

31.—Comparison of the Value and Volume of the External Trade of Canada, by Main Groups, for the fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1927 and 1928. ("000" omitted).

IMPORTS FOR HOME CONSUMPTION.

| Classification. | 1928 Declared values. | 1928 Quantities at 1927 values. | 1927 Declared values. | Index Numbers, 1928 compared with 1927. (1927=100). | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|--------------------|
| | | | | Quantities. | Average values. |
| Agricultural and Vegetable Products—A. Mainly Food..... | 000\$ 136,267 | 000\$ 129,082 | 090\$ 126,355 | 102.2 | 105.6 |
| Agricultural and Vegetable Products—B. Other than Food..... | 101,918 | 110,331 | 86,743 | 127.2 | 92.4 |
| Agricultural and Vegetable Products (A and B)..... | 238,185 | 239,413 | 213,098 | 112.3 | 99.5 |
| Animals and Animal Products..... | 65,796 | 58,193 | 53,214 | 109.4 | 113.1 |
| Fibres and Textiles..... | 186,996 | 180,637 | 183,584 | 98.4 | 103.5 |
| Wood, Wood Products and Paper..... | 51,751 | 51,780 | 47,962 | 108.0 | 99.9 |
| Iron and its Products..... | 259,574 | 266,920 | 229,430 | 116.3 | 97.2 |
| Non-Ferrous Metals and their Products..... | 60,190 | 62,354 | 52,748 | 118.2 | 96.5 |
| Non-Metallic Minerals and their Products..... | 153,049 | 170,565 | 156,785 | 108.8 | 89.7 |
| Chemicals and Allied Products..... | 33,572 | 33,804 | 31,845 | 106.2 | 99.3 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 59,849 | 61,075 | 62,227 | 98.1 | 98.0 |
| Grand Total..... | 1,108,956 | 1,124,791 | 1,030,893 | 109.1 | 98.6 |

EXPORTS OF CANADIAN PRODUCE.

| Classification. | 1928 Declared values. | 1928 Quantities at 1927 values. | 1927 Declared values. | Index Numbers, 1928 compared with 1927 (1927=100). | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|--------------------|
| | | | | Quan- tities. | Average values. |
| Agricultural and Vegetable Products.—A. Mainly Food..... | 000\$ 484,317 | 000\$ 511,656 | 000\$ 565,502 | 101.2 | 94.7 |
| Agricultural and Vegetable Products—B. Other than Food..... | 70,794 | 76,291 | 69,492 | 109.8 | 92.8 |
| Agricultural and Vegetable Products—(A and B)..... | 555,111 | 587,947 | 574,994 | 102.3 | 94.4 |
| Animals and Animal Products..... | 165,845 | 155,608 | 167,292 | 93.0 | 106.6 |
| Fibres and Textiles..... | 10,904 | 11,658 | 7,666 | 152.1 | 93.5 |
| Wood, Wood Products and Paper..... | 264,543 | 288,942 | 284,120 | 101.7 | 98.5 |
| Iron and its Products..... | 62,754 | 61,305 | 74,285 | 82.5 | 102.4 |
| Non-Ferrous Metals and their Products..... | 90,841 | 99,130 | 80,639 | 122.9 | 91.6 |
| Non-Metallic Minerals and their Products..... | 25,281 | 25,070 | 28,510 | 87.9 | 100.8 |
| Chemicals and Allied Products..... | 17,893 | 19,509 | 16,575 | 117.7 | 91.7 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 16,036 | 15,235 | 18,077 | 84.3 | 98.7 |
| Grand Total..... | 1,228,203 | 1,364,404 | 1,252,158 | 101.0 | 97.1 |

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 1928 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