

Statistical Tables of Trade by Countries.—Statistics showing the course of import and export trade during the latest five fiscal years, by countries with which Canada carries on trade, will be found in Tables 19 (imports) and 20 (exports). Table 21 shows by countries the values of goods imported into and exported from Canada *via* the United States for the latest two fiscal years.

A series of tables showing Canadian trade in principal commodities with the leading countries with which she trades (other than the United Kingdom and the United States, which are exhaustively dealt with in Tables 12 and 13) followed Table 21 in the 1931 Year Book. These tables have been omitted in the present edition to economize space. They will be found in the Condensed Preliminary Report on the Trade of Canada, 1932 (pp. 132-165), while historical tables showing our trade with these and other countries in each year since Confederation will be found on pp. 14-19 of the Annual Report of the Trade of Canada for 1932, both published by, and obtainable from, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Subsection 6.—Principal Commodities Imported and Exported.

While Canadian imports and exports in all the principal groups show a decrease in value in the fiscal year 1932 as compared with 1931, imports were still greater than exports in the textile, iron, non-metallic mineral, chemical and miscellaneous groups, while exports predominated in the agricultural, animal, wood and non-ferrous metal groups. Nevertheless, the largest group of imports was that of agricultural and vegetable products, followed by non-metallic minerals, iron and textiles. In 1931 the iron group of imports was the highest, while as recently as 1929 imports of iron products exceeded those of vegetable products by 50 p.c. But the decline since then has affected the imports of iron products much more than those of vegetable and of non-metallic mineral products. In the fiscal year 1932, as compared with 1931, total imports declined 36 p.c. but imports of iron products declined 49 p.c., textiles 36 p.c., non-metallic minerals 34 p.c. and vegetable products 28 p.c. In domestic exports, while the average decline from the previous fiscal year was 28 p.c., exports of vegetable products dropped 30 p.c., non-ferrous metals 28 p.c., wood and paper products 24 p.c. and animal products 18 p.c.

For further information respecting Canada's trade in principal commodities with all countries, fiscal years 1929-32, see Table 13 for imports and Table 12 for exports.

Canada's Principal Imports.—The statement which follows shows the principal commodities imported into Canada in the fiscal years 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 and 1932, the commodities being arranged in order of importance in 1932. In the interpretation of the trends in imports shown by the figures in this table, the effect of price changes and of fluctuations of the so-called business cycle should be kept in mind. Thus the Bureau of Statistics' index number of wholesale prices on the 1926 base was 59.3 in the calendar year 1889, 52.1 in 1899, 58.5 in 1909, 134.0 in 1919, 95.6 in 1929 and 72.1 in 1931, these calendar years approximating to the fiscal years ended 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 and 1932. In the matter of business fluctuations, the fiscal year 1910 was influenced by the general development boom in Western Canada, 1920 was affected by the feverish activity which immediately followed the War, 1930 represented the end of the security inflation period and the beginning of the downturn, while in 1932 the effects of the depression and price decline were being severely felt.