over imports entered for consumption. For the fiscal year ended 1916, the total exports were 153·34 p.c., for 1917, 139·31 p.c., for 1918, 164·62 p.c., for 1919, 137·95 p.c., for 1920, 120·87 p.c., for 1921, 97·60 p.c., for 1922, 100·82 p.c., for 1923, 117·78 p.c., for 1924, 118·51 p.c., for 1925, 135·69 p.c., for 1926, 143·28 p.c., for 1927, 122·92 p.c., and for 1928, 112·76 p.c., of the imports for home consumption.

The values of coin and bullion imported and exported are shown in Table 3. Amounts collected in export duties from 1868 to 1892, and in import duties from 1868 to 1928, together with the cost of collection expressed as a percentage of the total duties, are stated by years in Table 4. Tables 5 and 6 show our exports of Canadian produce and our imports for home consumption respectively, furnishing figures of our trade with the United Kingdom, United States and other countries since 1868. These figures show the overwhelming predominance of the two great English-speaking countries in our foreign trade; in the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1928, for example, 72·3 p.c. of our exports of domestic produce was shipped to these