

36.—Comparison of the Value and Volume of the External Trade of Canada, by Main Groups, for the fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1928 and 1929. ("000" omitted.)

Classification.	1929 Declared Values.	1929 Quantities at 1928 Values.	1928 Declared Values.	Index Numbers, 1929 compared with 1928 (1928=100).	
				Quantities.	Average Values.
<b>Imports for Consumption.</b>	000 \$	000 \$	000 \$		
Agricultural and Vegetable Products—A. Mainly Food.....	132,321	140,688	136,267	103.2	94.1
Agricultural and Vegetable Products—B. Other than Food.....	100,809	117,457	101,918	115.2	85.8
Agricultural and Vegetable Products (A and B).....	233,130	258,145	238,185	108.4	90.3
Animals and Animal Products.....	71,662	67,767	65,790	103.0	105.8
Fibres and Textiles.....	206,444	202,644	186,996	108.4	101.9
Wood, Wood Products and Paper.....	59,215	58,311	51,751	112.7	101.6
Iron and its Products.....	346,611	346,680	259,574	133.6	100.0
Non-Ferrous Metals and their Products..	75,438	67,053	60,190	111.4	112.5
Non-Metallic Minerals and their Products	166,964	172,047	153,049	112.4	97.0
Chemicals and Allied Products.....	37,723	38,943	33,572	116.0	96.9
Miscellaneous.....	68,492	69,355	59,849	115.9	98.8
<b>Total Imports.....</b>	<b>1,265,679</b>	<b>1,280,945</b>	<b>1,108,956</b>	<b>115.5</b>	<b>98.8</b>
<b>Exports of Canadian Produce.</b>					
Agricultural and Vegetable Products.—A. Mainly Food.....	570,253	641,597	481,317	132.5	88.9
Agricultural and Vegetable Products—B. Other than Food.....	76,261	82,122	70,794	116.0	92.9
Agricultural and Vegetable Products—(A and B).....	646,514	723,719	555,111	130.4	89.3
Animals and Animal Products.....	158,757	151,659	165,845	91.4	104.7
Fibres and Textiles.....	9,678	8,808	10,904	80.8	109.9
Wood, Wood Products and Paper.....	288,622	292,863	284,543	102.9	98.5
Iron and its Products.....	82,257	87,070	62,754	138.8	94.5
Non-Ferrous Metals and their Products..	112,655	111,948	90,841	123.2	100.6
Non-Metallic Minerals and their Products	27,402	27,287	25,950	105.2	100.4
Chemicals and Allied Products.....	19,438	20,685	17,366	119.1	94.0
Miscellaneous.....	18,264	19,093	15,036	127.0	95.7
<b>Total Exports (Canadian).....</b>	<b>1,363,587</b>	<b>1,443,132</b>	<b>1,228,349</b>	<b>117.5</b>	<b>94.5</b>

**Comparison with Pre-war Year 1914.**—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 1929 correspond with those of 1914. However, in view of the great changes in values since 1914, 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. In Table 37 the imports and exports for the fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1921 (peak year of post-war inflation), 1922 (year of post-war deflation) and 1926-1929, covering the recent expansion in production and trade, are re-stated on the basis of 1914 average values.

It appears from this re-statement that, while the declared value of exports of Canadian produce more than trebled between 1914 and 1929 (the 1929 exports being 316.0 p.c. of those of 1914), the volume of exports increased two and a half times, the 1929 exports being 251.4 p.c. of those of 1914. On the other hand,